

The Drought Interest Group: Lessons learned from 16 years of delivering drought information services to the world

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Since its inception in 1995 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC) has worked to lessen societal vulnerability to drought through a risk-based management approach. The NDMC interacts with local, state, tribal, and international governments; federal agencies; and non-governmental organizations. The specific objectives of the NDMC are to enhance the drought monitoring capabilities at all scales; serve in an advisory capacity to policy makers by providing scientific and policy-relevant information; conduct and foster collaborative basic and applied research on drought monitoring, risk management, impact and vulnerability assessment, and mitigation; foster information dissemination on drought assessment, mitigation, preparedness, and response options; organize workshops, conferences, and seminars on drought planning and mitigation measures; and collaborate with and provide training for international scientists. Based on these activities, the NDMC has developed a rich collection of lessons learned related to delivering drought information services worldwide. This poster will focus on some of the products and issues that the NDMC has faced over time and around the world. A list of recommendations will also be provided that will potentially help guide future interactions based on some of the recent initiatives now taking place in terms of improved drought risk management.