

**WMO OMM**

World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale
Organización Meteorológica Mundial
Всемирная метеорологическая организация
المنظمة العالمية للأرصاد الجوية
世界气象组织

Secrétariat

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Ref.: 00362/2024.15 S/HWR

Our ref.: 00362/2024/S/FFGS

12 January 2024

Annex: 1 (available in English only)

Subject: Invitation to the Flash Flood Guidance System (FFGS) User Training Workshop in Bucharest, Romania, from 26 to 28 March 2024

Action required: To confirm participation preferably no later than **2 February 2024**

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you may be aware, the Southeast Europe Flash Flood Guidance System (SEEFFGS) and Black Sea and Middle East Flash Flood Guidance System (BSMEFFGS) are currently operational and various major activities have been successfully completed.

At the kind invitation of the National Meteorological Administration of Romania, in collaboration with the National Institute of Hydrology and Water Management, the FFGS User Training Workshop will be held from 26 to 28 March 2024 in Bucharest, Romania.

The main objective of this Workshop will be to train operational forecasters on the use of different guidance tools developed by the Turkish State Meteorological Service (TSMS), the Regional Centre of the SEEFFGS and BSMEFFGS, to monitor FFGS products more precisely and issue flash flood warnings more efficiently. This Workshop will provide forecasters with a unique opportunity to enhance the skills and network with professionals in the field.

In this regard, I am pleased to invite you, as the FFGS Focal Point of your country, and your alternate, to attend this Workshop.

Please note that participants are required to have their laptops for doing hands-on exercises.

For administrative purposes, I should be grateful if you could kindly confirm participation by email to FFGS Project officers, Ms Petra Mutic (pmutic@wmo.int) and Mr Najeebullah Saraj (nsaraj@wmo.int), not later than **2 February 2024**, and indicate whether any financial assistance will be required.

If so, participants should complete, sign and return the enclosed Request for Financial Assistance (RFA) form to the Secretariat at mrequests@wmo.int with copy to pmutic@wmo.int and nsaraj@wmo.int together with a copy of the first page of their passport, by **2 February**

To: FFGS focal points from Southeast Europe and Black Sea and Middle east (Limited Distribution) Albania, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Palestine, Serbia

cc: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO (Limited Distribution) Albania, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Palestine, Serbia

FFGS Focal Point Alternate

Hydrological Advisers

2024. These documents are essential for us to complete, in due time, the necessary formalities concerning your travel. The travel arrangements will be made by the Secretariat and details will be sent to the participants, in due course.

In addition, all participants are kindly requested to inquire about an entry visa to the Romania and check with the concerned travel agent if a transit visa is required. If necessary, participants are responsible to obtain the required visa and WMO can provide a formal invitation letter in support of a visa application for this purpose. The attached Request for Travel Visa Support form needs to be completed and sent to the Secretariat at registration@wmo.int.

Regarding insurance coverage for non-staff members, may I draw your attention to the following:

"Non-staff members of WMO who are authorized to travel at the Organization's expense and/or who are receiving a DSA from WMO must ensure they are fully responsible for expenses incurred in the event of death, illness or injury during official travel and attendance at meetings on behalf of the Organization. They are, therefore, fully responsible for arranging life, health, accident, as well as any other forms of insurance with an adequate level of coverage for the duration of such meetings and events. WMO liability is limited to the performance of services or attendance at a meeting on behalf of the Organization, is covered by an injury and illness benefit insurance which provides a limited coverage for medical, emergency and supplementary official travel expenses."

I appreciate your support and expertise for the FFGS project and mitigation of adverse effects of flash flooding and wish all participants a successful Workshop.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support to WMO activities.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Stefan Uhlenbrook
Director
Hydrology
Water and Cryosphere
Services Department



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WORLD
METEOROLOGICAL
ORGANIZATION

Bucharest, Romania

26-28 March 2024

AGENDA

26 March 2024 (Tuesday)		
09:00-09:15	Opening of the Workshop and Welcome Remarks	National Meteorological Administration, National Institute of Hydrology and Water Management, TSMS, WMO
09:15-09:30	Introduction of Participants	All
09:30-10:00	Overview of the FFGS with Global Coverage	WMO
10:00-10:30	Overview of the Workshop and its Objectives	TSMS
10:30-11:00	Coffee break	
11:00-11:30	Knowledge and Technology Transfer	TSMS
11:30-12:30	Effective and Operational Use of the FFGS Tools	TSMS
12:30-13:30	Lunch break	
13:30-14:30	General Procedures for How to Issue Flash Flood Warning Before It Starts	TSMS
14:30-15:30	"Sending Automatic Warning e-mail Message (Life-saver) Tool"	TSMS
15:30-16:00	Coffee break	
16:00-17:00	Questions and Answers and Hands-on Exercise	All
27 March 2024 (Wednesday)		
09:00-09:15	Overview of the Day 1	WMO
09:15-10:30	"Visualization of the Flash Flood Threat Tool"	TSMS
10:30-11:00	Coffee break	
11:00-11:30	Questions and Answers & Hands-on Exercise	All

11:30-12:30	"Monitoring Snow Water Potential Tool"	TSMS
12:30-13:30	Lunch break	
13:30-14:30	Questions and Answers & Hands-on Exercise	All
14:30-15:30	General Steps for Developing an Application	TSMS
15:30-16:00	Coffee break	
16:00-17:00	Post-Processing of Flash Flood Events - Case Study	TSMS
28 March 2024 (Thursday)		
09:00-09:15	Overview of the Day 2	WMO
09:15-10:00	Post-Processing of Flash Flood Events- Verification	TSMS
10:00-10:30	Discussion on the Guidance Tools and Flash Flood Forecasting	All
10:30-11:00	Coffee break	
11:00-11:30	Additional Modifications Planned on the First Application for Automatic FFGS Warning email	TSMS
11:30-12:30	Closing Session & Certificate Distribution	All
12:30-13:30	Lunch break	
13:30-17:00	Visit to the National Meteorological Administration/ or National Institute of Hydrology and Water Management of Romania (TBC)	