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15 February 2021

Annex: 1 (available in English only)

Ref.: 00211/2021-131 S/CS

Subject: Strengthening collaboration among NMHSs and WMO Centres for effective support to Members through extra-budgetary projects, 10–12 March 2021, Videoconference

Action required: To confirm your participation in the aforementioned meeting, and to notify the WMO Secretariat before **26 February 2021**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to a virtual meeting on Strengthening collaboration among the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) centres for effective support to Members through extra-budgetary projects. The meeting will convene in three sessions, with each session lasting two and one half-hours from 10 to 12 March 2021. A concept note including a provisional agenda is attached.

The WMO extra-budgetary project portfolio currently comprises 47 projects supporting 127 countries within all WMO regions. Member priorities being addressed through these projects include severe weather, tropical cyclones, floods, drought and coastal inundation early warning, and strengthening services for the agricultural, water resources and renewable energy sectors. The purpose of the meeting is to review and strengthen the arrangements through which these projects facilitate direct support for implementation and technical advisory services for Members and partner organizations. The meeting will be an opportunity for NMHSs contributing to and receiving support to give their views and perspectives on how collaboration could be streamlined and give and receive feedback on project implementation arrangements and modalities.

The virtual sessions will open at 13:00 CET each day, and will be held in English, French and Spanish with simultaneous interpretation. The sessions will take place through the online platform ZOOM. Materials for the meeting will be uploaded as they become available on the [WMO website](#).

These will include pre-recorded presentations that all participants will be expected to have reviewed in advance. Instructions and guidelines on the use of the online platform will be made available on the website and participants will have the possibility to test the videoconferencing tool prior to the session.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO (limited distribution)

For further information, please contact Ms Gülay Kahraman, Programme Assistant, Climate Services Branch ([gkahraman@wmo.int](mailto:gkahraman@wmo.int)). For administrative purposes, I should be grateful if you could kindly notify the WMO Secretariat as soon as possible, but not later than **26 February 2021**, whether you will be able to participate in the session.

Yours faithfully,



Prof. Petteri Taalas  
Secretary-General

## Strengthening collaboration among National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and WMO centres for effective support to Members through extra-budgetary projects

*Review of Project Implementation Arrangements*

**10–12 March 2021, 13:00–15:30 (CET)**

Virtual meeting with simultaneous interpretation (EN/ FR/S)

Ref.: 00211/2021-131 S/CS

### Concept note

**Meeting Objective:** A common understanding of the arrangements and modalities through which extra-budgetary projects facilitate peer-to-peer support among WMO-NMHS and regional centres for the provision of advisory services and direct support for the implementation of systems and services, and a harmonization of approaches among relevant stakeholders in strengthening the weather, water and climate value chain. The meeting will provide an opportunity for NMHSs and WMO centres contributing or receiving support to give views and perspectives on how this collaboration could be streamlined and give and receive feedback on the arrangements and modalities (i.e. what is working well or not, lessons learned).

### Expected outcomes:

- Stock-taking of ongoing implementing arrangements between WMO and NMHSs or other implementing entities for extra-budgetary activities (ongoing and emerging)
- Improvements in implementing arrangements and types of support available.

### Background

WMO is currently directly implementing 47 projects with extra-budgetary financing. These projects currently support 127 countries globally, with a total budget of approximately CHF 126 million. The projects are in line with the goals and objectives of the WMO Strategic and Operating Plans (2020–2023). The main beneficiary regions by investment are Africa (37%), South America (17%) and Asia (15%). Peer-to-peer support to Members is provided through agreements with 27 NMHSs, 14 regional organizations and eight international organizations. Members' top priorities being addressed through these projects include severe weather, tropical cyclones, floods, drought and coastal inundation early warning, and services for the agricultural, water resources and renewable energy sectors.

Implementation support is provided through two main pathways: direct support for implementation of hydro-met systems and associated services, including through peer-to-peer support by "twinning" advanced and less advanced NMHSs, and technical advisory services to ensure that hydro-met systems and services components of larger projects led by WMO development partners are implemented according to WMO standards.

Financing for projects comes directly to WMO from various sources, including bilateral donors and global financing mechanisms such as the Adaptation Fund, the Green Climate Fund and the Climate Risk and Early Warning System (CREWS) initiative (direct access funding). WMO also receives funding through development partner organizations (indirect access funding). Projects are harmonized on subregional scales to ensure alignment of all WMO-supported initiatives. WMO also aligns its initiatives with those being undertaken by development partners in each subregion and country. Results are tracked through the WMO Country Profile Data Base (CPDB) and reported to policy makers and donors in flagship reports such as the State of Climate Services and Regional Climate reports.

In addition, Member NMHSs from developed countries may access funds from the international development agencies of their countries or international finance institutions. Under such arrangements, these NMHSs may also provide either direct support for implementation or technical advisory services. These may or may not be coordinated with the WMO Secretariat and/or with other ongoing projects.

### **Provisional Agenda** (all speakers TBC)

#### **(1) Welcome and introduction - 20'**

- (a) Remarks of the WMO Secretary-General – SG Petteri Taalas or his representative
- (b) Purpose of the meeting and review of the agenda – Mary Power, Director, Member Services and Development Department, WMO

#### **(2) Challenges and opportunities for programme alignment with WMO strategic objectives - 30'**

- (a) Overview of the current project portfolio and pipeline and how it relates to the Strategic Plan Objectives – Jay Wilson, Head, Project Management and Implementation Division, WMO
- (b) Access to funds and types of assistance - Jean-Baptiste Migraine, Head, Technical Coordination and GFCS Support Unit, WMO

#### **(3) Implementation modalities and selected examples – 5' overviews of pre-recorded presentations followed by discussion**

- (a) Direct support for implementation of systems and services
  - (i) Presentations (30'):
    - Support to PNG – Mr Kasis Inape and Mr Yuriy Kuleshov (PNG NWS + BoM)
    - Support to West Africa – Mr Sadibou Ba and Mr Philippe Peyrillé (RSMC Dakar + Météo-France)
    - Support to Dominican Republic - Mr Israel Acosta Lantigua and Ms Maibys Sierra (Instituto Nacional De Recursos Hidráulicos Dominican Republic + Instituto de Meteorologia de Cuba)
    - Support to Peru - Grinia Avalos and Manuel Keller (SENAMHI and MeteoSwiss)
  - (ii) Roundtable Discussion (Ms Catherine Borretti, Mr Marcelin Esterlin, Mr Pablo Ortiz-de-Galisteo, Mr Ousmane Ndiaye) (60') - Example of some guiding questions
    - What has worked well and what not so well?
    - What could be done to streamline the process of providing and receiving and make it work better?
    - In what areas is more support needed?
- (b) Technical advisory services
  - (i) Presentations (15'):

- Support to GCF - Ms Berit Arheimer (SMHI)
  - Support to Myanmar – Mr Dom Lethem (UKMO); Ms Kristine Gjesdal (NMI); Mr Harry Dixon (UKCEH); Dr Hrin Nei Thiam (Myanmar NMHS)
- (ii) Roundtable Discussion (Mr Jean-Paul Gaudechoux, Mr Nestor Nianga, Mr Rainer Kaltenberger, Dr Hrin Nei Thiam, Mr Daouda Konaté) (45') – Example of some guiding questions
- What has worked well and what not so well?
  - What could be done to streamline the process of providing technical advisory services to development partners and countries and make it work better?
  - Lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic, where applicable
- (c) What are some principal opportunities for increasing the quantity and quality of this type of support by WMO to countries and partners? Developing synergies (parallel programming) -
- (i) Presentations (10')
- WISER - Ms Helen Bye (UKMO)
  - ARRCC - Mr David Corbelli (UKMO)
- (ii) Roundtable Discussion (Ms Kathrin Hall, Ms Heather Aucoin, Ms Courtney Draggon, Mr G. Srinivasan and Mr Samuel Mwangi) (45') -- Example of some guiding questions
- What mechanisms are working well and/or not so well for aligning programmes being implemented separately?
  - What mechanisms could be strengthened or developed to improve parallel programming?
- (4) Hydro-met systems and services, operational concepts and selected programmatic examples (5' overviews of pre-recorded presentations followed by discussion)**
- (a) Introduction – Maxx Dilley, Director, Climate Services Branch, Services Department, WMO – 5'
- (b) Presentations
- (i) Full value chain systems and services concepts - Johan Stander, Director, Services Department, WMO – 5'
- Climate Services Information System (CSIS), Drought Monitoring and Regional Climate Outlook Forums (RCOFs) (through Global Producing Centres & Regional Climate Centres)
  - Tropical Cyclones (through Tropical Cyclones Programme and Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres (RSMCs))
  - Severe Weather Forecast Programme (SWFP) (through RSMCs)
  - Flash Flood Guidance System (FFGS) (through FFGS Regional Centres)
  - Coastal Inundation Forecasting Initiatives (CIFI)
  - Hydrological Status and Outlook System (HydroSOS)

- (ii) Systems and services innovations - Jürg Luterbacher, Director, Science and Innovation Department, WMO – 5'
  - Subseasonal to seasonal
  - High-impact weather
- (iii) Supporting Infrastructure – Anthony Rea, Director, Infrastructure Department, WMO – 5'
  - Observing networks
  - WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS)
  - WMO Information System (WIS)
  - Data management systems
- (c) Roundtable Discussions (Mr 'Ofa Fa'anunu, Mr Ladislaus Chang'a, Ms Fatima Zahra Bensaid, Mr David Farrell) – (60') -- Example of some guiding questions
  - (i) What has worked well and what could work better with respect to integrating services across hazards and timescales?
  - (ii) What has worked well and what could work better with respect to the integration of systems and services across the hydrometeorological services value chain?
  - (iii) What could be done to achieve greater integration?
  - (iv) What is the biggest infrastructure gap?
- (5) Recommendations for future project development, guiding questions (based on examples) - (60') - Filipe Lucio, Director, Regional Strategy Office, Member Services and Development Department, WMO**
  - (a) Open Discussion – Example of some guiding questions
    - (i) How much can the supporting NMHSs take on? Their challenges, opportunities and expectations?
    - (ii) What is the optimal point in the project development process for involvement?
    - (iii) What are the constraints and difficulties in implementing agreements with the WMO Secretariat?
    - (iv) How can the process be made more efficient?
  - (b) Wrap up

### Participants

- Representatives from Members with whom WMO has, or expects to have, implementation agreements (27–30 existing agreements [technical focal point{s} and international affairs officers])
- Representatives from the:
  - Capacity Development Panel

- Expert Team on Capacity Development through Technical Departments (CDP-ET-TDs), and
  - Expert Team on Resource Mobilization, Partnerships and Development Assistance (CDP-ET-RMPDA)
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