CREWS PROJECT STATUS REPORT

1. Project title	**DR Congo - Strengthening Hydro-Meteorological and Early Warning Services**	**2. Project reference** CREWS/CProj/01/DRC
3. Lead IP	**World Bank**	**4. Other Implementing Partners** **World Meteorological Organization (WMO)**
5. Reporting period	**June – November 2019**	
6. Reporting focal point	Christian Vang Eghoff – ceghoff@worldbank.org Muliro Mashauri mmashauri@worldbank.org in cc Lorenzo Carrera – lcarrera@worldbank.org - in cc Jean-Baptiste Migraine - jbmigraine@wmo.int - in cc	

7. Project overview	• The Grant development objective is to improve the quality of the Government of the DRC's hydro-meteorological and climate services in selected sectors.
	• The CREWS funding seeks to improve the country's hydromet services through:
	  ○ Strengthening institutional, partnerships and regulatory frameworks and capacity building for early warning
	  ○ Provision of technical assistance to Mettelsat at national level for early warning procedures and at local level for early warning systems in selected watersheds
	  ○ Development of QMS for aviation meteorology and institutional support on cost recovery from aviation
	  ○ Supporting Mettelsat development strategy
	• The CREWS financing is implemented by the World Bank (US$2,790,000) and WMO (US$300,000). Subdivided into two components:
	  ○ Component A: Institutional and regulatory strengthening, capacity building and implementation support (cost US$0.95M): (i) strengthening the partnerships between MettelSat, civil protection, RVF and RVA relevant to early warning systems (severe weather, flash flooding); (ii) institutional strengthening; (iii) capacity building	

	○ Component B: Improvement of hydromet information service delivery (cost US$2.14M) in line with the global framework for climate services. This component supports (i) identification of requirements by decision-makers and the population at-risk; and (ii) support the design and production of more accurate, timely and relevant warnings and information. Thus, the component strengthens the capacity of specific users for optimal use of products and services relevant to early warning systems. • It leverages the Strengthening Hydro-Meteorological and Climate Services Project, US$8M (US$5.3 GEF, US$2.7M GFDRR). • The delivery of meteorological, hydrological and climate services are under the responsibilities of MettelSat while the early warning responsibilities are under the Directorate for Civil Protection as per their respective mandates.
8. Progress summary	**What has been achieved between June - November? – Please list the most significant and tangible developments?** The following has been achieved between June and November 2019: • National Framework for Climate Services (NFCS): considerable progress has been achieved so far. This includes the preparation of the Terms of Reference (TORs) in June 2019 as part of the recruitment process of the consultant to undertake the development of the strategic action plan of the National Framework for Climate Services. It is expected that the recruitment of the consultant will be effective at the end of November and that the DRC's NFCS action plan will be validated at a national workshop by June 2020 at the latest • Mettelsat Business Plan: Progress has also been made in terms of the recruitment of two consultants (international and national) to support the development of Mettelsat long-term business model, following the methodology available since May 2019. The business plan is expected to put in place a long-term financial model that will ensure the sustainability of the project. The ToRs are currently under preparation and the consultants are expected to come onboard by February 2020. • Piloting flood EWS for Kinshasa: Based on a flood risk assessment and a refined risk model funded by ACP-EU, CREWS is supporting establishment of a flood EWS in N'Djili and Kalamu watersheds in Kinshasa under the Hydromet Project (P159217). CREWS funds support the elaboration of a hydrological model, training to the national meteorological services and local government and communities. This approach is to be expanded to mapping of flooding hotspots in all of Kinshasa using OpenStreetMap.

	• Strengthening of forecasting capacity at Mettelsat: Short- and long-term training plans aimed at strengthening the forecasting capability of Mettelsat are under development. MettelSat has proposed a list of priority training courses to be carried as part of the short-term training program. The ToRs are under preparation. Other short-term training will be undertaken through agreements with the Institut Supérieur des Techniques Appliquées (ISTA) and other training centres (University of Kinshasa, EAMAC, AGRHYMET, ACMAD, Météo-France, IRD, etc.). On the other side, WMO has initiated a contractual process with the "Institut Hydroméorologique de Formation et de Recherche" (or IHFR) in Oran, Algeria, to develop a long-term training plan for MettelSat. • As part of the process to safeguard hydrometeorological data, a training course for METTELSAT agents on data archiving was organized and delivered by the Institut National des Archivages du Congo (INACO) in July 2019 in Kinshasa. A consultant has been hired by WMO to set up data rescue and archiving work plan for Mettelsat. A mission to this end was conducted in Kinshasa between 11th and 15th November 2019. • The recruitment of a DRM Consultant to support the project team: An ETC was recruited in August 2019 to support the planning and implementation of activities given the lack of capacity in the project PIU.

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
Coding			
Narrative	The rate of expenditure is relatively average. However, it is expected to improve with the increasing activities planned for the coming months. Expenditure from WB TF is $498,851 or 20%, and commitments are at $252,852, which would bring the total expenditures to 30%. Expenditure from WMO TF is US$86,693 (29%), and obligations are on top at US$102,450 (so expenditure + obligations are at 63% of the TF).	The rate of delivery is currently moderate, partly due to the weak institutional capacity of Mettelsat at the initial stage of project implementation. With the increasing capacity, the rate of delivery is expected to increase significantly	The implementation of activities is in line with the objectives of the project.

10.Risk Management Status

Risk Status	What is the current risk status as compared to what was identified in the project proposal? The current risk status of the project is medium and partly linked to the low institutional capacity of Mettelsat to deliver the activities. Significant technical and operation support is required for MettelSat to implement Project activities. Furthermore, MettelSat is faced with budgetary and infrastructure constraints while operating in a post-conflict context. The low institutional capacity and an aging staff are among the serious limitations impending the acquisition of new technology in the context of Hydro-Meteorological services and Early Warning system operations. The capacity of staff to operate and maintain the equipment used for observation, forecasting and service delivery is far below standards.

Measures to address	What mitigation measures have been developed to address the risk status? The World Bank, WMO and a number of international and local experts and consulting firms are all involved to support the delivery of activities. This includes technical support to the Project Implementation Unit, conducting well-defined training sessions, leading specific studies, among others. The World Bank is also discussing with Government counterparts the need to raise the operational budget of Mettelsat as a long-term sustainability approach of the project. Furthermore, the Bank has also initiated dialogue on the rejuvenation and retirement of aging staff of Mettelsat; concrete action on the latter can be expected only in the longer term.

11. Contributions to CREWS Output(s)s

11.1 National Output(s)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 June 2019**	**Progress by November 2019**
Assessment of capacity for early warning of drought, heavy precipitation, river flooding, flash flooding, wind storm and recommendations for improvement	100%	30%	20%	25%
Assessment of user needs (3 stakeholders/users workshops organized)	100%	30%	20%	20%
Development and/or review of memorandums of understanding (MoUs) with users	100%	50%	10%	40%
Implement a capacity development and training program for staff (including operational training for technicians and engineers, meteorologists and hydrologists)	100%	50%	30%	40%

Development of the MettelSat Strategy, Action Plan and Business Plan	100%	40%	35%	40%

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

The main issues in terms of the delivery of services and the development of long-term service delivery strategy are particularly a weak institutional capacity, a depleted infrastructure and lack of operational budget. A number of activities are carried out with the support of international experts and learning institutions to strengthen the institutional capacity of Mettelsat.

The CREWS funding in DRC is also leveraging a significant amount of additional funding for the acquisition of equipment through the Hydromet Project as part of the effort to modernize the NMHS facility. Lastly, under the Hydromet project, efforts are being made in terms of mobilizing the national government's counterpart (US$200,000 per year) to finance activities related to MettelSat's operations. This also includes the cost recovery for the meteorological services that Mettelsat renders to the aviation sector.

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 June 2019**	**Progress by November 2019**
Development of a national risk geoportal and development of hazard, exposure and vulnerability information for flood risk assessment and impact forecasting	100%	60%	20%	60%
Establishment of the National Framework for Climate Services	100%	60%	30%	60%

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

The flood risk model for the N'Djili watershed is completed and selected future scenarios identified. The contract of the consulting firm was extended to allow conducting additional survey and to finetune the risk model. The outcome of the study will provide basis of the establishment of a real-time flood EWS in N'Djili and Kalamu watersheds through leveraging from the Hydromet Project (P159217).

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 June 2019**	**Progress by November 2019**
Development of operational procedures to convert extreme weather forecasts (rains, floods, winds, heat waves) in potential impacts	100%	30%	10%	10%
Elaboration of Quality Management Systems for air navigation meteorological services and the recovery of meteorological services rendered to RVA	100%	40%	10%	10%

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

The elaboration of the QMS for the air navigation is ongoing however no budget is set aside for its regular update. The QMS requires significant expenses, including the training of personnel and infrastructure maintenance. Currently, all these expenses are covered by the Hydromet Project, whereas this should be entirely financed from the cost-recovery from airlines. A workshop on the cost recovery of services rendered to air navigation will take place in early 2020.

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 June 2019**	**Progress by November 2019**
Risk mapping and emergency response plans for municipalities including training of operational and decision-making civil servants	100%	40%	20%	20%

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

No significant progress was achieved during this reporting period in terms of preparedness and response plans.

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 June 2019**	**Progress by November 2019**
Community focus groups for flood risk mapping and awareness	100%	40%	30%	30%
Study tour for the 4 institutions contributing to early warning (MettelSat, DPC, RVF, CVM)	100%	0%	0%	0%

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

No Knowledge products or awareness program on early warnings was planned during this period.

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 2019**	**Progress by November 2019**
Women participation in training and decision-making venues sponsored by CREWS	30%	10%	3%	5%
Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words) The rate of participation of women is still low as beneficiaries of training are generally men. The project remains focused on providing gender-sensitive early warning systems and climate risk information irrespective of the low participation of women. Gender- and age-disaggregated assessments will be conducted during the planned survey aimed at collecting socio-economic vulnerability indicators for flood risk assessment in N'djili to capture women and men, girls' and boys' vulnerability context and to put in place an effective early warning systems and climate services that take into account these groups and their respective vulnerabilities and capacities.				

11.2 Regional Output(s)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 2019**	**Progress by November 2019**
Data sharing with the WMO's global data sharing system through the Moroccan Meteorological Service	100%	0%	20%	20%

Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words)
MettelSat is expected to share data with the WMO global data sharing system through the Moroccan Meteorological Service. There are currently 57 stations in DRC which are referenced in the WMO OSCAR/SURFACE metadata database, but currently, none is transmitting data to the WMO integrated global observing system. Solving this problem would allow global numerical weather prediction models to provide calibrated and corrected products on the territory of the DRC and in neighboring countries. Five operational stations are expected to start transmitting data during this period, while the total number of stations to be connected to the WMO Information System (WIS) are expected to be 40 stations by the end of the project.

12. Contributions to Value Propositions

Gender Sensitive	This project will target beneficiaries with a gender-disaggregated approach with the understanding that gender shapes the way project beneficiaries will have access, process and respond to warnings and risk information.
Multiplier	The project is expected to generate a wider range of benefits to different users, impacting a considerable number of people over its lifecycle through the current leverage from the country's portfolio (Hydromet Project).
People-centered	The engagement of the local community as end-users and main beneficiaries of the investment is expected to improve their resilience to anticipate, cope and recover from climatic shocks and their access to early warnings and risk information.
Promote Coherence	The Project leverages other in-country initiatives with the aim of generating greater value-added while contributing to the effort of improving the delivery of hydro-meteorological and Early Warning Services in DRC.
Solution-oriented	The project will generate innovative approaches and tools that will be shared with different user-groups across the country and beyond.
Unique	The project remains aligned to CREWS's value as a financing instrument that builds sustained institutional capacity driven by the expertise and specialist networks of its partners.

13. Visibility products

None for this reporting period

14. Supporting documents

a. ***The link to the N'Djili tool, an online flood risk assessment geoportal will be provided once finalized and launched.***