



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

Secrétariat

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Weather • Climate • Water
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GENEVA, 12 August 2014

Annex: 1

Subject: Letter to Members and partners to contribute projects and activities to be recognized as contributing to the GFCS

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you are aware, the Heads of State and Government, ministers and senior officials from over 150 countries and 70 organizations attending the World Climate Conference - 3 in 2009 decided unanimously to establish the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) to guide the development and application of climate services worldwide. The GFCS is a global partnership of governments and United Nations and international agencies that produce and use climate information and services aimed at enabling society to manage better the risks and opportunities arising from climate variability and change, through identification of user needs, bringing providers and users of climate services together, development of capacities for using climate services and building operational climate services that can assist decision-makers to reduce vulnerability and adapt to climate impacts.

The first session of the Intergovernmental Board on Climate Services (IBCS-1), held in Geneva from 1 to 5 July 2013, approved the Implementation Plan and the governance mechanism of the GFCS. The session also approved the establishment of the Management Committee of the IBCS; established a stakeholder mechanism formalizing the Partner Advisory Committee and elected the Chairperson and Co-Vice-Chairpersons of IBCS. With these decisions, the GFCS transitioned into an implementation phase.

The Management Committee (the Committee), which held its first meeting in Geneva on 15 and 17 June 2014, updated the criteria for the designation of projects and activities by Members and partners as contributing to the GFCS approved by IBCS-1.

To support our collective effort to achieve the GFCS milestones for 2, 6 and 10 years contained in the Implementation Plan, Members and partners are encouraged to designate projects and activities they are currently implementing that contribute to these milestones and comply with the criteria provided in the annex to this letter as approved by the Committee.

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO (PR-6786)

cc: GFCS Partners

In this regard, it is my pleasure to invite you to designate your activities through a platform created for this purpose. To access the platform, we request you to designate a focal point and provide us with his/her contact information including e-mail address. The focal point will receive the credentials to upload the information on the platform.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'M. Jarraud', is written over a faint, light blue horizontal line.

(M. Jarraud)
Secretary-General

Criteria for projects designated as Contributing Projects

1. **Have a climate service focus, with operational services as a target at least.** While it is important to coordinate weather and climate service activities, projects that are *primarily* focusing on weather capabilities and services with little or no climate service element are out of scope. Projects that address scientific or technical research priorities alone are of great value, but are also out of scope.
2. **Ensure that the outcomes will address the needs of decision-makers and users of climate services.** This would typically, but not necessarily, involve building the User Interface Platform. The project should relate to gaps that have been identified in the Implementation Plan.
3. **Ensure that the project strengthens and supports existing activities and doesn't contradict or duplicate.** Note that projects can undertake new activities and this criterion is intended to avoid duplicating, or conflicting with, existing activities.
4. **Involve, or contribute to, activities in least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries or other regions or countries highly vulnerable and sensitive to climate-related risks.** The project should reduce the vulnerability of society to climate-related hazards (Goal number 1 of the Framework), particularly poor and vulnerable groups.
5. **Ensure the country or region in which the project is being implemented has, or will have, demonstrated interest and commitment to ensure successful delivery, and will build connections across institutes and disciplines.** These institutes should take on a level of ownership of the project to ensure that the outcomes, benefits, infrastructure and operations are sustained. Ensuring the engagement of users is essential.