CREWS PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

(July – December 2022)

1. Project title	DR Congo - Strengthening Hydro-Meteorological and Early Warning Services	**2. Project reference**	CREWS/CProj/01/DRC
3. Implementing Partners involved in the project	World Bank (Lead) World Meteorological Organization	**4. Regional/National Partners involved in the project**	Agence Nationale de Météorologie et de Télédétection par Satellite (Mettelsat)
5. Project Duration/Timeframe (from year – to year)	December 2017 – June 2023 (extension granted in June 2022)	6. Total Funding Approved by Steering Committee (in US dollars), including fees	3,090,000
7. Reporting focal point(s) from Implementing Partners	Christian Vang Eghoff – ceghoff@worldbank.org Bernard Gomez – begomez@wmo.int Eric Kipasa – ekipasa@worldbank.org - in cc Jean-Baptiste Migraine - jbmigraine@wmo.int - in cc		

8. Project overview	**Please include objectives, key project deliverables, leveraging, contextual information/statistics, significant events during the reporting period in bullet points. (max 250 words)**
	
	• 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) **Significant events during the reporting period:** Closing of the Hydromet Projet was extended from July 15, 2022 to January 15, 2023.
9. Progress summary	**What has been achieved during this reporting period? – Please list in bullet points the most significant and tangible outcomes? (max 250 words)** - The Project has made substantial progress towards all outcomes, with CREWS support: 1) Finalization of installation of hydromet equipment in 12 airports and two watersheds. 2) Finalization of a new Meteorology Law, submitted by the Minister of Transport for review and approval by Government and then Parliament 3) Finalization of a business plan for Mettelsat 4) Official launch event for the National Framework for Climate Services 5) Capacity-building Training of 40 Mettelsat staff 6) Study tour to Niger for the implementation of the NFCS (Jan, 2023).

	7) Validation of masterplan for observing networks and commenced scouting for consultants. 8) Assessment of the capacity of ISTA to define capacity development requirements. 9) Technical mission to Brazzaville Regional Telecommunication Hub to verify interoperability of telecommunication platforms for data exchange. 10) Training of 3 staff on OSCAR database to facilitate data representation in the WMO Information System.

10.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	**From WB side:** Disbursed: 1,732,918,46 (69% of total amount) Committed: 70,621 **From WMO side:** Disbursed: $203,022 (68% of total amount) Committed: S84,000	The delivery and installation of hydromet equipment and some other key activities was completed. Installation of QMS has been delayed but will continue with CREWS support after project closing. ASECNA mission to METTELSAT delayed due to constraints in acquiring and installing a local area network with Njili Airport. Scouting for consultants for	Project remains aligned to CREWS objectives.

		masterplans and decision on priority capacity development needs of ISTA ongoing.	

11. Risk 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, largely linked to the fluctuating commitment of the sector ministry to assure cost-sharing of meteorological revenue from civil aviation.
Measures to address	What mitigation measures have been developed to address the risk status? **In bullet points** Closer monitoring and technical support has already contributed to mitigating risk and advancing activities. The World Bank, WMO mobilized and a number of international and local experts to support the development of a business plan and support financial sustainability of MettelSat. Continued advocacy with national authorities for sustainability of the project's investments as well as strengthened dialogue through the World Bank's Country Management Unit.

12.Contributions to CREWS Output(s)s

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

12.1 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**	**Progress by June 2022**	**Target for reporting period**	**Progress by December 2022**
Assessment of capacity for early warning of drought, heavy precipitation, river flooding, flash flooding, wind storm and recommendations for improvement	100%	**80%**	**100%**	**80%**
Assessment of user needs (3 stakeholders/users workshops organized)	100%	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**
Development and/or review of memorandums of understanding (MoUs) with users	100%	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**
Implement a capacity development and training program for staff (including operational training for technicians and engineers, meteorologists and hydrologists)	100%	**85%**	**100%**	**95%**

Development of the MettelSat Strategy, Action Plan and Business Plan	100%	**65%**	**100%**	**100%**

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.

Completion of most activities or at least good progress. The assessment of capacity will continue under CREWS funding. This has a multiplier effect, as the project is expected to generate a wider range of benefits to different users, impacting a considerable number of people over its lifecycle, including better hydromet inforrmaiton to specific user groups and the general population.

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 June 2022	Target for the reporting period	Progress by December 2022
Development of a national risk geoportal and development of hazard, exposure and vulnerability information for flood risk assessment and impact forecasting	100%	90%	100%	100%
Establishment of the National Framework for Climate Services	100%	**100%**	100%	**100%**

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.

- **Gender-responsive**: The NFCS ensures a continuation of DRC efforts to improve the capacities of rural women to reduce the vulnerability of communities affected by climate change. In fact, women are particularly vulnerable to climate change, especially in poor communities where livelihoods are largely dependent on local natural resources.
- **People-centered:** The NFCS promotes continuous and effective updating of products and services through two-way communication between users and producers as well as easy access to meteorological, hydrological, and climate services data/information.
- **Coherence**: The NFCS provides a framework putting together all actors involved in the national value chain for climate services as well as their existing databases to build multi-sectoral EWS.
- **Integrated and inclusive programming**: The NFCS operationalizes the multi-stakeholder and multi-thematic platform established in accordance with the decree governing the NFCS.
- **Solution-oriented**: The NFCS is intended to provide widespread social, economic, and environmental benefits through more effective climate and disaster risk management. It will support the implementation of climate change adaptation measures. A key objective of the Framework is to bridge the gap between climate information developed by service providers and the practical needs of users. This will be achieved through the introduction of national and regional frameworks for climate services.

The publication of hazard forecasts was integrated into the MettelSat website (https://meteordc.cd) and is thus available to the public.

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
Development of operational procedures to convert extreme weather forecasts (rains, floods, winds, heat waves) in potential impacts	100%	70%	100%	80%
Elaboration of Quality Management Systems for air navigation meteorological services and the recovery of meteorological services rendered to RVA	100%	80%	100%	80%

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 development of operational procedures advanced, although not to the point of completion. The implementation of the QMS has stalled while MettelSat's access to equipment at the Ndili airport (currently used by RVA) is assured. The operational procedures contribute to bringing life-saving and people-centered early warnings to the communities that need them by making early warning on extreme weather events to population at risk and enabling Civil Protection to act on the information in collaboration with communities.

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
Risk mapping and emergency response plans for municipalities including training of operational and decision-making civil servants	100%	20%	100%	20%
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. **This activity has stalled while focus was on support to equipment installation.** This activity will eventually aim to allow access to early warning on extreme weather events to population at risk and enabling Civil Protection to act on the information in collaboration with communities.				

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
Community focus groups for flood risk mapping and awareness	100%	30%	100%	30%
Study tour for the 4 institutions contributing to early warning (MettelSat, DPC, RVF, CVM)	100%	0%	100%	25%

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.

Implementation of community focus groups was stalled while focus was on equipment installation and working on sustainability of project outputs (business plan)

The study tour was converted into a study tour just for Mettelsat, to Niger to learn from the experience of the implementation of a NFCS there. The objective of the study tour was to share experiences on the best approaches to adopt in establishing and operationalizing the NFCS in DRC.

Specifically, it was about:

- **Participating in the elaboration of the National Framework for Climate Services report card with the different sectors involved in Niger.**
- **Analyze with the actors of Niger the constraints and lessons learned in the implementation of the NFCS.**

Identify good approaches for the implementation of the NFCS in DRC.

- **Strengthen the capacity of participants in the organizational and managerial management of the NFCS.**

This resulted in specific recommendations for operationalizing the CNSC in the DRC in terms of institutional organization, flow of information, and the role of MettelSat in the process of delivering early warnings to communities.

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**
Women participation in training and decision-making venues sponsored by CREWS	30%	10%	100%	10%
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 gender breakdown for the period is not available, as the part of women in training activities was not documented.				

12.2 Regional Output(s)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**
Common Alerting Protocol implementation	**100%**	**25%**	**100%**	**95%**
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. **Training on CAP implementation has been successfully completed and METTELSAT has commenced issuing alerts. However, the low skills in forecasting severe weather events is affecting the full implementation of CAP. User-community may also need training on interpretation of alerts.**				

13.Certification on Use of Resources

This needs to be provided at the end of the year as part of the submission of the 2nd 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***

- *Finalized the drafting of the meteorological law.*
- *A long-term training program for Mettelsat has been developed and validated.*

- *Leveraging and informing the technical design of the WB DRC Strengthening Hydro-meteorological and Climate Services Project (P159217).*
- *The elaboration of Quality Management Systems for air navigation is nearing completion.*
- *The conversion of analog data to digital (data rescue and digitization) is completed.*