**`CREWS PROJECT STATUS REPORT**

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| 1. **Project title**
 | **Afghanistan - AF-ECLIM: Enhancing hydromet, early warning and climate Services for Resilience** | 1. **Project reference**

**P168141 (AF-ECLIM)** |
| 1. **Lead IP**
 | **World Bank** | 1. **Other Implementing Partners**

**World Meteorological Organization (WMO)** |
| 1. **Reporting period**
 | **January – June 2020** |
| 1. **Reporting focal point**
 | Arati Belle, DRM Specialist - abelle@worldbank.org Fatih Kaya, Project Officer – fkaya@wmo.int  |
| 1. **Project overview**
 | **Please include synergies, leveraging, key project deliverables and total funding in bullet points. (max 250 words)** The CREWS grant funding is implemented by the lead partner, World Bank (US$2.45 million exclusive of fees) and the technical partner, WMO (US$ 0.86 million) and has been effective as of end-September 2019. There there have been three rounds of consultations with Government counterparts, a Project activity plan was prepared, and priority activities have been commenced including:* Technical assistance for the design and development of a drought early warning system: the design is completed; consultations and development are ongoing. This activity is underpinning the Early warning component of the ENETAWF (Drought Early Warning, Early Action and Early Finance) project, a large US$ 200-250 million shock response and resilience investment financed by IDA (and potentially the Afghan Reconstruction Trust Fund), which combines disaster and climate risk, social protection and disaster finance thematic areas. Technical assistance for the development of the early warning component is also ongoing. The expected approval date for the IDA investment is at the end-August 2020.
* Technical assistance for the design and development of Agromet Information Services Delivery: The need for agrometeorological information for Afghan farmers and pastoralists was made clear during the droughts and floods of 2018-19. Further agricultural productivity is core driver of GDP in the country and agromet services are rated as very important by the Government. Technical assistance for the design of building an agrometeorological information system was started in Dec 2019 and is ongoing. This is expected to leverage a IDA financing for the implementation of agromet services through a proposed IDA project (Agro-water climate resilience) in the next year.
* Ongoing consultations and technical assistance to strengthen Hydromet capacity, including:
	+ TOR developed for a Hydromet Concept of Operations
	+ TOR developed for Hydromet Services Delivery Strategy
	+ Assessment of benefits and challenges for institutional structure for hydromet services delivery ongoing.
* Conceptualization of Community based Disaster risk and early warning (CBDRM and EW) activity commenced
* The World Bank and WMO developed a concept to combine resources and knowledge to support the countries of Central Asia and Afghanistan to improve transboundary flood, flash flood and landslide forecasting, warning and advisory services in the Amu Darya and Syr Darya River Basins.
* WMO has provided technical assistance to
	+ the Afghanistan Meteorology Department for their interactions with NSIA, MAIL on the concept of the drought early warning.
	+ ANDMA (IMMAP: Afghanistan Spatial Data Centre) for their interactions with AMD for broadcasting the Flash Flood Warnings on ANDMA portal and technical guidance provided for the MoU
	+ AMD by introducing and training staff on the 3D Printer Automated Weather Station (3DPAWS) programme as part of the activities of building a readily accessible digital hydrological, meteorological and vulnerability database. The delivery of the printers, consumables and further capacities are on hold due to COVID.
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| 1. **Progress summary**
 | **What has been achieved between January - June? – Please list the most significant and tangible developments?**Please see above. Consultants have been hired and TA outputs are completed/ongoing as planned. * Lead Agromet Specialist
* Lead Drought Early Warning Specialist
* Firm for Drought EW system development
* Firm for CBDRM and EW
* Technical coordinator for CREWS program
* Local coordinating consultant
* Country consultations and missions
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1. **Project Performance**

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| **Interpretation of color coding** |
|  | **High** | Good progress; on track in most or all aspects of delivery |
|  | **Medium** | Moderate progress or on track in some aspects of delivery |
|  | **Low** | Less than moderate or poor progress. Not on track in critical areas of its delivery. Requires remedial attention |

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|  | **Rate of expenditure** | **Rate of delivery** | **Alignment of Objectives** |
| **Coding** |  |  |  |
|  **Narrative** | The commitments have been made but the disbursements are also delayed due to COVID (stoppage of travel, workshops and related activities, work is ongoing in virtual mode) | Activities are going on full speed with a rebalancing of virtual interactions. Face to face trainings have been pushed back to later in the calendar year. An effort is ongoing to source virtual training providers.  | Fully aligned |

1. **Risk Management Status**

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| **Risk Status** | What is the current risk status as compared to what was identified in the project proposal?The risk levels are high because of the FCV context and the added constraints de to the COVID situation although all efforts are ongoing to move ahead through virtual work situation. Slowdown is expected due to Ramadan/Eid combined with COVID related lockdowns.  |
| **Measures to address**  | What mitigation measures have been developed to address the risk status?Virtual communications and meetings.  |

1. **Contributions to CREWS Output(s)s**
	1. **National Output(s)s**

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| **CREWS Output(s) 1: National Meteorological and Hydrological Services service delivery improved, including the development of long-term service delivery strategies and development plans** |
| State Project Output(s) in this section | **Overall Project Target** | **Target for reporting period** | **Progress by** **January 2020** | **Progress by June 2020** |
| Hydromet Concept of operations (CONOPS)  | CONOPS document developed | Ongoing\* | TOR developed | Drafting of the CONOPS document initiated |
| Services delivery strategy | Service delivery strategy document developed | Ongoing\* | TOR developed  | Drafting of the strategy document initiated |
| Reinforcing the legal and institutional framework | A legal framework and regulations document developed | Ongong\* | TOR developed | Drafting of the framework document and regulations initiated |
| Introducing QMS across operations of AMD and WRD-MEW to interact with their user communities |  | Ongoing | - | On-hold |
| **Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words)**Although the TORs were developed by Jan 2020, given the prioritization of activities these tasks are being commenced at this time. QMS activity is on hold due to COVID-19. |

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| **CREWS Output(s) 2: Risk Information to guide early warning systems and climate and weather service developed and accessible** |
| State Project Output(s) in this section | **Overall Project Target** | **Target for reporting period** | **Progress by** **January 2020** | **Progress by June 2020** |
| Design of Drought Early Warning System | Design completed | Base design completed; update to be developed | Expert hired and consultations with technical agencies conducted | Drafting of the technical brief underlining the design of the Drought Early Warning System completed |
| Development of Drought Early Warning System | Established and functional | - | - | Preliminary prototype for the Drought Early Warning System developed |
| Design of Agrometeorological services | Design document ready | Ongoing | Expert hired | Drafting of the draft document completed. |
| Flood Early warning designed and Flash Flood forecasting and alerting systems enhanced | Flood EW Design developed; Link with CA FFGS established and capacity enhanced | Concept for FFGS drafted | Initial consultations completed | Draft concept on FFGS developed |
| Afghanistan is re-connected with Regional Climate Services   | Completed | Ongoing |  | Communications between AMD and IMD initiated  |
| Concept note for the Amu Darya Flow Forecasting and Early Warning System | Completed | Ongoing |  | On hold |
| **Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words)**Flood earlywarning is being sequenced after the completion of the drought early warning in light of the capacity constraints on the part of the counterparts. Concept note and FFGS are on hold due to travel restrictions (April workshop in Almaty postponed due to COVID-19) |

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| **CREWS Output(s) 3: Information and Communication Technology, including common alerting protocol, strengthened** |
| State Project Output(s) in this section | **Overall Project Target** | **Target for reporting period** | **Progress by** **January 2020** | **Progress by** **June 2020** |
| Supporting MoUs between MRRD and other agencies relevant for the drought early warning system | MoUs signed | - | - | - (expected to be done under the ENETAWF) during Sept-Dec 2020 |
| Developing a modern impact-based weather forecasting process | Impact-based forecasting process guidance document | Ongoing | TORs developed | Drafting of the guidance document initiated |
| **Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words)**Given the existing capacity constraints and the covid related travel restrictions, the activities were sequenced and now priorty is given to those activities which can be done through virtual communication means.  |

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| **CREWS Output(s) 4: Preparedness and response plans with operational procedures that outline early warning dissemination processes developed and accessible** |
| State Project Output(s) in this section | **Overall Project Target** | **Target for reporting period** | **Progress by** **January 2020** | **Progress by June 2020** |
| Capacity assessment for hydromet and DRM agencies | Current capacity assessed and training plan developed | ongoing | TOR developed | Preparation of detailed plan for capacity assessment and training plan initiated. |
| **Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them.**Because of travel restrictions, the capacity assessment is being undertaken virtually. There is also a heavy burden on coordination as a number of partners and entities are involved in capacity building in the region/country.  |

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| **CREWS Output(s) 5: Knowledge products and awareness programmes on early warnings developed** |
| State Project Output(s) in this section | **Overall Project Target** | **Target for reporting period** | **Progress by** **January 2020** | **Progress by June 2020** |
| Afghanistan Hydromet Atlas | Completed | Conceptualized |  | TOR developed and firm contracted |
| Afghanistan is a member of the South Asia Hydromet Forum and its engagement in SAHF to be strengthened | Full participating member of SAHF (member of RIMES led SAHF executive council) | - | - | executive meeting expected by September 2020 |
| Linkage with Central Asia and Indian Meteorological Department established | Strong linkage with CA and MOU with IMD established | Consultations with CA ongoing | Review of draft roadmap for consultations with Tajikistan completed | Communications with IMD initiated |
| **Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words)**Same as abovePlanned workshop in Delhi for June 2020 has been postponed due to COVID |

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| **CREWS Output(s) 6: Gender-sensitive training, capacity building programmes provided** |
| State Project Output(s) in this section | **Overall Project Target** | **Target for reporting period** | **Progress by** **January 2020** | **Progress by June 2020** |
| Community awareness on drought early warning (technical support)  | Technical assistance for training developed | - | - | - |
| Capacity building for cost-effective observation network through establishing local capacities and capabilities (3D Printed Agromet Stations for research and academia) |  | Ongoing |  | On hold |
| **Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words)**3DPAWS activities such as the provision of the training events to Kabul University and the Research branch of the AMD, and delivery of the printers and electronic units are unfortunately postponed due to the pandemic. |

* 1. **Regional Output(s)s**

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| **CREWS Regional Output(s): Institutional and human capacities at Regional WMO and Intergovernmental organizations to provide regional climate and weather services to LDCs and SIDS increased**  |
| State Project Output(s) in this section | **Overall Project Target** | **Target for reporting period** | **Progress by** **January 2020** | **Progress by June 2020** |
| **Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words)** |

1. **Contributions to Value Propositions**

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| **Gender Sensitive** | Training is gender tagged. Community initiatives related to Drought early warning is a part of the broader program -ENETAWF - where gender issues are mainstreamed (female facilitators to provide community awareness and training).  |
| **Multiplier** | Potentially financing in the order of 200-350 million (through two proposed IDA investments, ENETAWF and agro-water climate resilience)  |
| **People-centered** | Focus on reducing impact of hazards on the most vulnerable and improving resilience of highly vulnerable communities.  |
| **Promote Coherence** | Improving coordination on technical capacity support from various partners such as WMO, UKMO, etc.  |
| **Solution-oriented** | Activities correspond to specific conditions and provide solutions for the Afghan context.  |
| **Unique** | Drought EW system uses the innovative approach developed by IWMI for dourhgt monitoring.  |

1. **Visibility products**
	1. ***Insert or copy any links to press releases, videos or communication items and/or social media links***
* *3DPAWS in Afghanistan:* [*https://spark.adobe.com/page/E5GFcvbSq3GRD/*](https://spark.adobe.com/page/E5GFcvbSq3GRD/)
* *SASCOF April 2020:* [*https://public.wmo.int/en/media/news/normal-rainfall-expected-2020-southwest-monsoon-season*](https://public.wmo.int/en/media/news/normal-rainfall-expected-2020-southwest-monsoon-season)
* *South Asia Hydromet Forum:* [*www.worldbank.org/southasiahydrometforum*](http://www.worldbank.org/southasiahydrometforum)
1. **Supporting documents**
	1. ***List and annex to the report any documents providing details on project activities such as reports of training sessions, assessment reports, online solutions and tools, manuals, summaries of high-level discussions etc.***
* Amu Darya Flow Forecasting and Early Warning System Concept Note