



CREWS PROJECT STATUS REPORT




1. Project title	Afghanistan - AF-ECLIM: Enhancing hydromet, early warning and climate Services for Resilience	2. Project reference P168141 (AF-ECLIM)
3. Lead IP	World Bank	4. Other Implementing Partners World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
5. Reporting period	January – June 2020	
6. Reporting focal point	Arati Belle, DRM Specialist - abelle@worldbank.org Fatih Kaya, Project Officer – fkaya@wmo.int	
7. Project overview	<p>Please include synergies, leveraging, key project deliverables and total funding in bullet points. (max 250 words)</p> <p>The CREWS grant funding is implemented by the lead partner, World Bank (US\$2.45 million exclusive of fees) and the technical partner, WMO (US\$ 0.86 million) and has been effective as of end-September 2019. There have been three rounds of consultations with Government counterparts, a Project activity plan was prepared, and priority activities have been commenced including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical assistance for the design and development of a drought early warning system: the design is completed; consultations and development are ongoing. This activity is underpinning the Early warning component of the ENETAWF (Drought Early Warning, Early Action and Early Finance) project, a large US\$ 200-250 million shock response and resilience investment financed by IDA (and potentially the Afghan Reconstruction Trust Fund), which combines disaster and climate risk, social protection and disaster finance thematic areas. Technical assistance for the development of the early warning component is also ongoing. The expected approval date for the IDA investment is at the end-August 2020. - Technical assistance for the design and development of Agromet Information Services Delivery: The need for agrometeorological information for Afghan farmers and pastoralists was made clear during the 	




	<p>droughts and floods of 2018-19. Further agricultural productivity is core driver of GDP in the country and agromet services are rated as very important by the Government. Technical assistance for the design of building an agrometeorological information system was started in Dec 2019 and is ongoing. This is expected to leverage a IDA financing for the implementation of agromet services through a proposed IDA project (Agro-water climate resilience) in the next year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing consultations and technical assistance to strengthen Hydromet capacity, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o TOR developed for a Hydromet Concept of Operations o TOR developed for Hydromet Services Delivery Strategy o Assessment of benefits and challenges for institutional structure for hydromet services delivery ongoing. - Conceptualization of Community based Disaster risk and early warning (CBDRM and EW) activity commenced - The World Bank and WMO developed a concept to combine resources and knowledge to support the countries of Central Asia and Afghanistan to improve transboundary flood, flash flood and landslide forecasting, warning and advisory services in the Amu Darya and Syr Darya River Basins. - WMO has provided technical assistance to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o the Afghanistan Meteorology Department for their interactions with NSIA, MAIL on the concept of the drought early warning. o ANDMA (IMMAP: Afghanistan Spatial Data Centre) for their interactions with AMD for broadcasting the Flash Flood Warnings on ANDMA portal and technical guidance provided for the MoU o AMD by introducing and training staff on the 3D Printer Automated Weather Station (3DPAWS) programme as part of the activities of building a readily accessible digital hydrological, meteorological and vulnerability database. The delivery of the printers, consumables and further capacities are on hold due to COVID.
<p>8. Progress summary</p>	<p>What has been achieved between January - June? – Please list the most significant and tangible developments?</p> <p>Please see above. Consultants have been hired and TA outputs are completed/ongoing as planned.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lead Agromet Specialist - Lead Drought Early Warning Specialist - Firm for Drought EW system development



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Firm for CBDRM and EW - Technical coordinator for CREWS program - Local coordinating consultant - Country consultations and missions
--	---

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 commitments have been made but the disbursements are also delayed due to COVID (stoppage of travel, workshops and related activities, work is ongoing in virtual mode)	Activities are going on full speed with a rebalancing of virtual interactions. Face to face trainings have been pushed back to later in the calendar year. An effort is ongoing to source virtual training providers.	Fully aligned
------------------	--	---	---------------

10. Risk Management Status

Risk Status	What is the current risk status as compared to what was identified in the project proposal? The risk levels are high because of the FCV context and the added constraints de to the COVID situation although all efforts are ongoing to move ahead through virtual work situation. Slowdown is expected due to Ramadan/Eid combined with COVID related lockdowns.
Measures to address	What mitigation measures have been developed to address the risk status? Virtual communications and meetings.

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 January 2020	Progress by June 2020
Hydromet Concept of operations (CONOPS)	CONOPS document developed	Ongoing*	TOR developed	Drafting of the CONOPS document initiated
Services delivery strategy	Service delivery strategy document developed	Ongoing*	TOR developed	Drafting of the strategy document initiated
Reinforcing the legal and institutional framework	A legal framework and regulations document developed	Ongoing*	TOR developed	Drafting of the framework document and regulations initiated
Introducing QMS across operations of AMD and WRD-MEW to interact with their user communities		Ongoing	-	On-hold
<p>Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words)</p> <p>Although the TORs were developed by Jan 2020, given the prioritization of activities these tasks are being commenced at this time.</p> <p>QMS activity is on hold due to COVID-19.</p>				

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 January 2020	Progress by June 2020
Design of Drought Early Warning System	Design completed	Base design completed; update to be developed	Expert hired and consultations with technical agencies conducted	Drafting of the technical brief underlining the design of the Drought Early Warning System completed
Development of Drought Early Warning System	Established and functional	-	-	Preliminary prototype for the Drought Early Warning System developed
Design of Agrometeorological services	Design document ready	Ongoing	Expert hired	Drafting of the draft document completed.
Flood Early warning designed and Flash Flood forecasting and alerting systems enhanced	Flood EW Design developed; Link with CA FFGS established and capacity enhanced	Concept for FFGS drafted	Initial consultations completed	Draft concept on FFGS developed
Afghanistan is re-connected with Regional Climate Services	Completed	Ongoing		Communications between AMD and IMD initiated



Concept note for the Amu Darya Flow Forecasting and Early Warning System	Completed	Ongoing		On hold
Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words) Flood earlywarning is being sequenced after the completion of the drought early warning in light of the capacity constraints on the part of the counterparts. Concept note and FFGS are on hold due to travel restrictions (April workshop in Almaty postponed due to COVID-19)				

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 January 2020	Progress by June 2020
Supporting MoUs between MRRD and other agencies relevant for the drought early warning system	MoUs signed	-	-	- (expected to be done under the ENETAWF) during Sept-Dec 2020
Developing a modern impact-based weather forecasting process	Impact-based forecasting process guidance document	Ongoing	TORs developed	Drafting of the guidance document initiated
Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words) Given the existing capacity constraints and the covid related travel restrictions, the activities were sequenced and now priority is given to those activities which can be done through virtual communication means.				

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 January 2020	Progress by June 2020
Capacity assessment for hydromet and DRM agencies	Current capacity assessed and training plan developed	ongoing	TOR developed	Preparation of detailed plan for capacity assessment and training plan initiated.
<p>Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them.</p> <p>Because of travel restrictions, the capacity assessment is being undertaken virtually. There is also a heavy burden on coordination as a number of partners and entities are involved in capacity building in the region/country.</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 January 2020	Progress by June 2020
Afghanistan Hydromet Atlas	Completed	In concept stage		TOR developed and firm contracted



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

Same as above

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 January 2020	Progress by June 2020
Supporting the development of the training needs for Drought Early Warning System	Training completed	Draft needs developed		Draft needs developed
Capacity building for cost-effective observation network through establishing local capacities and capabilities (3D Printed Agromet Stations for research and academia)		Ongoing		On hold

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

3DPAWS activities such as the provision of the training events to Kabul University and the Research branch of the AMD, and delivery of the printers and electronic units are unfortunately postponed due to the pandemic.

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 January 2020	Progress by June 2020



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)	-	-	executive meeting expected by September 2020
Linkage with Central Asia and Indian Meteorological Department established	Strong linkage with CA and MOU with IMD established	Consultations with CA ongoing	Review of draft roadmap for consultations with Tajikistan completed	Communications with IMD initiated
Narrative: briefly indicate the major issues or challenges faced and mitigation steps taken to addressing them. (150 to 200 words) Planned workshop in Delhi for June 2020 has been postponed.				

12. Contributions to Value Propositions

Gender Sensitive	Training is gender tagged. Drought early warning is a part of the broader program -ENETAWF - where gender issues are mainstreamed.
Multiplier	Potentially financing in the order of 200-350 million (through two proposed IDA investments, ENETAWF and agro-water climate resilience)
People-centered	Focus on reducing impact of hazards on the most vulnerable and improving resilience of highly vulnerable communities.
Promote Coherence	Improving coordination on technical capacity support from various partners such as WMO, UKMO, etc.
Solution-oriented	Activities correspond to specific conditions and provide solutions for the Afghan context.
Unique	Drought EW system uses the innovative approach developed by IWMI for drought monitoring.

13. Visibility products

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

- 3DPAWS in Afghanistan: <https://spark.adobe.com/page/E5GFcvbSq3GRD/>



- SASCOP April 2020: <https://public.wmo.int/en/media/news/normal-rainfall-expected-2020-southwest-monsoon-season>
- South Asia Hydromet Forum: www.worldbank.org/southasiahydrometforum

14. Supporting documents

- 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.*
- Amu Darya Flow Forecasting and Early Warning System Concept Note