



CREWS PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT (January – June 2021)

1. Project title	CREWS Haiti Support of the Hydrometeorological Unit of Haiti (UHM) for sustainable operability and the implementation of a relevant and efficient hydrometeorological warning system.	2. Project reference CREWS/CProj/13/Haïti
3. Implementing Partners involved in the project	World Meteorological Organization (WMO)	4. Regional/National Partners involved in the project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MétéoFrance • United Nations Development Programme – Haiti (UNDP) • Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH)
5. Project Duration/Timeframe	January 2020 – December 2022	
6. Reporting focal point(s)	Lina Sjaavik (WMO) Email: LSjaavik@wmo.int	



<p>7. Project overview</p>	<p>Please include synergies, leveraging, key project deliverables and total funding in bullet points. (max 250 words)</p> <p><u>Total project funding:</u> 1,500,000 USD (WMO)</p> <p><u>Project summary:</u> The main objective of the CREWS Haiti project is to improve the capacity of the Unité Hydrométéorologique D'Haïti to develop and deliver co-produced multi-hazard alerts, as well as to strengthen its cooperation with key ministries, priority sectors and communities that will increase the effectiveness of Haiti's early warning system. The project also involves other national counterparts; through planned partnership frameworks, the Coordination Nationale Sécurité Alimentaire will be contributing to activities to strengthen national coordination mechanisms, e.g. through the development and revision of Standard Operating Procedures and the Direction Générale Protection Civile will be involved in activities to strengthen preparedness and response plans. These partnerships will further the development and design of early warning services and products, especially for the agricultural sector, together with the Unité Hydrométéorologique D'Haïti.</p> <p>The project leverages the results achieved by the project "Haiti Weather Systems Program - Climate Services to Reduce Vulnerability in Haiti", funded by ECCC Canada, as the activities planned for CREWS Haiti primarily build on the priorities identified in the National Strategic Plan that has been developed during that previous project. CREWS Haiti thus ensures medium-term sustainability of investments in the country.</p> <p><u>Key project outcomes/deliverables:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhanced capacity of the Unité Hydrométéorologique D'Haïti to deliver high quality services to Direction Générale Protection Civile and other stakeholders 2. Established and improved hydrometeorological warning system 3. Enhanced preparedness and response capacities at national and community levels
<p>8. Progress summary</p>	<p>What has been achieved between (reporting period)? – Please list the most significant and tangible developments?</p>



During this CREWS project progress reporting period, the project has been in its initiation phase. These first six months were used to assess current national challenges and possible project risks, to further understand the needs of the local focal points and to define and plan project activities and milestones accordingly. Moreover, possible synergies with CREWS Caribbean were explored and discussions with the local UNDP office in Haiti were held in order to assess where their support is needed in order to reach set project goals.

The most significant developments/achievements are listed below:

- **January 2021**

- 14 January: First exploratory meeting held with participants from Unité Hydrométéorologique D'Haiti and WMO
- 25 January: Second exploratory meeting held with participants from the Hydrometeorological Unit of Haiti (Unité Hydrométéorologique D'Haiti), , the Coordination Nationale de la Sécurité Alimentaire Haiti, the Direction de la Protection Civile Haiti, , the World Bank (WB) and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) The intention of these exploratory meetings was to bring all stakeholders together to discuss further needs and next steps as the project activities of the former project (ECCC) were coming to an end.
- 27 January: CREWS Haiti project officially launched. Participants of the meeting (KUDO) included representatives from CREWS Secretariat, the Ministère de l'Agriculture Haiti, the Ministère de l'Environnement, the Office National Aviation, the Civile Direction Nationale Eau Potable, the Centre National Information Geo Spatial, the Service Maritime et Navigation, the Unité Hydrométéorologique D'Haiti, the Coordination Nationale Sécurité Alimentaire , the Direction Générale Protection Civile , Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency as well as international implementing partners such as WMO, WB, UNDRR, UNDP Haiti, ECCC Canada, MétéoFrance, USAID, etc.

- **June 2021**

- 06 June: First Project Steering Committee held. The goal of the meeting was to outline project activities in more detail and to assess synergies with the CREWS Caribbean project. Participants of



	<p>the meeting (KUDO) included representatives of the Unité Hydrométéorologique D'Haïti, WMO, WB, UNDRR and UNDP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Process to identify suitable candidates for fellowship at “École nationale de la météorologie” in Toulouse initiated. The fellowships will be co-sponsored by MétéoFrance (tuition and boarding) and WMO CREWS Haiti (living allowance, insurance and travel). <p>Activities initiated shortly after the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● July 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Assessment-tests for recruitment of 2-3 Haitian candidates for fellowships at L'Ecole Nationale de la Météorologie in Toulouse, France (Start: September 2021). Three candidates selected. ○ Local consultant hired as local focal point to support with implementation of national strategic plan and liaise with local stakeholders ○ Draft of an Implementing Agreement between UNDP Haiti and WMO
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9. Project Performance

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

	Rate of expenditure	Rate of delivery	Alignment of Objectives
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Coding	●	●	●
Narrative	<p><u>Project funds available</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,500,000 USD <p><u>Disbursement as of 30 June 2021</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,911.89 USD (Expenditure for first Steering Committee in June) 	<p>The start of the project was postponed from January 2020 to January 2021 in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>The consultation processes for the initiation of the project then took more time than originally planned due to the full virtual work modality that has been followed since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the challenging local political environment in Haiti.</p> <p>As a consequence, this section is rated as yellow, since the project implementation progress so far has only been moderate.</p> <p>With the now finished proper set-up of the project, project implementation is starting. We are positive, that project deliverables will be reached within the project period.</p>	<p>The project is strongly aligned with the objectives as all planned activities contribute to the defined project objectives.</p>



10. Risk Management Status

<p>Risk Status</p>	<p>What is the current risk status as compared to what was identified in the project proposal?</p> <p>In addition to the risk of disasters caused by natural hazards, which may temporarily interrupt the implementation of the project and cause delays in implementation, there are other high risks such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political risks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Elections in 2021 or 2022: The planned timeline to legally endorse a Unité Hydrométéorologique D'Haïti status-change (“Unit” to “Service”) which is proposed within the National Strategic Plan and is hence a defined project outcome for CREWS Haiti will most likely be influenced by the upcoming presidential elections. <i>(Risk-rating: propability: medium-high impact: medium)</i> b. Assassination of the president Jovenel Moïse on 07 July 2021: At the time when this report was drafted, the effects of this attack on the political environment, on the countries’ stability and on the project implementation itself are still unclear. (also see security risk) <i>(Risk-rating: propability: medium impact: medium)</i> • Security risk: Increased periods of insecurity are recurrent in Haiti and can in general: (1) have a significant impact on the pace, capacity and quality of work; (2) delay the timing of implementation of activities. <i>(Risk-rating: propability: medium-high impact: medium-high)</i> • Institutional risk: Project objectives not directly aligned with government priorities in a constantly changing political environment and unstable security situation. <i>Risk-rating: propability: medium impact: medium)</i> <p>An additional risk or uncertainty needs to be added:</p> <p>Project risk: Going forward, the development of the COVID-19 pandemic creates some uncertainty regarding implementation speed and further progress of the project. <i>(Risk-rating: propability: high impact: medium)</i></p>
<p>Measures to address</p>	<p>What mitigation measures have been developed to address the risk status?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political risks: To mitigate the political risks, it is important to ensure national ownership of the project. This is achieved by involving local stakeholders at different levels at all stages of project implementation as well as



keeping the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Ressources Naturelles et du Développement Rural d'Haïti (MARNDR) informed of project progress and recognizing its important role in project sustainability. Currently, a frequent exchange is secured through bi-monthly meetings with representatives of the Unité Hydrométéorologique D'Haïti and project steering committees which include all relevant partners (frequency has yet to be planned). Further meetings in order to involve local stakeholders will be set-up.

Further, we maintain good and transparent relationships with our local focal points in order to gain insights into local developments with a potential impact on the project at an early stage.

- Security risks: The mitigation strategy is to maintain good and transparent relationships with our local focal points in order to gain insights into local developments with a potential impact on the project at an early stage.
- Institutional risk: As mitigation strategy, possibilities for a memorandum of understanding with the Ministère de l'Agriculture Haïti will be assessed.
- Project risk: The mitigation strategy is to follow the full virtual work modality that has been adapted with other projects since the beginning of the pandemic. In that regard, timelines for the competition of activities were adapted to this new communication mode as the experience from the last year shows that it takes more time for activities to be completed if communication is only virtually.



11. Contributions to CREWS Output(s)

11.1 National Output(s)

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 December 2020	Progress by June 2021
Unité Hydrométéorologique D'Haïti Institutional arrangements strengthened	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of national strategic plan - Implementation of legislation to change status of Unité Hydrométéorologique D'Haïti from “Unit” to “Service” 	20%	N/A	20%
National Coordination Mechanism Strengthened	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop & revise standard operating procedures for early warning systems - Trainings on interpretation of HMC information 	0%	N/A	0%

Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words)

The review and consultation processes for the development of products with counterparts took more time than originally planned due to the full virtual work modality that has been followed in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A draft for the legal framework has been prepared and is currently being reviewed. Taking into account the current political instabilities in the county as outlined in section 10, the legislation will not be implemented before a new government took office.



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 December 2020	Progress by June 2021
UMH technical capacities to provide forecast and warnings improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct technical workshops & trainings - Improve calibration and integration of systems for flood warning - Develop verification mechanisms to improve numerical weather prediction use and forecasts - Implement a robust, secure and integrated system for production and dissemination of forecast and warning (Common alerting protocol) - Recruitment of staff for Unité Hydrométéorologique D'Haïti 	20%	N/A	0%
Early warning services developed and accessible for the agriculture sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct consultations with agriculture sector to identify priority needs - Initiative Framework for partnership with Coordination Nationale Sécurité Alimentaire / Direction Générale Protection Civile - Co-design of products / services with Coordination Nationale Sécurité Alimentaire / Direction Générale Protection Civile / agricultural sector 	20%	N/A	0%

Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words)

The review and consultation processes for the development of products with counterparts take more time than originally planned due to the full virtual work modality that has been followed in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Activities have been planned in order to reach the key achievements corresponding to CREWS Outputs. Yet, the implementation has not started yet due to the postponement of the project start from January 2020 to January 2021.



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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 December 2020	Progress by June 2021
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	N/A

Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words)

n/a

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 December 2020	Progress by June 2021
Preparedness & response plans strengthened and accessible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify and conduct risk assessment of pilot community - Review and strengthen preparedness and response plans at national and community level - Co-develop responses & products with Unité Hydrométéorologique D'Haïti and Direction Générale Protection Civile 	20%	N/A	0%



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Install an information exchange system between Unité Hydrométéorologique D'Haïti and Direction Générale Protection Civile 			
<p>Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them.</p> <p>The review and consultation processes for the development of products with counterparts take more time than originally planned due to the full virtual work modality that has been followed in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Activities have been planned in order to reach the key achievements corresponding to CREWS Outputs. Yet, the implementation has not started yet due to the postponement of the project start from January 2020 to January 2021.</p>				

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 December 2020	Progress by June 2021
Preparedness & response plans strengthened and accessible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop gender-responsive public awareness in key hazards - Co-Develop responses & products with Unité Hydrométéorologique D'Haïti and Direction Générale Protection Civile 	20%	N/A	0%
Early warning services developed and accessible for the agriculture sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Early warning services developed and accessible for the agriculture sector 	20%	N/A	0%
<p>Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words)</p> <p>The review and consultation processes for the development of products with counterparts take more time than originally planned due to the full virtual work modality that has been followed in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Activities have been planned in order to reach the key achievements corresponding to CREWS Outputs. Yet, the implementation has not started yet due to the postponement of the project start from January 2020 to January 2021.</p>				



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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 June 2021
Preparedness & response plans strengthened and accessible	- Develop gender-responsive public awareness in key hazards	20%	0%

Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words)

The review and consultation processes for the development of products with counterparts take more time than originally planned due to the full virtual work modality that has been followed in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Activities have been planned in order to reach the key achievements corresponding to CREWS Outputs. Yet, the implementation has not started yet due to the postponement of the project start from January 2020 to January 2021.

11.2 Regional Output(s)

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 June 2021



n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
<p>Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words)</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>General note: As the project is focused on one country, there is no specific regional output per se. But, the project will benefit from the regional outputs of the CREWS Caribbean project and enhance these by identifying further best practices in an even more complex and challenging environment. As Haiti's regional partner Cuba is integrated into project communications, there is potential for lessons learned from Haiti to be transferred to some use cases in Cuba.</p>				

12. Contributions to Value Propositions

<p>Gender Responsive</p>	<p><i>(How did the project capture relevant gender concerns? For example, including gender-inclusive indicators and targets, reporting on sex-disaggregated data, conduct of gender analysis, involvement of gender and/or women’s organizations, documenting effects on women, men and gender-relations, implementing gender specific actions/activities for women and men.)</i></p> <p>The development of gender-responsive public awareness in key hazards is one key goal of the project. Hence, the project will take gender-concerns into account in all its activities, especially in the review and strengthening of response plans at national and community level and when conducting exercises on dissemination and communication of alerts. Concrete activities – such as workshops for example – are being discussed with UNDP Haiti, which will probably support the project implementation in the country. We will elaborate on concrete, detailed activities within the next CREWS project progress report.</p>
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	<p>We will further profit from and apply best practices from the CREWS Pacific SIDS projects where a close cooperation between WMO and UNDRR on gender topics has been initiated.</p>
Multiplier	<p><i>(How did the project contribute to the promotion of a favorable environment for early warning systems? What additional financing has been leveraged or expected to be mobilized as an effect of the project?)</i></p> <p>The project builds on the achievements of the Environment and Climate Change Canada financed project “Strengthening Climate Services to Reduce Vulnerability in Haiti” (CAD 6,5 Mn) and WB Haiti Project (USD 5Mn). Furthermore, the project builds on identified regional best practices in the regional Roadmap which is developed within the CREWS Caribbean project. This project aims at building on them and intensifying knowledge in a challenging environment in the poorest country in the Caribbean region. These experiences can then be transferred to other projects/countries.</p>
People-centered	<p><i>(Which local organizations have been engaged and what is their level of participation? How did the project ensure the involvement and uptake of end-users?)</i></p> <p>The project, through its collaboration with Direction Générale Protection Civile, Coordination Nationale Sécurité Alimentaire and UNDP Haiti will work with targeted communities and civil society to build up their capabilities to understand and use weather and climate information provided to safeguard lives and livelihoods. The project, through its collaboration with local organizations, shall function as catalyst to strengthen the resilience against risks and hazards in the agriculture sector, which employs about 60% of the active population and accounts for 20.35% of gross domestic product.</p>
Promote Coherence	<p><i>(What are the approaches undertaken to ensure complementarity and value-added of the project with existing projects and other international partner initiatives? For example, conduct of joint planning, resource sharing, participation in consultations, workshops, meetings organized by partners.)</i></p> <p>This project builds on identified regional best practices in the regional Roadmap which is developed within the CREWS Caribbean project.</p> <p>The project steering committee is composed of international and national stakeholders that are were involved in current or prior projects in this country. An effort has been made, which will continue, to systematically coordinate with relevant institutions and avoid duplication of effort. WMO recognizes the</p>



	<p>limited availability of external funding and the need to maximize impact on the ground. This can only be achieved by integrating contributions from the different institutions and stakeholders. Stakeholders will be engaged through regular consultations at national, departmental and community levels. A joint Steering Committee between the focal points of this project together with the implementing partners of the CREWS Caribbean project has already been held in order to identify and secure synergies of the two initiatives.</p>
Solution-oriented	<p><i>(What good and innovative practices have been produced or are evident in the project?)</i></p> <p>Working in the Haitian context, the project is seeking to further develop its solution-oriented approaches. The project builds on the achievements and lessons learnt from the ECCC and WB funded Haiti project and continues to focus on sustainability of services and the delivery of tailored services to meet specific needs of different communities and individuals. Specific solution-oriented activities will be further highlighted in future reports.</p>
Unique	<p><i>(How did the project support building sustained institutional capacity driven by countries?)</i></p> <p>One of the project goals is to strengthen institutional arrangements for Unité Hydrométéorologique D'Haïti. This includes the implementation of the national strategic plan and the legal framework which is striving to change the current status of Unité Hydrométéorologique D'Haiti from being a "Unit" basically without an own budget to a "Service" with allocated budget.</p> <p>A draft of a legal framework has been created and has yet to be revised and implemented. Hence, the project strongly supports building institutional capacity driven by countries.</p>

13. Visibility products

- a. *Insert or copy any links to press releases, videos or communication items and/or social media links*

Project launch: [New funding and strategic plan boosts Haiti's Hydro-Meteorological Service | World Meteorological Organization \(wmo.int\)](https://www.wmo.int/en/press-releases/2023/new-funding-and-strategic-plan-boosts-haitis-hydro-meteorological-service)

14. Supporting documents



- a. 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.***

Documents Steering Committee (07 June 2021) [Elios » Repository Browser \(wmo.int\)](#)