



Our ref.: 02904/2018/ETR/CRS-218

14 February 2018

Annexes: 2 (available in English only)

Subject: International Training Course on Climate Change impacts: assessment and communication 28 May to 22 June 2018 (Distance Learning) and 25 June to 6 July 2018 (Classroom Learning), Florence, Italy

Action required: For information and appropriate action, as necessary

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have pleasure to inform about the International Training Course on Climate Change impacts, which is the third event of the Training Program on Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction in Agriculture (PCCA/DRR), financed by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) and realized by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in collaboration with the Institute of Biometeorology of the Italian National Research Council (IBIMET-CNR). The course will be offered from 28 May to 22 June 2018 (Distance Learning) and from 25 June to 6 July 2018 (Classroom Learning) in Sesto Fiorentino, Florence, Italy.

The general goal of this third training course is to strengthen the capacities of the Member Countries of the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in developing effective climate services for Climate Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation. The specific objective of the Course is to strengthen the capacity of national technical services for a better assessment of climate change and its impacts on agriculture and water resources and the consolidation of a network among scientific and technical institutions to work on shared methodologies and to create an objective and harmonized base of information. The aim is to transfer and share the know-how, to expand cooperation in sensitive areas to national and regional levels and to promote exchanges and collaboration through the application of research products and operational tools.

The course is designed for technicians and experts of National Hydro-Meteorological Services and other technical Services involved in climate risk reduction and adaptation. The course is specifically designed for climatologists, agro-meteorologists, agronomists and hydrologists by creating an environment where climate, hydrology and agriculture actors could share a common view and develop a common language. Target countries are the CILSS/ECOWAS Member Countries. The course will be conducted in English. The distance learning module will be carried out through a Moodle platform. The Distance learning is mandatory to participate in the Workshop. Please find attached the Course Information Form (Annex I) for detailed information on this course.

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo, Mauritania and Chad with WMO (limited distribution)

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives

Interested candidates are requested to complete the attached Application Form (Annex II), which should be endorsed by the Permanent Representative of the respective country with WMO, and sent directly to the IBIMET-CNR, as soon as possible but not later than **11 March 2018**.

Yours faithfully,



(W. Zhang)  
for the Secretary-General



## WMO, CNR-IBIMET and AGRHYMET Regional Center



### TRAINING PROGRAMME

## Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction in Agriculture

# International Training Course on Climate Change impacts: assessment and communication

## Course Information Form

28 May – 22 June 2018 (Distance Learning)

25 June – 6 July 2018 (Classroom Learning)

Area di Ricerca CNR,  
via Madonna del Piano, 10  
50019 - Sesto Fiorentino (Florence) - ITALY

### Background

The course is the third event of the Training Program on Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction in Agriculture (PACC/RRC), financed by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) and realized by WMO in collaboration the Regional Training Center in Italy IBIMET-CNR and the AGRHYMET Regional Centre. The Training Program consists of four high education courses, two organized by the Regional Centre AGRHYMET in Niamey (Niger) and two by IBIMET-CNR in Florence (Italy), and a final conference in Rome

The four training courses are:

- Climate services for disaster prevention (IBIMET-CNR, November 2017),
- Agrometeorological Services for agriculture and water use (AGRHYMET, February 2018),
- Climate Change impacts: assessment and communication (IBIMET-CNR, June 2018),
- Agrometeorological Services for rainfed crops (AGRHYMET, October 2018)

### Course Description

Weather and climate are some of the biggest risk factors impacting on farming and water resources management. Extreme weather and climate events such as severe droughts, floods, or

heat waves strongly affect crop production worldwide and particularly in the semi-arid tropics and sub-tropics. Climate change is expected to exacerbate the magnitude and frequency of such events with probable worsening of impacts on cropping systems. In western Africa, Climate Change is a major risk for rural population because it affects crop production and exacerbate food insecurity in an area where most livelihoods rely on small-farm agriculture and on annual rain fed crops for satisfying basic food needs. Crop production system, are, then, particularly fragile due to desertification, soil degradation, low soil fertility, high levels of crop and livestock diseases. Such a vulnerability to climate risks is worsened by population pressure and food insecurity and adds to poverty, that is definitely the greatest source of vulnerability to climate at all latitudes and time scales.

The general goal of this third training course is to strengthen the capacities of CILSS/ECOWAS Member Countries in developing effective climate services for Climate Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation. The specific objective of the Course is to strengthen the capacity of national technical services on for a better assessment of climate change and its impacts on agriculture and water resources and the consolidation of a network among scientific and technical institutions to work on shared methodologies and to create an objective and harmonized base of information. The aim is to transfer and share the know-how, to expand cooperation in sensitive areas to national and regional levels and to promote exchanges and collaboration through the application of research products and operational tools.

The course is designed for technicians and experts of National Hydro-Meteorological Services and other technical Services involved in climate risk reduction and adaptation. The course will be realized in Florence, Italy.

The training course has two parts:

- Distance learning module open for 4 weeks (mandatory) from 28 May to 22 June 2017;
- Workshop in Florence lasting 2 weeks from 25 June to 6 July 2017.

The distance learning module will be carried out through a Moodle platform. The Distance learning is mandatory to participate in the Workshop. The estimated time to complete the DLC is 8 hours per week.

### **Expected Learning Outcomes**

Through the course, participants will acquire theoretical and practical knowledge on current approaches to assess climate change impacts in West Africa, with particular emphasis on:

- General aspects of agro-climatic analysis using observed and projected climatic datasets
- Fundamentals of agro-climatic modelling for impact assessment
- Communication of climatic information
- Operational application of climate and spatial analysis tools for agro-climatic risk analysis and assessment.

### **Target Audience**

The course is specifically designed for climatologists, agro-meteorologists, agronomists and hydrologists by creating an environment where climate, hydrology and agriculture actors could share a common view and develop a common language. Target countries are the CILSS/ECOWAS Member Countries.

### **Course Content**

The course will be organized in two phases:

1. *Distance Learning module on General aspects of agro-climatic analysis*: this module aims to ensure that all the participants reach the same basic knowledge and comprehension of



agro-climatic analysis. The module will be open for 4 weeks and will be realized on the Moodle distance-learning platform from 28 May to 22 June 2017.

General aspects covered by this module will be:

- IRI/LDEO Climate data Library Tutorial;
- Data analysis and manipulation using the open source programming language R;
- Data analysis and manipulation with crop models.

## 2. *Workshop in Florence, Italy* – 25 June to 6 July 2017:

2.1 Climate Data and Projections: This module will address the following aspects:

- Climatic Datasets and projections: availability, differences and limitations for agro-climatic analysis (day 1),
- Spatial/temporal resolution, suitability for analysis and downscaling (day 2),
- Integration of observed climate trends with climate projections for the assessment of climate change in the short term, (day 3),

## 2.2 Agro-climatic modelling for impact assessment:

This module will address the following aspects:

- Methods and tools for climate analysis in relation to crop production systems (day 4)
- Modelling and assessment of the impacts of climate change on crops and water availability,
- Assessment of economic impacts of climate change (day 7)

## 2.3 Communication of climatic information: (8-9)

This module will address the following aspects:

- The complexity of Climate Change Communication (day 8)
- Media and Climate Change: Develop Positive Relationships (day 9)
- Climate Services as communication tools (day 9)

## 2.4 Hands-on sessions (afternoons)

- Climate analysis with R (days 1-3)
- Crop Modelling (days 4-7)
- Communicating climate projections and crop yield scenarios to stakeholders: institutions, media, public (days 8-9)

## 2.5 Final presentation of case studies (day 10)

A visit will be organized during the course.

## Course Format

4 weeks of distance learning through the Moodle platform (from 28 May to 22 June 2018)

2 weeks (from Monday to Friday) of frontal/classroom course (25 June to 6 July 2018) in Florence (Italy), which includes lectures, group discussions, case studies, practical training sessions.

The program accords a 50-50 sharing of the training time between lectures and practical sessions. The training will be held at the Research Area of CNR in Sesto Fiorentino (Florence).

The scientific coordinator of the course will be Dr. Maurizio Bacci (IBIMET-CNR).

Students and teachers of the course will largely benefit from the Moodle platform through which educational material will be shared and assessment procedures conducted.

## Evaluation

The training courses will be subjected to an effectiveness evaluation at multiple levels:

- Each activity will be evaluated for the initial response of participants to the relevance, effectiveness, engagement, and impact of the intervention. This feedback will be gathered via surveys.

- Participants will be awarded with badges for incremental competency development and certificates for completion of online, frontal, and follow on activities. During the workshop learners will be evaluated through practical exercises and quizzes covering essential course content.
- For the assessment of long term impacts, participants will be requested to:
  - o share the course content in the participant's local institution and upload on the Moodle evidence documentation in multiple formats (photos, presentations, reports, video);
  - o prepare a poster (typical conference poster) presenting an application of acquired knowledge to a case study relative to their own country/area. Posters will be presented at the final conference. Posters will also be evaluated and will be used as evidence to a badge.

**An award will be granted to the 4 participants** that are deemed to have performed best, one for each training course, including the follow-on activities, on the basis of the acquired badges and a qualitative assessment. The 4 winners will be invited to the final conference in Rome where they are invited to present with a speech their poster and training experience during the plenary session.

#### Instructors' institution, tentative names and topic

CNR-IBIMET	M. Baldi	Climatic Analysis
CNR-IBIMET	V. Tarchiani	Disaster Risk Reduction
CNR-IBIMET	M. Pasqui	Climatic analysis and communication
CNR-IBIMET	E. Di Giuseppe	Climate data analysis
CNR-IBIMET	M. Bacci	Agroclimatic Analysis
CNR-IBIMET	R. Magno	Vegetation monitoring
CNR-IBIMET	E. Rapisardi	Communication
CNR-IBIMET	F. Ungaro	Soils to ecosystem services
CNR-IRPI	L. Brocca	Soil moisture monitoring
CNR-ISAC	E. Palazzi	Climate modelling
CNR-ISAC		Climate modelling
CNRS-LOCEAN	M. Gaetani	Climate modelling
University of Florence	R. Ferrise	Agroclimatic modelling
LOCEAN / IPSL	B. Sultan	Agroclimatic impact Analysis
Slovenian Environmental Agency	Tanja Cegnar	Communication
Agence Française de Développement	P. Roudier	Climate Data projections
IRD	L. Descroix	Hydrologic impacts of Climate Change
AGRHYMET		
WMO		

#### Language

Trainings will be conducted in English

Tutoring in French will be guaranteed for practical sessions.

Training material will be available in both languages as far as possible.

#### Participant Qualifications for Admission

- *Education Level:* to be specialized in meteorology, climatology, hydrology, agricultural

sciences, or water management.

- *Position/Task:* from National Hydro-Meteorological Services, National Agricultural Services, or Research Institutions from CILSS/ECOWAS Countries
- *Basic knowledge of geostatistical analysis (R)*
- *Basic knowledge of crop modeling*
- *Experience:* At least 3 years of relevant working experience Climatic analysis
- *Language:* To be proficient in English

### **Application and Selection Process**

Interested candidates are requested to complete the attached Participant Application Form, which includes the nomination by the national Permanent Representative with WMO. Applications, as specified in the Form, should be sent by the WMO PR of the country to the IBIMET-CNR and will be forwarded to WMO ETR Office and the AGRHYMET Regional Center.

PRs are kindly requested to submit up to 3 nominations, of which no more than 2 should be from the National Meteorological and Hydrological service and the others from National Agricultural Services or Research Institutions. PRs are asked to ensure gender diversity. Participants' selection will be made by the three project partners (WMO, IBIMET-CNR, AGRHYMET), with the goal to broaden national and institutional engagement.

At least 17 participants will be selected among nominations from PRs of member countries. The selection will be based on the following criteria: geographical representativeness (in principle, 1 participant from each country), as well as the suitability of the participant based on the CV and nomination form. In the case that one or more countries do not propose participants, or the proposed participant from a given country do not meet the selection criteria, additional places will be allocated to the other target countries.

Up to 8 additional participants will be directly invited to each course, based on partners' consensual decision, coming from national, regional or international technical or research organizations of the target countries. Furthermore, up to 5 further participants can be accepted to participate in the course with funding from sources outside the project. The maximum number of participants is therefore 30 per training course.

Admitted participants are requested to prepare:

- a climatic dataset (30 years of data) for at least 3 climatic stations in their own country to be used for the practical sessions of the course
- crop and soil characteristics in the stations' area
- a report/presentation on their (or their service's) experience on the themes of the course for the purpose of knowledge exchange.

The Institute of Biometeorology guarantees equal opportunity and accepts applications without distinction on the grounds of age, race, political, philosophical or religious conviction, gender or sexual orientation and regardless of disabilities, marital status or family situation.

### **Costs**

Tuition is free for all the admitted participants

Selected participants funded by the project will receive:

- A prepaid flight ticket,
- Prepaid accommodation in Florence,
- Transport from/to hotel/course venue,
- Lunches and coffee breaks during the course
- Pocket money for other expenses not previously listed.

Health insurance and costs for obtaining Visa are not covered by the project.  
Other participants admitted but not funded by the project have to cover their own travel and accommodation expenses. IBIMET-CNR will provide help for booking accommodation in Florence.

**Deadline for Application**  
**11 March 2018**

Ref.: 02902/2018-L1 DRA/ETR



International Training Course on  
**Climate Change impacts: assessment and communication**  
28 May – 22 June 2018 (Distance Learning)

25 June – 6 July 2018 (Classroom Learning) Florence - ITALY

Ref.: 02903/2018-1.1 DRA/ETR

**Section A: Personal Details**

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1. Country: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Title : Mr/Ms/Miss/Dr/Prof/: \_\_\_\_\_
3. First Name (Given): \_\_\_\_\_
4. FAMILY NAME (SURNAME): \_\_\_\_\_
5. E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Fax No: \_\_\_\_\_
8. Official Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_
10. Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_
11. Gender : ☐ Female ☐ Male
12. Passport Number : \_\_\_\_\_
13. Do you need an entry visa for Italy?: ☐ No ☐ Yes

**Section B: Qualification**

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14. Qualification (Certificates, diplomas, degrees, etc.):

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15. Please indicate your English language skills:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Nil
Speaking					
Reading					
Writing					

16. What other WMO courses have you attended in the last 5 years?:

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### **Section C: Work Experience**

17. Present work: ☐ National Meteorological and/or Hydrological Service (NMHS)

☐ WMO Regional Training Center (RTC)

☐ Other National Technical Service: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ University/Research Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Other (Please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

18. What is your job title? : \_\_\_\_\_

19. How long have you been in this position? : \_\_\_\_\_

20. Your qualification: ☐ Meteorologist

☐ Hydrologist

☐ Other (Please specify) : \_\_\_\_\_

21. Do you have experience on?

Climate analysis/modelling ☐ YES ☐ NO

Climate prediction/forecasts ☐ YES ☐ NO

Crop modelling ☐ YES ☐ NO

Hydrological modelling ☐ YES ☐ NO

Communication ☐ YES ☐ NO

**Section D: Rationale for Applying**

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22. How are you involved in Climate analysis/impact assessment in your position?

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23. Why do you want to attend this course? Be specific about how it will help you in your work.

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24. Statement by candidate on how she/he anticipates using the knowledge and skills from this course in the work after the course?:

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**Section E: Travel and local costs and Insurance**

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25. How your travel and local costs will be covered?

- ☐ Asking for support by PACC-RRC Programme: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Your Administration: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Other sponsors: \_\_\_\_\_

26. Other costs

I fully understand that PACC-RRC Programme cover only travel and subsistence costs, any other cost (health insurance, costs for visas, etc.) are borne by participants.

27. Insurance

I fully understand that the course organizer does not take any responsibility for risks such as loss of life, accidents, illness, loss of property etc.

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### **Personal statement**

I hereby declare that the information given above is true, correct and complete. I shall bear the responsibility for the above information. I pledge to observe all the Italian laws and will respect the local customs and follow the seminar regulations during my stay in Italy for the training seminar.

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Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Endorsement of the Permanent Representative with WMO**

1. Name of Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Name and Signature of the Permanent Representative with WMO:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

3. Official Seal \_\_\_\_\_

4. Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Will the participant be granted the required 8 hours per week release time to complete the distance learning activities of the course from 28 May to 22 June 2018?

... Yes, based on agreement with direct supervisor

... Yes, based on agreement with NMHS director.

... No, formal agreement is still being sought

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### **Include a short CV (max 5 pages) with the present form**

To be completed and returned by email **not later than 11 March 2018** to the following recipients:

To: IBIMET-CNR [f.caporossi@ibimet.cnr.it](mailto:f.caporossi@ibimet.cnr.it), [v.tarchiani@ibimet.cnr.it](mailto:v.tarchiani@ibimet.cnr.it)

Cc: AGRHYMET Regional Center [e.sarr@agrhyet.ne](mailto:e.sarr@agrhyet.ne)

Cc: WMO-ETRP [tra@wmo.int](mailto:tra@wmo.int)

#### **Contacts:**

Vieri Tarchiani IBIMET-CNR Tel. +390553033711 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:v.tarchiani@ibimet.cnr.it">v.tarchiani@ibimet.cnr.it</a>	Maurizio Bacci IBIMET-CNR Tel. +390553033711 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:m.bacci@ibimet.cnr.it">m.bacci@ibimet.cnr.it</a>	Marina Baldi Director of RTC Tel. +390649937680 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:m.baldi@ibimet.cnr.it">m.baldi@ibimet.cnr.it</a>
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