

ECOWAS METEOROLOGY PROGRAMME

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INTRODUCTION

- **ECOWAS resolved among others in its objectives “to promote cooperation and integration with a view to creating a West African Economic Union in order to raise the standard of living of its people, maintain and increase economic stability, strengthen relationship among member states and contribute to the progress and development of the continent” (Article 2 of Treaty of the ECOWAS, signed 28th day of May 1975).**
- **In view of this, the Executive Secretariat of ECOWAS conscious of the role of National Meteorological Services in the socio-economic development in their respective countries, became concerned with the establishment of an efficient and harmonious collaboration and mechanisms in meteorology to ensure the coordination and strengthening of meteorological activities within the member states.**
- **In pursuance of this, the ECOWAS Commission organized the first meeting of the Committee of Directors of National Meteorological Services of ECOWAS Member States in July 1992 in Lagos Nigeria, where, among others, the ECOWAS Meteorology Programme was proposed**

Overview of the ECOWAS Meteorology Programme

Following the priority of ECOWAS in Agriculture, Transport, Communication, Energy and Water Resource Management, Humanitarian and Social Affairs, Meteorological activities were integrated as an area of Regional Coordination in line with her objectives with a view to:

- **Improve and develop the applications of meteorology to support social and economic sectors in the sub-region.**
- **Establish partnership and effective collaboration with internal Stakeholders and external organizations to address the regional societal needs.**
- **Ensure the strengthening of existing meteorological institutions in particular in the area of training of specialized personnel:**
- **Participate in the co-ordination of technical assistance activities for the meteorological sector**

Intended Programme Outcome

- **Enhanced capacities of NMHSs to develop tailor made products to support the socio-economic development of the region;**
- **Enhanced Hydrological operations in water resource management and in particular in respect to inland lakes and underground water resources;**
- **Strengthened regional institutions and Centres of Excellence such as the ACMAD, AGRHYMET etc. to support the development of user tailored products**
- **Enhanced timely availability and delivery of accurate forecasts, advisories and warnings to the governments, individuals and industries;**
- **Meeting disaster Risk Reduction, capacity building, user perspectives and partnership.**
- **Improved facilities and human resource capacity required for efficient gathering, exchange and processing of meteorological observations, data and products**

CHALLENGES OF METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES OF ECOWAS

The main challenges are as follows:-

- ❖ **Sparse meteorological observational Network**
- ❖ **Poor Telecommunications network**
- ❖ **Inadequate skilled human resources**
- ❖ **Difficulties in the maintenance and sustainability of basic systems**
- ❖ **Incompatibility of technology between member countries**
- ❖ **Lack of adequate and appropriate Climate information system.**
- ❖ **Gaps Between users and providers of Meteorological and hydrological information**
- ❖ **Varying levels of development of National Meteorological Services**
- ❖ **Low investment in research and development**
- ❖ **Poor engagement with Stakeholders/customers in other government departments**

The Strategic Pillars of the ECOWAS Meteorology Programme

Objectives/Goals	Strategic Pillars (SP)
Contribute to the security (of life and property) and sustainable development	SP 1: Improving Service Quality and Service Delivery;
	SP2: Advancing Scientific Research and Application as well as Development and Implementation of Technology;
Improve facilities and human resource capacity required for efficient generation of data, processing and delivery of weather and climate services for adaptation to climate change.	SP3 Strengthening Capacity Development;
Improve cooperation between ECOWAS Member States	SP4: Building and Enhancing Partnerships and Cooperation
Enhance open and transparent processes and efficient and effective use of resources.	SP5: Strengthening Good Governance and Enhanced User Participation in the Provision and Application of Weather and Climate Services.

Expected Results

- ER 1** Enhanced Capabilities of NMHSs of ECOWAS member states to observe, monitor, exchange data produced and disseminate accurate and high quality information and services for security of life and property and sustainable development

- ER 2** Enhanced capacity of NMHSs to undertake research to support disaster risks reduction, sustainable development and maximization of opportunities associated with climate variability and change and production of products tailored to users' needs,

- ER 3** National Weather and Climate Centers' capability to provide support to socio-economic activities, security of lives and properties and sustainable development strengthened.

Expected Results (Cont'd)

ER 4 Partnership between producers of weather and climate services and other institutions including development partners for effective and efficient production and delivery of services to support sustainable development established

ER 5 Efficient Programme Implementation Secretariat that promotes Result Based Management (RBM), transparency and effective use of resources

Implementing the Strategic Pillars

The implementation of the pillars:

- **Would be aligned with those of the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) adopted by AMCOMET.**
- **Would take into consideration the Subregional and global Environmental policies to ensure the effective achievement of the societal goals of the ECOWAS member states. These include:**
 - **ECOWAS Agricultural Policy (ECOWAP) in the framework of CAADP (2005)**
 - **ECOWAS Disaster Risk Reduction (2005)**
 - **ECOWAS Environmental Policy (2008)**
 - **ECOWAS Action Programme to reduce Vulnerability to climate change in West Africa (2010)**
 - **WMO Flagship Programmes GFCS, WIS, WIGOS**
 - **African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET) (2010)**
 - **WMO Strategic Plan 2016-2019 and RA1 Strategic Plan 2012-2015.**
 - **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**
 - **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015-2030**

Implementing the Strategic Pillars (Cont'd)

- **Would take into account the basic and the existing gaps in infrastructure, telecommunication and information exchange system, application development, transfer of technology, training and applied research.**
- **Would be based on full ownership and commitment of ECOWAS Member States / institutions at the national and sub regional levels.**

Modalities for implementation of the Programme

- **ECOWAS Commission, Department of Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources to designate a Programme Coordinator in Charge of Meteorological Activities.**
- **The chairperson of Committee of Directors of Meteorological Services of ECOWAS in collaboration with ECOWAS Commission will meet every year at the initiative of ECOWAS with ASECNA, CILSS/AGRHYMET, ACMAD, ICAO, RTCs, WMO and development partners for harmonization and co-ordination of the programme**
- **ECOWAS Commission, Chairman of the Committee and WMO, Office for North, Central and West Africa to coordinate the preparation of relevant projects from the Programme**
- **Execution of Projects to be coordinated, monitored and evaluated by ECOWAS Commission in collaboration with WMO.**
- **ECOWAS together with WMO to prepare the Strategy for financial resources mobilization and mobilize resources in collaboration with financial institutions of the sub region.**

Stakeholders Analysis

In the ECOWAS Subregion these included:-

- Regional Economic Communities (ECOWAS,)**
- River Basin Authority plus Inland lake Authorities**
- WMO Regional Training Centres**
- Regional Meteorological Development Institutions (ACMAD, AGRHYMET,)**
- National Governments**
- National Universities and Technical Colleges**
- Non-Governmental actors (NGOs, CBOs)**
- Private Sectors**
- United Nations**

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION PLAN

- **Map out the Potential Funding Sources**
- **Classification of donors**
- **Identification of priority areas of each Development Partners**
- **The project Summary should be classified according to priority areas of the Development Partners and presented to the appropriate donors respectively.**
- **The political decision-makers should be involved in the implementation of the meteorological programmes. In this regard the ECOWAS Commission should write letters to all Member states soliciting their support in obtaining assistance from development partners through their Ministries of Planning and Finance.**

Potential Funding Sources

These include among others:-

- **ECOWAS Development Partners**
- **National budgets and funding instruments:**
- **Bilateral development mechanisms**
- **Multilateral development financing mechanisms**
- **World Bank**
- **Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa**
- **Climate financing Instruments**
- **United Nations Agencies**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION !!!

