Where we work

A key component of the National Drought Mitigation Center’s mission is to collaborate with local, tribal, national and international organizations. In 2019, NDMC faculty and staff traveled across the globe to present, listen and collaborate. Here are some of the events they attended. **Dark blue** indicates countries where we worked in 2019, and the **lighter blue** indicates countries where we have worked in the past. **Green circles** highlight our top international projects for the year; descriptions are below.

1. **Botswana and Eswatini Workshop**  
   **Location: Botswana and Eswatini**  
   In January, National Drought Mitigation Center director Mark Svoboda traveled to southern Africa to meet with meteorological, natural resource emergency management and planning experts from Botswana and Eswatini thanks to a partnership with the World Bank. For more information, read about the experts’ 2019 visit to Lincoln on page 11.

2. **The first-ever African Initiative for Planetary and Space Science workshop**  
   **Location: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**  
   In February, NDMC climatologist and remote sensing expert Tsegaye Tadesse participated in the first AFIPS workshop, where researchers and leaders gathered to discuss the cultural, economic and societal impacts of space science development in Ethiopia and other African nations.

   **Location: Praia, Cape Verde**  
   In March, Svoboda was invited to deliver a keynote speech and serve as the co-chair of the drought working group at the WASAG conference, where the theme was “Leaving No One Behind.” The goal was to identify practical, innovative and collaborative solutions to address water scarcity in agriculture in a changing climate.

4. **Wisconsin Specialty Crop Growers meeting**  
   **Location: Hancock, Wisconsin**  
   In March, NDMC’s Tonya Haigh and Tonya Bernadt spoke to producers about a project intended to improve drought early warning information and provide a seasonal outlook for specialty crop growers.

5. **Middle East and North Africa (MENA) drought management meeting**  
   **Location: Amman, Jordan - Rabat, Morocco**  
   In May, former NDMC director Michael Hayes and planning coordinator Cody Knutson traveled to Jordan, where they and International Water Management Institute staff organized a workshop funded by USAID. Svoboda also travelled to Morocco, and joined Knutson, Hayes and NDMC outreach coordinator Deborah Bathke in Jordan in October for a MENA project workshop.

6. **USDA Drought Workshop**  
   **Location: Juneau, Alaska**  
   In May, Bathke facilitated a drought workshop in Juneau as part of the center’s work with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The event was designed to prepare stakeholders to transition from a snow to rain-dominant system.

7. **Santee Tribal Workshop**  
   **Location: Niobrara, Nebraska**  
   In November, Knutson and Hayes facilitated the Lower Missouri River Tribes Adaptation Planning Workshop hosted by the Santee Nation.