



## CREWS PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

(January - June 2023)

<b>1. Project title</b>	Greater Horn of Africa – Strengthening early warning and early action systems for meteorological, hydrological and climate extremes	<b>2. Project reference</b> CREWS/RProj/11/Horn of Africa
<b>3. Implementing Partners involved in the project</b>	World Bank, World Meteorological Organization (WMO), United Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR).	<b>4. Operational Partners involved in the project</b> IFRC
<b>5. Project Duration/Timeframe (from year – to year)</b>	2022-2026	<b>6. Total Funding Approved by Steering Committee (in US dollars), including fees</b> 5,240,998
<b>7. Reporting focal point(s) from Implementing Partners</b>	Ko Takeuchi ( <a href="mailto:ktakeuchi@worldbank.org">ktakeuchi@worldbank.org</a> ); Haris Khan ( <a href="mailto:hkhan1@worldbank.org">hkhan1@worldbank.org</a> ); Jason Watkins ( <a href="mailto:jtwatkins@wmo.int">jtwatkins@wmo.int</a> ) / Moyenda Chaponda ( <a href="mailto:mchaponda@wmo.int">mchaponda@wmo.int</a> ) (WMO), Luca Rossi ( <a href="mailto:rossil@un.org">rossil@un.org</a> ) (UNDRR), Muliro Mashauri ( <a href="mailto:muliro.mashauri@un.org">muliro.mashauri@un.org</a> ); Fadi Jannan ( <a href="mailto:jannan@un.org">jannan@un.org</a> ), Saira Ahmed ( <a href="mailto:saira.ahmed@un.org">saira.ahmed@un.org</a> ) (UNDRR)	
<b>8. Project overview</b>	<p><b>Please include objectives, key project deliverables, leveraging, contextual information/statistics, significant events during the reporting period in bullet points. (max 250 words)</b></p> <p>Objective: To enhance the capacities for regional and national entities to produce and use climate, weather, and hydrological services, including early warning systems.</p> <p><b><u>Key Deliverables:</u></b></p> <p>While the project is in an earlier phase of its implementation, there are few deliverables. However, the implementing partners have developed several Terms of References (ToR), and further Terms of</p>	



	<p>Reference are being developed. Work plans have also been developed. The ToRs are more specifically presented in Section 9.</p> <p><b><u>Significant events during the reporting period:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During the reporting period, there was a change in the World Bank focal point, and replacements were found.</li> <li>• In Somalia, the World Bank has worked closely with government counterparts to develop a work plan for the coming 12-18 months on hydromet.</li> <li>• In Somalia, the Water Sector Coordination Facility was established which will bring together government partners, donors, and NGOs. The WB is a co-chair of the hydromet working group, and a member of other working groups. The WMO will also serve as members of multiple working groups.</li> <li>• In Ethiopia, the Ethiopia Flood Management Project (financed by the WB) became effective, and under which there are significant activities related to early warning systems.</li> <li>• WMO held consultations with IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Center (ICPAC), Ethiopian Meteorology Institute and Somalia’s Ministry of Energy and Water Resources in May 2023 to define next steps for implementation of the workplan. Focal points were provided for each institution.</li> <li>• UNDRR hired a Project Manager / Coordinator for CREWS HoA project in June 2023 for the overall coordination of the project in the Arab States Region (ROAS).</li> </ul>
<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> <p>Regional activities</p>

- UNDRR is working with ICPAC and Member states for the preparation of the Transboundary risk workshop. The concept note is being finalized. The workshop to be held in Q3 of 2023

#### Somalia




- The World Bank continued discussions on terms of reference for activities that will support institutional capacity building for hydromet services. The prepared ToR include the role of a strategic advisor on institutional development.
- Terms of Reference for Hydromet Working Group under Water Sector Coordination Facility were finalized.
- The World Bank has contributed to the first coordination meetings under the Water Sector Coordination Facility (first meeting held on 3 May, preceded by technical meeting on 27 April).
- UNDRR's project manager is currently deployed to coordinate and develop a workplan for technical expert/ firm for implementing MHEWS in Somalia by strengthening National MHEWC's infrastructure capacity for effective delivery of services (which includes coordination for development of observation network, developing integrated data center, improvement of IT system & delivering multi-hazard services).
- UNDRR has finalized the stakeholder mapping for risk assessment in Somalia and gap analysis for early warning system in Somalia.
- Two grant agreements for CREWS HoA project to support Somalia have been finalized and submitted for announcement to support implementation. Two firms would be hired (one at national level/ local institute) and one technical firm to conduct probabilistic risk assessment for floods and droughts in Somalia. The firms will be on board by September 2023 and the process for hiring is underway.




#### Ethiopia

- In Ethiopia, the World Bank has developed terms of references for activities linked to (i) the design of flood forecasting and flood early warning systems,(ii) forecast-based financing, (iii) designing a baseline survey to evaluate preparedness. These ToR have been presented to the client for discussion and review.

	<p>Sudan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Sudan, the World Bank, due to its operational rules, remains unable to interact with representatives of the <i>de facto</i> government.</li> <li>• Due to prevailing political turmoil in Sudan, UNDRR ROAS has halt the work operation in Sudan for time being. The CREWS project, which outlines creating operational procedures for early warning dissemination protocols &amp; risk assessments for floods and droughts, has been put on pause until the situation is stabilized due to the current state of affairs.</li> <li>• Given the current situation in Sudan WMO is in consultation with SMD and ICPAC to develop alternative approaches to implementaiton of activities and supporting SMD in its stabalisation and recovery efforts (solution-oriented).</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>	Disbursement as of June 2023  <b>From WB side:</b> Disbursed: USD 679,380 Committed: USD 2,243,000  <b>From WMO side:</b> Disbursed: 0 Committed: 0  <b>From UNDRR side:</b> Disbursed: USD 163,200 Committed: USD 367,600	<b>WB:</b> Disbursement is progressing at a moderate pace, covering preparatory activities and engaging in productive discussions with stakeholders. The translation of this progress into deliverables is delayed due to the complexity of institutional arrangements in Ethiopia and Somalia, and situation in Sudan. Mitigative actions for Sudan are being discussed with partners. The project is now entering the procurement stage, and progress is expected to accelerate".  <b>WMO: ???</b>	Fully aligned
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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> <p>The risk status largely remain the same, i.e. <b>medium</b>. The main risks identified in the proposal related to (i) coordination (ii) political instability (iii) sectoral policies, and (iv) social risks.</p> <p>Coordination risks remain as before (<b>medium</b>). An internal coordination meeting was held on 23 March 2023 and more meetings are forthcoming. In Somalia, new structures have been established to support coordination between donors and government actors. Further effort is required to engage additional partners such as Red Cross/IFRC.</p> <p>The political instability risks remain <b>high</b>. In Ethiopia, a peace deal was agreed in November 2022. Somalia appointed a new president in May 2022 and a new government has been formed. In Sudan, the political situation has worsened, leading to open conflict. The World Bank remains barred (due to its current operational policy) from having direct communications with the Government of Sudan and the implementing partners are investigating options on how to use the allocated resources.</p> <p>As for sectoral policies and social risks, the situation remains as before (<b>medium</b>), and no changes to the mitigation measures are proposed.</p>
<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>• To support coordination, a project management committee continues to operate and meetings have been held. The purpose of the project management committee is risk mitigation is to ensure clear communication between partners on planned and ongoing activities to ensure that resources can be used efficiently for maximum impact.</li> <li>• Regarding the political situation in Sudan, options are being investigated on how to use the resources. Options include (i) transferring WB resources to WMO and/or UNDRR able to work in Sudan (ii) allocating resources to regional activities that would benefit Sudan (iii) reallocating budget to Somalia and/or Ethiopia; or (iv) returning resources allocated to Sudan.</li> <li>• More regular meetings should be held to ensure coordination.</li> </ul>



## 12. Contributions to CREWS Output(s)

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

### 13.1 National Output(s)

<b>CREWS Output(s) 1: National Meteorological and Hydrological Services service delivery improved, including the development of long-term service delivery strategies and development plans</b>				
<b>State Project Output(s) in this section</b>	<b>Overall Project Target</b>	<b>Progress by December 2022</b>	<b>Target for reporting period</b>	<b>Progress by June 2023</b>
Greater level of service provided by NMHS / 'Level of Service' category of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS) (Program Indicator)	Ethiopia: Full Somalia: Essential Sudan: Essential	Ethiopia: Essential Somalia: Basic Sudan: Basic	0%	0%
Ethiopia: A set of guidelines prepared on the preparation of new climate services, including a focus on gender-responsive services.	Yes	0%	0%	5% Draft ToR
Ethiopia: Guidelines / technical specifications of hydromet systems, including observation, data management and archiving, data analysis, and forecasting.  Multi-stakeholder to include private and academic sector.	Yes, technical guidelines / specifications prepared.	EFMP approved and discussions initiated with GoE on Technical Specifications (5%)	10%	10% (technical discussions continued with client)
Somalia: Partnerships formulated to provide improved climate services	Services provided (TBD)	ToR prepared on the public-private enterprise with CREWS resources and submitted for	5%	5% (Beyond discussions no significant advance)



		procurement by FGS (5%)		
Somalia: Advisory services / technical specifications for critical elements of the hydromet systems meeting WMO standards	Specifications prepared	0%	Coordination with SODMA ongoing	10%
Somalia: Preparation of relevant policy and operational documents including annual budgets	Policy / operational documents published	0%	5%	5% (ToR prepared for strategic consultant)
Somalia: Donor coordination meetings to support development of integrated investment plan	5 donor coordination meetings  Published integrated investment plan	0%	20%	20% (First meeting of water sector coordination facility / Integrated Water Sector Task Force)
Sudan: Upgraded flood early warning system with validation exercises carried out.	Validation report published	0%	Process on hold	On hold
Sudan: Development of a roadmap for a fit-for-purpose hydro-meteorological network	Road map published	0%	Process on hold	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.**

- The WB has had discussions with Government of Ethiopia representatives to discuss specific areas of support on impact-based flood early warning and flash flood forecasting systems, related to three priority basins.
- A draft set of ToRs have been prepared to support the Government of Somalia to promote public private enterprise in hydromet services, including service delivery, and a technical support for
- Following its operational policy (OP 7.30), the WB has suspended disbursements to and engagements with the “de facto” Government of Sudan. This affects all activities related to Sudan with the World Bank. The WMO and UNDRR are still actively engaged with Sudan.

**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	Progress by December 2022	Target for the reporting period	Progress by June 2023
Sudan: Multi-hazard, prospective and probabilistic risk assessment at the national level for Sudan, on which losses caused by different hazards are quantified in different types of exposure	To conduct PRA for floods and droughts in Sudan	N/A	On hold	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.**

**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 December 2022	Target for the reporting period	Progress by June 2023
Established platforms that can use CAP for warning / # of LDCs and SIDS communicating warnings through common alerting protocol procedures (Program Indicator)	1	0	0	0
Sudan: Improved data management system operational	Operational platform established	N/A	On hold	On hold
<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>				

**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 December 2022	Target for the reporting period	Progress by June 2023
Increased ability for people to receive early warning messages / Number of people living in areas covered by forecasts and warnings for a given hazard (Program indicator)	Number of people living in areas covered by forecasts and warnings for a given hazard	0	0	0
Increased ability for end-users and on-the-ground responders to take action on the receipt of warnings. Roles and responsibilities for stakeholders clearly defined / # of LDCs and SIDS using standard operating	3	0	0	0



procedures (SOPs) on how to respond in the face of an impending emergency (Program indicator)				
Ethiopia: Design and piloting of mechanism for the early distribution of financial resources ahead of potential disaster / publication of standard operating procedures for resource distribution	Publication of report	N/A	0	0
Ethiopia: Design and development of Standard Operating Procedures for Impact-Based Forecasting and Warning, considering NMHS and DRM agencies, and inputs from end-users where relevant.	Publication of report	N/A	0	5% (2 knowledge exchange workshops on forecasting/warning)
Ethiopia: Impact-based warning products developed and approved, ready for piloting.	3	EFMP approved and discussions initiated with GoE on ToR	0	0
Ethiopia: Number of dams with SOPs developed on operation and EWS information	TBD	N/A	0%	0%
Somalia: Operational plan for the National Emergency Operations Centre /Multi-hazard Early Warning Centre	Operational plan published	N/A	Consultative meetings	10%
Sudan: Community based EWS developed (their operation and use complementary with national system)	Number of systems TBD	N/A	On hold	On hold
Sudan: Community contingency plans: template developed and training of trainers completed	Number of communities supported TBD	N/A	On hold	On hold
Sudan: Prepared revised standard operating procedure detailing roles and responsibilities in flood early warning	SOPs published	N/A	On hold	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.**

- In preparation for the Ethiopia Flood Management Project (EFMP) discussions have been had with representatives of the Government of Ethiopia to develop activities that will be supported using CREWS resources.
- CREWS support has contributed to the review of the Government of Ethiopia’s procurement plan under EFMP.
- The WB has led 2 knowledge exchange workshops with international experts (ENTRO, SMHI, HRC) on flood forecasting and early warning.

**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 December 2022	Target for the reporting period	Progress by June 2023
Ethiopia: Technical guidelines on promoting last-mile dissemination	Published	N/A	0	0 (No progress)
Somalia: Workshops to strengthen the development and delivery of services to the priority farming and pastoralist communities	At least 300 participants (120 women or 40%)	N/A	To be done	Process ongoing

**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.**

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

State Project Output(s) in this section	Overall Project Target	Progress by December 2022	Target for the reporting period	Progress by June 2023
Increased ability for women to act upon early warning information / Number of capacity building workshops specifically targeting women groups and other traditionally under-represented groups (Program indicator)	6 (2 per country)	0	0	0
Ethiopia: Workshops to support end-users to demand, understand and utilize climate and impact based early warning information, products and services	At least 40% women. Number of participatory workshops TBD.	N/A	0	0
Somalia: Capacity development / training courses for staff in priority technical areas (observation, data management and analysis, meteorological and hydrological forecasting)	50 Technical staff trained. > 30 % women in workshops.	Discussions initiated with Somalia Ministry of Energy and Water Resources on training needs	To be done	No Progress
Somalia: Guidance document on mainstreaming gender and access to services by disadvantaged or under-represented groups	Document published	0	To be done	No progress
<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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through the Somalia Crisis Recovery Project, the WB has begun discussions with the Somalia Hydromet Working Group to identify training needs, that relate to both service creation and building capacity among the users of early warning services.</li> </ul>				



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

<b>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</b>				
<b>State Project Output(s) in this section</b>	<b>Overall Project Target</b>	<b>Progress by December 2022</b>	<b>Target for the reporting period</b>	<b>Progress by June 2023</b>
Strengthened Regional User Interface Platform and Regional Climate Outlook Forum, to include knowledge exchange activities.	Number of attendees TBD	Discussion between implementing partners, members and ICPAC underway on Climate Outlook for a (5%)	N/A	5% (as before)
Developed Climate Sector Action and Communication Plans for key sectors	Number of plans TBD	N/A	N/A	As before
Climate Services Toolkits (CSTs) tailored to the operational needs of NMHSs and piloted	3 toolkits developed and piloted in Ethiopia, Somalia, and Sudan	N/A	N/A	As before
Establishment of improved Long-Range Forecast Models at ICPAC.	Operation status of models TBD	N/A	N/A	As before
Gridded quality controlled regional climate dataset established and available for use by regional partners	Number TBD	N/A	N/A	As before
Technical report to detail procedures to obtain, pre-process and analyze seasonal and annual to decadal climate information from multiple sources.	1 report published	N/A	N/A	As before



Enhanced national capacities for WGIOS and WIS: Technical support to enhance the operation of observing stations providing data internationally following GBON requirements	Number of observations exchanged every six months. Baseline and target to be determined after baseline analysis	Plan to support Regional Centres on WIGOS and WIS developed (5%)	N/A	As before
Enhanced national capacities for WGIOS and WIS: technical support to the Regional WIGOS centre	Number of incident targets related to WIGOS data which are registered and followed up. Baseline and target TBD	Plan to support Regional Centres on WIGOS and WIS developed (5%)	N/A	As before
Country Hydromet Diagnostics for benchmarking NMHS capabilities.	Number of completed diagnostic reports: 3	N/A	Initiate CHD process	CHD process underway. Finland will support Ethiopia. Partner NMHSs are still being sought for Sudan and Somalia
Published guidelines on identifying the needs of populations most at risk for early warning to be used by Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan as relevant.	Report published: Yes	No	0	0
Piloting of transboundary flood contingency plans	Number piloted: 1	0	0	0
Establishment of platform for regional exchange of real-time data (precipitation and river discharge) using common data formats	Platform established: Yes	N/A	N/A	0%



Workshops with regional staff from emergency operating centres at the newly established IGAD Disaster Operations Center	Number of participating staff participating TBD	Development of ToR	N/A	0%
Training events on transboundary planning and cooperation.	Number of joint training events TBD	N/A	N/A	0%
<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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion between implementing partners, members and ICPAC underway on when is best to host UIP and Climate Outlook Fora</li> <li>• Plan to support Regional Centres on WIGOS and WIS in connection with SOFF developed and will be presented to members in Q1 2023</li> <li>• TOR for the recruitment of consultant to support the implementation of impact-based-forecasting of the IGAD/ICPAC situation room developed</li> </ul>				

### 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.*





- i. Minutes of Implementing Partners Coordination Meeting (23 March 2023).

## 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**
  - An implementing partners' (WB, WMO, UNDRR) inception meeting was held to agree coordination roles and responsibilities.
  - An external kick-off meeting was held on the margins of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum (GHACOF), attended by implementing partners, beneficiaries from Somalia, Ethiopia, and Sudan, CREWS secretariat, International Federation of the Red Cross, and other regional hydromet actors (e.g. NMHS representatives).
  - An internal WMO-World Bank coordination meeting was held on 20 December 2022.
  - UNDRR has conducted consultative meetings with ICPAC on the gaps and needs in the operationalization of the situation room
  - The process for the recruitment of the consultant to support the capacity of ICPAC in impact-based forecasting is online
  - The implementing partners have initiated discussions with key government stakeholders to identify activities and prepare draft ToRs for these activities.
  - The WMO has prepared a detailed work plan for 2023-2026.
  - Two decision makers from the Federal Government of Somalia's Ministry of Energy and Water Resources (The Minister and Chair of Hydromet Working Group) was supported to attend COP27.
  - CREWS resources have been used to support the Government of Somalia to prepare ToRs on (i) hydromet monitoring (ii) community engagement (iii) and (iv) public and private engagement (PPE) and the flood modeling software ToR and justifications. These projects will be financed through the ongoing Somalia Crisis Recovery Project.
  - The implementing partners have consulted with the International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC) to identify an approach to collaboration under the project. IFRC is supporting stronger national alerting systems, including the use of a free and open-source CAP editor.



- An implementing partners' (WB, WMO, UNDRR) progress meeting was held on 23 March 2023 to discuss progress and identify areas of cooperation.
- In Ethiopia, CREWS has supported knowledge exchange workshops on flood forecasting and early warning with international experts.
- CREWS support has aided the establishment of the Water Sector Coordination Facility in Somalia.
- UNDRR is working with ICPAC and Member states for the preparation of the Transboundary risk workshop. The concept note is being finalized. The workshop to be held in Q3 of 2023



**Annex:**

**CREWS Horn of Africa – Implementing Partners Meeting (23 March 2023)**

**Minutes**

**Participants**

***WMO***

- Moyenda Chaponda
- Ercan Buyukbase
- Tamara Comment
- Wilfran Moufouma Okia
- Ana Laura Zuanazzi

***UNDRR***

- Muliro Mashauri
- Naphtal Habiyaremye

***World Bank***

- Abdirizak Farah
- Noosha Tayebi
- Azeb Belachew
- Ko Takeuchi
- Toshihiro Sonoda
- Michael Hammond

**Agenda**

- Introduction and welcome



- Progress-to-date and work plan for coming (6) months.
  - World Bank
  - UNDRR
  - WMO
- Coordination on selected project activities and general discussion.
- Any other business

## Discussion

### *Progress and work plan*

1. Each institution presented their progress and plans for the coming months.
2. The **World Bank** has made limited progress on the regional activities, focusing instead on the national activities.
  - a. Under **Ethiopia**, the Ethiopia Flood Management Project (EFMP) was approved, which has two sub-components that will address aspects related to the CREWS project. The World Bank has been supporting the Government stakeholders to develop procurements plans, and to identify the needs for targeting of CREWS resources. In the next few months, the World Bank aims to start activities related to (i) design of flood early warning systems (ii) forecast-based financing (iii) benchmarking capabilities on the reach of warnings (iv) stock-taking on community preparedness activities and (v) preparation of technical specifications.
  - b. In **Somalia**, the focus has been on supporting institutional capacities including policies and training, and has supported the Hydromet Working Group (the main counterparts) to prepare Terms of Reference related to hazard monitoring, service delivery, and public-private engagement. In the coming months, the World Bank will start the procurement of a strategic advisor to the support the Hydromet Working Group with activities such as implementations of the national hydromet policy and identifying training needs.
  - c. In **Sudan**, there has been limited progress, due to the ongoing bar on engaging with the de facto government. It has been proposed to reallocate financing to activities under the Nile Basin, where parties could benefit from activities such as capacity building/training.



- d. There will be a change of personnel on the World Bank team, but activities will continue as usual. For project management, the World Bank has established a share point site (the link is in the footnote)<sup>1</sup>.
3. **UNDRR** presented their progress and work plans for the coming months. The focus has been on strengthening capacities with ICPAC and focusing on building capacity of impact-based early warning systems. The UNDRR has a team member (Naphtal) who will be embedded at ICPAC, who will focus on the social dimension of risk to understand how vulnerability can be embedded in Ethiopia. Because of the capacities at ICPAC and the focus on impact-based early warning systems, we should look to see how we can work more closely in this agenda. It was proposed to follow up bilaterally on this.
4. **WMO** presented their progress and work plan.
  - a. WMO has prepared a work plan for their activities, and are scheduling meetings with the NMHS in the coming weeks to confirm the acceptability of the work plan. WMO is planning to schedule meetings with the NMHS to confirm the workplan. Most activities are scheduled to begin Q3 of this year (the WMO congress makes it challenging to start before Q3, and the RCOF will take place in August). Regarding NCOF, need to discuss further with the countries on how to support activities. The calendar will depend on the country readiness, with the aim to start with Ethiopia. On the climate service toolkits, discussion is needed with one of the key partners on CSTs, to see whether they can lead on activities and their availability. Further discussion is also needed with ICPAC on their availability and capabilities for long-range forecasting.
  - b. The WMO has also made progress on planning for sustainable observation networks and data exchange through WIGOS and WIS. Some pre-analysis has been undertaken, but there are some challenges around data availability and metadata. Ethiopia and Somalia have not yet designated stations for the Global Basin Observing Network. Technical infrastructure for data exchange is critical and the WMO would make like to assess capabilities for the implementation of WIS 2.0. Further discussions with countries needed on aspects like the development of a regional WIGOS centre. Introductory meetings will take place in the coming months.
  - c. One key activity, the benchmarking / diagnostic of service capability (which will contribute to the CREWS results framework) is facing the challenge of a limited budget, and also the need to align activities with SOFF. As this is important, one option is to identify the budget needed and discuss whether national budget could be reallocated (e.g for Ethiopia and Somalia) to support this activity.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://worldbankgroup.sharepoint.com/:f/r/teams/CREWSHornofAfricaProposal-WBGroup/Shared%20Documents/General?csf=1&web=1&e=R4ekkc>



- d. Discussion took place on challenges over background information in Somalia. The World Bank agreed to share some key reports with the WMO and offered to provide contacts if necessary.

***Other***

5. It was proposed to have more frequent but shorter meetings. It was generally agreed to aim for meetings every two months to share information, which would boost coordination and help reporting.

**Agreed actions**

6. Partners to share presentations and minutes
7. World Bank to ensure UNDRR Arab State partners are invited. UNDRR partners to share contact information.
8. UNDRR to provide information on impact-based early warning systems at ICPAC and to identify options for using these capacities to boost national capacities.
9. WMO to look into resource needs for diagnostics and work with World Bank to see if resources may be allocated to this task from other national activities.
10. World Bank to provide information on Somalia NMHS (including the policy and any analytical work).
11. Next meeting to be held in two months (end May/early June).