



COMITE PERMANENT INTER-ETATS DE LUTTE CONTRE LA SECHERESSE DANS LE SAHEL
PERMANENT INTERSTATE COMMITTEE FOR DROUGHT CONTROL IN THE SAHEL
COMITÉ PERMANENTE INTER-ESTADOS DE LUTA CONTRA A SECA NO SAHEL
اللجنة الدائمة المشتركة لمحاربة التصحر في الساحل



« 50 years of commitment to serving Sahelian and West African populations »

AGRHYMET RCC WAS

AGRHYMET Experts Commence Technical Retreat on Climate Risk Mapping in West Africa and the Sahel

Dosso, Niger, 3 August 2026

AGRHYMET Regional Climate Centre for West Africa and the Sahel (AGRHYMET RCC-WAS) has launched a landmark technical retreat bringing together (in a spirit of synergy and complementary action) experts from its Climate, Water and Weather Department (DCEM) and its Food and Nutritional Security Department (DSAN). **The retreat, held in Dosso from August 3–5, 2026**, is dedicated to identifying and defining climate risk profiles and developing a methodological note for risk mapping based on hazard scenarios and corresponding alert plans.

This initiative is jointly supported by the Program for Strengthening Resilience to Food and Nutritional Insecurity in the Sahel (P2P2RS) and the Project for Strengthening and Innovating Information Systems in Food and Nutritional Security (PRISISAN). By pooling resources and harmonizing methodologies, the retreat aims to deliver a coherent regional framework for climate risk management, ensuring that AGRHYMET RCC-WAS continues to provide high-quality, actionable climate services to Member States as well as stakeholders in disaster risk reduction and food security.

In his opening remarks, **Dr. Abdou Ali, Head of DCEM**, emphasized the strategic importance of the retreat. He noted that climate risks in West Africa and the Sahel are increasingly complex and multifactorial, requiring harmonized approaches and strong institutional collaboration. He highlighted AGRHYMET's role as a regional hub for resilience, stressing that the retreat would not only define technical content and methodologies but also strengthen coordination and ensure that climate services are tailored to the needs of agriculture, water management, disaster risk reduction, food security to effectively fulfil its mission and meet the expectations of West Africa and the Sahel countries on a sustainable basis. Dr. Ali concluded by urging participants to seize this opportunity to build a robust foundation for operationalizing risk mapping and alert systems across the region.

Over three days, sixteen AGRHYMET experts will work intensively through technical exchanges, presentations, group discussions, and collaborative exercises. The retreat will focus on defining the major climate and environmental hazards, the associated risk factors, the affected sectors, the technical content and methodology of climate risk profiles, harmonizing approaches, clarifying roles and responsibilities, and drafting a methodological note for risk mapping. A roadmap and schedule for implementation will

also be established, alongside recommendations to strengthen coordination, production, and dissemination of meteorological, climatological, and hydrological services.

Specialized working groups will address three critical dimensions: characterization of hazards and climate risk profiles, methodological frameworks for hazard mapping and scenario planning, and the operationalization of early warning systems and alert plans. Deliverables expected from this retreat include a harmonized structure of climate risk profiles for West Africa and the Sahel, a draft methodological note, a matrix of expert responsibilities, and a roadmap for synergistic implementation.

This retreat represents a decisive step in regional climate and early warning system governance. By aligning expertise and methodologies, AGRHYMET is reinforcing its role as a hub for resilience and support for decision-making in agriculture, water management, disaster risk reduction, and food security sectors across the Sahel and West Africa.

Following this first phase, **experts will continue with a dedicated DCEM technical retreat from August 6–8, 2026**, focusing on departmental priorities, internal coordination, and strategic planning for the future.



