



## sCREWS PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

(July – December 2022)




<b>1. Project title</b>	Afghanistan - AF-ECLIM: Enhancing hydromet, early warning and climate Services for Resilience	<b>2. Project reference</b> <b>CREWS/CProj/10/Afghanistan</b>
<b>3. Implementing Partners involved in the project</b>	World Bank (lead) (WB) World Meteorological Organization (WMO)	<b>4. Regional/National Partners involved in the project</b> Under revision (no direct engagement policy): Afghanistan Meteorological Department (AMD), National Water Affairs Regulation Authority (NWARA) - General Directorate of Water Resources (GDWR), Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), State Ministry of Disaster Management (SMDM), National Statistics and Information Authority (NSIA)
<b>5. Project Duration/Timeframe (from year – to year)</b>	September 2019 – December 2023	<b>6. Total Funding Approved by Steering Committee (in US dollars), including fees</b> 3,660,000
<b>7. Reporting focal point(s) from Implementing Partners</b>	<b>World Bank</b> Yunziyi Lang, Climate Change Specialist - <a href="mailto:ylang@worldbank.org">ylang@worldbank.org</a> Efreem Ferrari, Consultant - <a href="mailto:eferrari@ifc.org">eferrari@ifc.org</a>  <b>World Meteorological Organization</b> Rokhaya BA - <a href="mailto:rba@wmo.int">rba@wmo.int</a> Luis Roberto Silva Vara - <a href="mailto:LSilvaVara@wmo.int">LSilvaVara@wmo.int</a>	






<p><b>8. Project overview</b></p>	<p><b>Please include objectives, key project deliverables, leveraging, contextual information/statistics, significant events during the reporting period <u>in bullet points</u>. (max 250 words)</b></p> <p><b><u>Objectives:</u></b> To strengthen the capacity of provider and user agencies for the development and delivery of weather, water, and climate-related early warning services.</p> <p><b><u>Key Deliverables:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Production, translation and communication of weather forecasts, hydrological forecasts, and impact-based information;</li><li>• Delivery of services to stakeholders and end-users for priority sectors including improvement in the dissemination of warnings for public safety and economic sectors;</li><li>• Improvement of the information, including through regional collaboration.</li><li>• Enhanced decision-making to mitigate the adverse impacts of natural hazards on life, livelihoods and property.</li></ul> <p><b><u>Significant events during the reporting period:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>WB:</b> Despite the team effort, engagement limitations persisted, and the implementation of an activity planned the previous semester – <i>The Upgrade of Central Asia Region Flash Flood Guidance System to include Afghanistan</i> – had to be cancelled, given World Bank Group (WBG) internal policies. The team is currently discussing with the Afghanistan Country management Unit and project management team unit on ways to restructure some of the activities, particularly those that requires engagement with the Client. The team is also drafting a restructuring proposal to be submitted to CREWS Secretariat during the next semester.</li><li>• <b>WMO:</b> During the last reporting period WMO was capable of reestablishing contacts with AMD and WRD authorities involved in strengthening capacity building and staff hiring. Further to this, AMD is collaborating with other partners such as General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) – an UAE company operating countries airport – for the delivery of activities and services.</li></ul>
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<p><b>9. Progress summary</b></p>	<p><b>What has been achieved <u>during this reporting period</u>? – Please list <u>in bullet points</u> the most significant and tangible outcomes? (max 250 words)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3D PAWS training was conducted on the 26 of December 2022: the aim was to learn the making of 3D PAWS stations. 12 participants (male), from the technical staff of AMD, joined the training. It is planned to engage other entities such as Kabul University by holding the practical training there in the future.</li> <li>• AMD data servers, which were sent for maintenance to Ankara (Türkiye) and on hold at Customs, were finally delivered back to AMD on April 2022.</li> </ul>
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**10. Project Performance**

Interpretation of color coding		
<b>High</b>		Good progress; on track in most or all aspects of delivery
<b>Medium</b>		Moderate progress or on track in some aspects of delivery
<b>Low</b>		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
<b>Coding</b>			
<b>Narrative</b>	<p>Disbursement as of December 2022</p> <p><b>From WB side:</b> Disbursed: USD 640,000 (26% of WB grant allocation) Committed: USD 34,780 (1% of WB grant allocation)</p> <p><b>From WMO side:</b></p>	<p>WB: No new activities were completed during the last reporting period. The WBG and WMO teams are working towards a rationalization and revision of project activities, which is currently being discussed internally and is planned to be submitted to CREWS Secretariat during the next semester. The Central Asia Flash Flood Guidance System Contract (signed with WMO in May 2022) had to be</p>	Fully aligned



	<p>Disbursed: USD 358,526 (41.8% of WMO grant allocation)          Committed: USD 245,254 (28.5% of WMO grant allocation), for the Landslide Forecasting and Warning System</p>	<p>cancelled because of contractual issues outside team control.           WMO: Same as above</p>	
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### 11. Risk Status

<p><b>Risk Status</b></p>	<p>What is the current risk status as compared to what was identified in the project proposal?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The risk levels are high because of the FCV context. The constraints due to the COVID situation are being eased; although efforts are ongoing to move ahead through virtual work situation.</li> <li>• Operational limitations in directly engaging with Afghan Governmental Agencies are still affecting rate of delivery although some improvements have been observed since end of 2022.</li> <li>• On Dec 24, 2022, the Taliban Interim Administration has ordered all foreign and domestic non-governmental groups in Afghanistan to suspend employing women. After the ban, majority of the local and international aid groups have suspended their operations completely.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Measures to address</b></p>	<p>What mitigation measures have been developed to address the risk status? <b>In bullet points</b></p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance regional linkages and service delivery through international organizations and regional agencies active in the Country (e.g. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Regional Integrated Multi-hazard Early warning System (RIMES), United Nations – Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA), World Food Programme (WFP), General Aviation Airport Coalition (GAAC), Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), Tajhydromet, Uzhydromet, South Asia Hydromet Forum);</li> <li>• Discussion with the CMU to repurpose some of the CREWS funding towards:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Monitoring the situation on the ground (through interactions with UN agencies);</li> <li>○ Informing international partners/communities (Drought Bulletin, WMO Seasonal Forecasts and winterization Plans, attendance to country update events);</li> <li>○ The international communities will be meeting with the ITA in Jan 2023. The CMU has advised CREWS activities from WB side to be halted until further notice.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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## 12. Contributions to CREWS Output(s)

(use number for activities and products and % for project component completion)

### 12.1 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	Progress by June 2022	Target for reporting period	Progress by December 2022
Hydromet Concept of operations (CONOPS)	TOR developed			Activity completed



Services delivery strategy	TOR developed	No update.		The activity is completed for GDWR & on-hold for AMD.
Reinforcing the legal and institutional framework	TOR developed			Activity completed
Introducing QMS across operations of AMD and WRD-MEW to interact with their user communities	-	On-hold.		On-hold This activity has not yet been performed because TSMS was not able to twin with AMD. Instead of twinning, it could be done through contracting.
Developing stakeholder/user surveys to tailor the services for users	Surveys completed	On-hold.		On-hold
<p><b>Additional information: briefly indicate, with concrete examples, the contributions to CREWS value propositions (gender-responsive, multiplier, people-centered, promote coherence, solution-oriented, unique), as relevant (150 – 200 words). <u>Please list in bullet points.</u></b></p> <p>Activities which could be implemented remotely and without direct engagement with the Client have been completed and wrapped up. Pending activities, (e.g., stakeholder/user surveys) are currently being restructured and alternative implementation modalities are being discussed between WMO and WBG.</p>				



**CREWS Output(s) 2: Risk Information to guide early warning systems and climate and weather service developed and accessible**

<b>State Project Output(s) in this section</b>	<b>Overall Project Target</b>	<b>Progress by June 2022</b>	<b>Target for the reporting period</b>	<b>Progress by December 2022</b>
Design of Drought Early Warning System	Design completed			
Development of Drought Early Warning System	Established and functional	Discussion with WFP and other UN agencies ongoing for potential handover of the drought monitoring and early warning tool.		Tool developed, transfer of the tool from IWMI to a Public site to be completed during calendar year 2023.
Design of Agrometeorological services	Design document ready	A concept note, detailing possible implementation modalities, has been drafted and is currently being discussed internally. The activity might resume during FY23.		TOR developed, activity currently on-hold



<p>Flood Early warning designed and Flash Flood forecasting and alerting systems enhanced</p>	<p>Flood EW Design developed; Link with CAR FFGS established and capacity enhanced</p>	<p>A ToR was developed by the WB and a selection process launched. HRC selected through WMO.</p> <p>HRC has initiated the implementation of the following Components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Riverine Flood Forecasting System for Amu Darya</li> <li>- Seasonal to Subseasonal Forecasting System</li> </ul> <p>This is slightly delayed due to internal clearance process for the UN Agency Business Unit Acceptance Memo. The team</p>	<p>Despite the contract being successfully awarded, the activity could not be implemented. Alternative implementation modalities are currently being discussed between WMO and WBG.</p>
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		<p>is following up activity.</p> <p>It was agreed with USAID/BHA and HRC that PARFFGS Landslide upgrade will be established. System requires upgrade of all legacy FFGS system of PARFFGS and inclusion of new modules. WMO through CREWS Afghanistan funds will cover the Afghanistan portion of the system upgrade.</p>		
Afghanistan is re-connected with Regional Climate Services	Completed	AMD is engaged with regional climate services virtually through the South Asia Hydromet Forum. AMD is expected		Activity completed.



		to attend virtually the next SAHF Executing Council.		
Concept note for the Amu Darya Flow Forecasting and Early Warning System	Completed	No update		
Strengthening the use of NWP for improving forecast accuracy	Expand regional NWP to cover Afghanistan	WBG activities ongoing, AMD will also be able to access the NWP regional platform currently being developed by RIMES through the SAHF program.		Completed
<p><b>Additional information: briefly indicate, with concrete examples, the contributions to CREWS value propositions (gender-responsive, multiplier, people-centered, promote coherence, solution-oriented, unique), as relevant (150 – 200 words). Please list in bullet points.</b></p> <p>Given the current circumstances (including pandemic, travel &amp; engagement limitations and security issues) the development and implementation of Early Warning Information Systems at Client’ managed facilities are extremely complicated and likely to be unfeasible. Alternative design &amp; implementation modalities – such as through publicly online websites and cloud-based platforms - are being discussed between WMO and WBG.</p>				



**CREWS Output(s) 3: Information and Communication Technology, including common alerting protocol, strengthened**

State Project Output(s) in this section	Overall Project Target	Progress by June 2022	Target for the reporting period	Progress by December 2022
Supporting MoUs between MRRD and other agencies relevant for the drought early warning system	MoUs signed			Activity on hold
Developing a modern impact-based weather forecasting process	Impact-based forecasting process guidance document			Assessment to inform IBF development completed - activity to be linked to SAHF and CARE Regional Projects. Virtual trainings of Client staff will probably resume later in 2023.
Establishing a HydroMet data management system for AMD, GDWR, and MAIL	Data management system for AMD and WRD established and operating	The assessment report was released internally and to regional and international partners. Activity currently on-hold.		



**Additional information: briefly indicate, with concrete examples, the contributions to CREWS value propositions (gender-responsive, multiplier, people-centered, promote coherence, solution-oriented, unique), as relevant (150 – 200 words). Please list in bullet points.**

As instructed by the CMU, since late December 2022 the team has paused communication with the technical personnel of Afghanistan hydromet agencies, which is impacting and delaying also the external support provided by WB Regional initiatives. The South Asia Hydromet Forum will host, in January 2023, a 5-days virtual training to introduce hydromet agencies to Impact Based Forecasting. The event will be recorded and will be made available to Afghanistan hydromet agencies later in 2023, if and when basic engagement with the Client resumes.

**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	Progress by June 2022	Target for the reporting period	Progress by December 2022
Capacity assessment for hydromet and DRM agencies	Current capacity assessed and training plan developed	No Update		The assessment, covering the period till 2021, is completed.

**Additional information: briefly indicate, with concrete examples, the contributions to CREWS value propositions (gender-responsive, multiplier, people-centered, promote coherence, solution-oriented, unique), as relevant (150 – 200 words). Please list in bullet points.**


Completed

### CREWS Output(s) 5: Knowledge products and awareness programmes on early warnings developed

State Project Output(s) in this section	Overall Project Target	Progress by June 2022	Target for the reporting period	Progress by December 2022
Afghanistan Hydromet Atlas	Completed	No Update		
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)	AMD is engaged with regional climate services through the South Asia Hydromet Forum.		Completed.
Linkage with Central Asia and Indian Meteorological Department established	Strong linkage with CA and MOU with IMD established			Completed for Central Asia: Engagement of Tajikistan and Uzbekistan's NMHS for the delivery of capacity building activities  Piloting implementation of the ICON-in the cloud (Numerical Weather Prediction Model)

			<p>by DWD (German Weather Service) covering Afghanistan and Central Asia Countries is completed. The report is available at <a href="https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099357409192232700/pdf/IDU0a9852b0f0154e049a908e8405a45999ef5a7.pdf">https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099357409192232700/pdf/IDU0a9852b0f0154e049a908e8405a45999ef5a7.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>Additional information: briefly indicate the contributions, with concrete examples, to CREWS value propositions (gender-responsive, multiplier, people-centered, promote coherence, solution-oriented, unique), as relevant (150 – 200 words). Please list bullet points.</b></p> <p>The activity is ongoing and linkages with Central Asia countries have been re-established / strengthened (by WMO). Linkages with South Asia hydromet agencies, particularly through the South Asia Hydromet Forum, are currently on hold and will resumes if and when basic engagement with the Client will be allowed by the CMU.</p>			

**CREWS Output(s) 6: Gender-sensitive training, capacity building programmes provided**

State Project Output(s) in this section	Overall Project Target	Progress by June 2022	Target for the reporting period	Progress by December 2022
Community awareness on drought early warning (technical support)	Technical assistance for training developed	On hold		
Capacity building for cost-effective observation network through establishing local capacities and capabilities (3D Printed Agromet Stations for research and academia)	Training completed	On hold		<p>Training completed the 26 December 2022, will allow to start making and installing the stations.</p> 



**Additional information: briefly indicate, with concrete examples, the contributions to CREWS value propositions (gender-responsive, multiplier, people-centered, promote coherence, solution-oriented, unique), as relevant (150 – 200 words). Please list in bullet points.**

WMO was able to conduct a training during the current reporting period, while WB engagement with the Client is on-hold. The training, which was attended by 12 staff from AMD, introduced the 3D-PAWS concept (3D-Printed Automatic Weather Station) to Afghanistan. The training aimed at providing information on how to build and install 3D printed AWS, an important tool to enhance observation networks while reducing weather related risks at community level.

WMO and WB are discussing ways to resume training and capacity building programs given the current operational environment.

### 12.2 Regional Output(s) (for Regional Projects)

#### 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	Progress by June 2022	Target for the reporting period	Progress by December 2022
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

**Additional information: briefly indicate, with concrete examples, the contributions to CREWS value propositions (gender-responsive, multiplier, people-centered, promote coherence, solution-oriented, unique), as relevant (150 – 200 words). Please list in bullet points.**

N/A





### 13. Certification on Use of Resources

This needs to be provided at the end of the year as part of the submission of the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester report. Each Implementing Partner to provide a certification of the use of resources signed by their authorized representative.

### 14. Visibility products

- a. *Insert or copy any links to press releases, videos or communication items and/or social media links produced during the reporting period only*

### 15. Supporting documents

- a. *List and annex to the report any documents providing details on project activities conducted during the reporting period such as reports of training sessions, assessment reports, online solutions and tools, manuals, summaries of high-level discussions etc.*

### 16. Project History

- a. *Highlight key achievements since project started in bullet points, include all visibility and supporting documents other than those from the last 12 months*

- 3DPAWS training was done in December 2022 to be followed with the making and installation of stations.
- WRF implementation and integration completed and WRF-FFGS are operational
- Concept of Operations (CONOPS) developed
- Modern Impact-Based Weather Forecasting guidance document prepared
- HydrometService Delivery Strategy framework document prepared
- Rapid Assessment of DRM Capacities completed
- Afghanistan Drought Early Warning Decision Support Tool (AF-DEWS) prototype developed
- Central Asia and Afghanistan Flood Early Warning System (CAFEWS) concept note developed
- ICON in the Cloud started
- Capacities of Hydromet Services: Dynamic Water Resources Assessment Tool (DWAT) utilized



- Cooperation and Twinning with TSMS
- ICT Assessment report developed
- Policy Note: Advancing the Road Map for Afghan-Tajik cooperation in Hydromet data exchange
- Afghanistan Hydromet Atlas
- CAFEWS Launched (11 December 2021)