



Food and Agriculture Organization  
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# The Maghreb Vision & Strategic direction for Drought Resilience

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## II. The current Maghreb context

The drought is primarily a climatic phenomenon of cessation of rainfall recognized as structural, whose risk of not satisfying water needs increases with the scarcity of this resource.

↪ **Libya, Tunisia & Algeria**  
**> than 400m<sup>3</sup>/capita/y**

↪ **Morocco**  
**811 m<sup>3</sup>/capita/y**  
Of renewable water  
resources

↪ **Mauritania**  
**2571m<sup>3</sup>/capita/y**

These average figures do not necessarily indicate hydrological ease or lack thereof. Spatial variability is important in this context and adds to the temporal variability.

# Impacts of the drought in the Maghreb region

The regional drought in 2015-16 has affected the whole Maghreb and the direct impacts have weighed heavily on different levels, particularly on the production of strategic rainfed crops:

**Algeria**

**14%**

of increase in  
import volumes



**Mauritania**

**between -47,000  
& -76,000 tons**

decrease in the rice  
stock that entered a  
negative cycle



## A DECLINE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

**Morocco**

**3 points**

Decrease in the  
national economic  
growth



**Tunisia**

**50%**

of financial damage  
reaching farmers



# Impacts of the drought in the Maghreb region

## **CONFLICT INCREASES BETWEEN SECTORS AND USERS**

**(i) between economic or social objectives;**

**(ii) between sectors, with priority given to drinking water, industry and tourism**

**(iii) between users within the same sector, and this is the case of water allocation conflicts between irrigated areas.**

# Opportunities for a Maghreb framework on drought resilience

- Improve decision making, inform and assist vulnerable sectors
  - Transform the response from reaction to building a proactive and continued response
  - Capitalize on national policies, strategies, capacities and experiences to improve drought management
  - Improve regional collaboration on drought under the facilitation of UMA
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# The Drought Management Framework



**International level**  
SDGs 2, 6, 15 and 13  
cover the issue of  
drought management

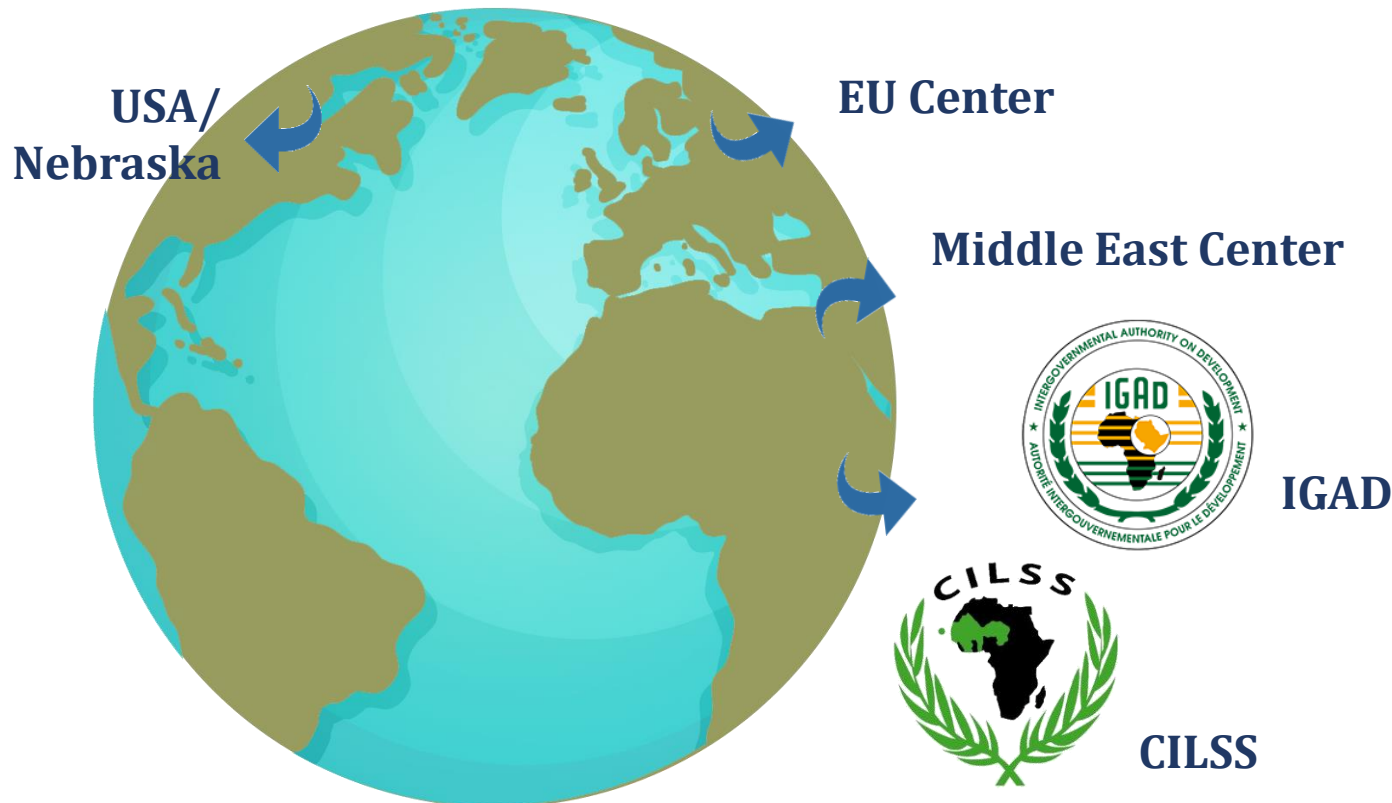
**The Maghreb countries  
(AMU)**  
are an appropriate context for  
the regional example of  
drought management to be  
promoted

**High-level Meeting on  
National Drought Policy  
(HMNDP)**  
Set up in March 2013, to  
support country and regional  
policies for drought  
management

**The National Drought Policy**  
National strategies and  
policies on drought  
management

# Examples of regional frameworks on drought

Examples of common regional frameworks supported by bodies similar to UMA exist and have been built step by step, despite the sometimes opportune and sometimes difficult political context.





# The Maghreb vision for drought resilience

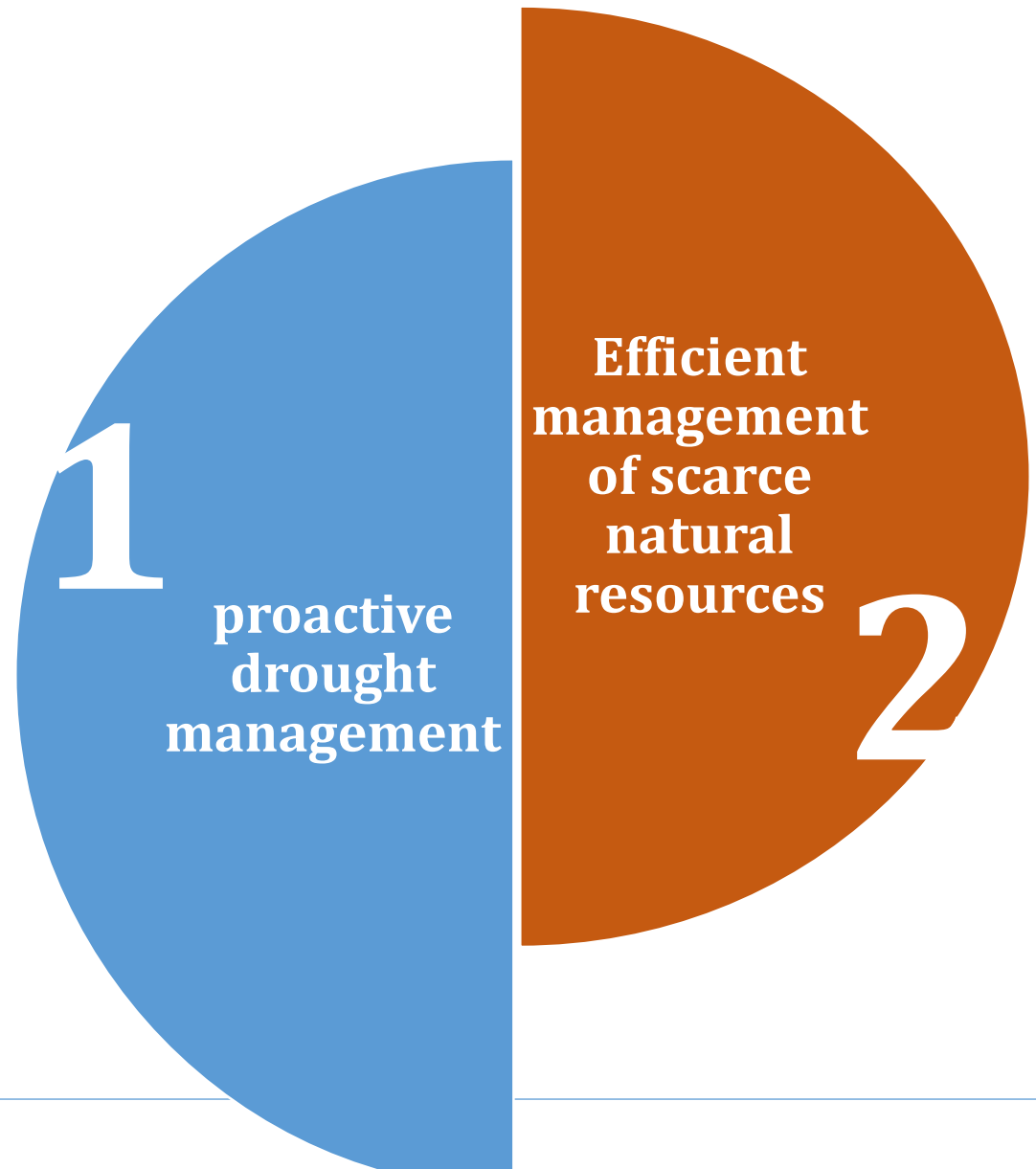


Document available online through [this link](#) 



# Drought resilience

The objective of drought resilience has **TWO COMPLEMENTARY ASPECTS** for an acceptable threshold of food sovereignty and sustainability of scarce resources:



# Foundation of the vision

The Maghreb drought resilience vision is to "**Promote concerted policies for the protection of populations and ecosystems and the strengthening of their resilience against natural disasters in the Maghreb region**" and build on a :

1

A common concern to face drought, combined with the fight against desertification and climate change, from a proactive and shared approach

2

Pooling regional knowledge and data that have an impact on drought management in the countries

3

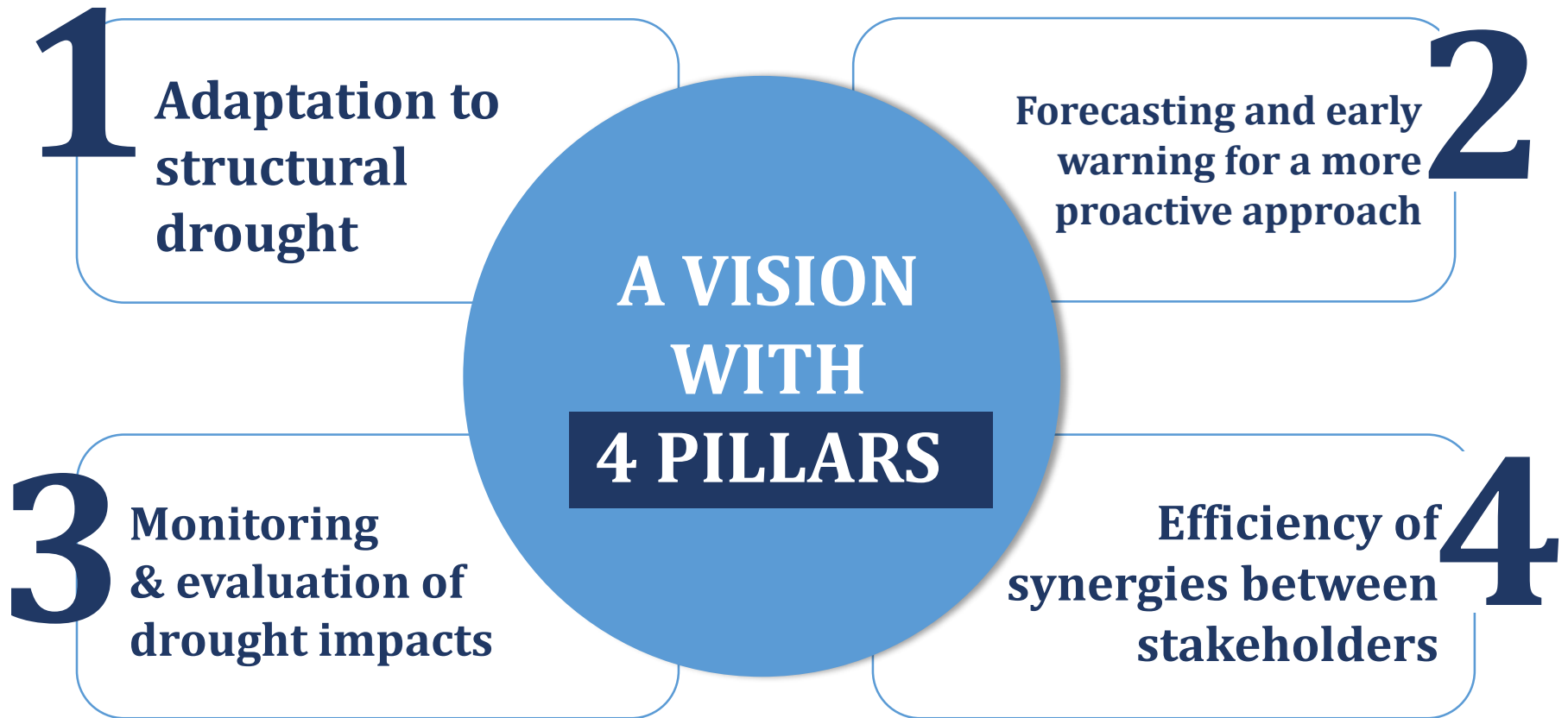
To produce regionalized drought indicators, as well as data for forecasting and early warning

4

Advocate for resource mobilization to strengthen drought resilience programs

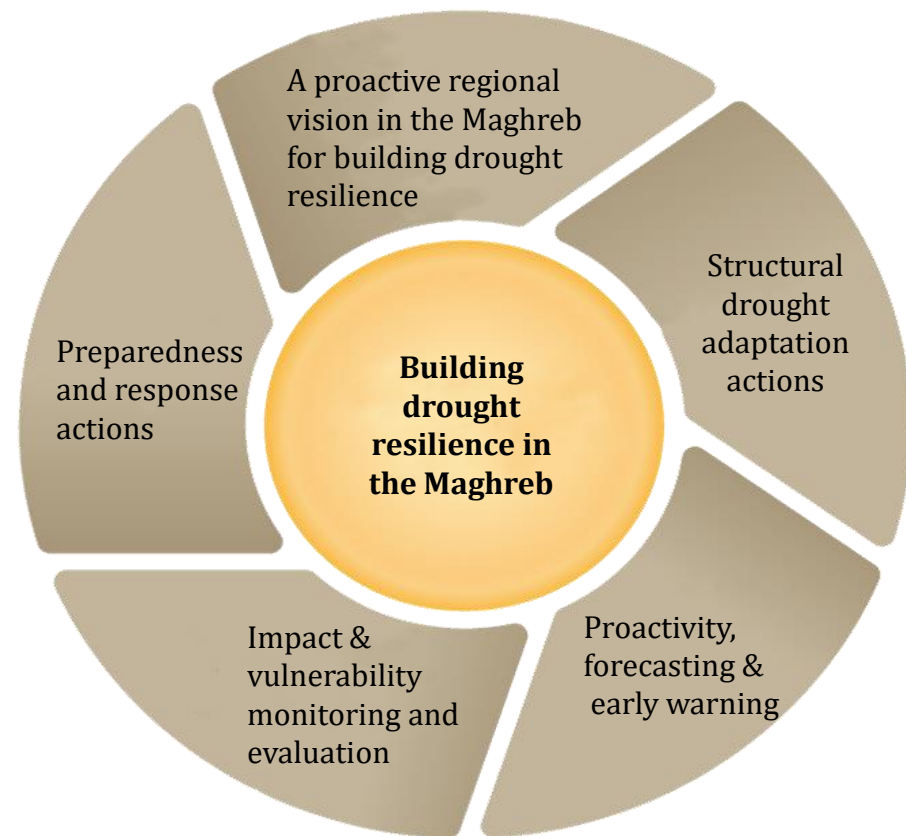
*Proactive, participatory and multi-sectoral approach, combining disaster adaptation, early warning, preparedness, response and mitigation, and integrating drought management into national development plans*

# The FOUR pillars of Maghreb Vision for drought resilience



# Conclusion

- The Maghreb countries have assets, scientific, technical and institutional capacities that allow them to be part of a proactive drought management dynamic.
- The Maghreb vision of drought resilience is based on an institutional opportunity: the existence of the AMU, the presence of meteorological institutes, agronomic research and natural resources management, space and remote sensing technologies, territorial organization, as well as national drought management procedures.
- From this observation, it is important to underline the priority and feasibility of Maghreb programme on drought resilience





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Additional information in these publications



شكرا / Merci / Thank you