



**11th Inter-sessional Meeting of the
Steering Committee**

14:30 – 17:00 CEST
17 September 2026

Online: connection details for
participants available upon request

**CREWS/11th Inter-Sessional
Sept 2026/workdoc.3**

Provisional Agenda Item 3.1

Proposed Parameters and Timeline for the Review of the CREWS Pipeline

Summary

The Proposed Parameters and Timeline for the Review of the CREWS pipeline list is presented, by the Secretariat, for review and endorsement by the Contributing Members under Agenda item 3.1.

Parameters and Timeline for the Review of the CREWS Pipeline List

1. At its 23rd meeting, the Steering Committee decided to carry out a strategic and rapid review of the current CREWS pipeline list and invited the Secretariat to present a revised pipeline at the 24th Meeting, ahead of future decisions by the Steering Committee to initiate the preparations of new projects.
2. As a reminder, the pipeline list is the tool that ensures optimal use of resource allocations, and specifically, informs and prioritizes the Steering Committee's decision-making on which projects to move to project preparation for future financing decisions. The pipeline integrates information from national/regional assessments and mapping of priorities and needs carried out by the Implementing Partners and multiple sources of information.
3. Currently, the CREWS pipeline provides a unique overview of the needs, gaps, demand and leveraging potential on early warning for LDC and SIDS. Countries and regions included in the CREWS pipeline list demonstrate a level of ownership, eligibility and readiness for the preparation of project proposals for funding decisions and opportunities for leveraging and scaling-up (see Annex 1 for information on the current pipeline).
4. CREWS has entered a new phase with the approval of its 2030 Strategy, related Operational Plan and the inclusion of additional Implementing Partners. These, and other developments, influence future operating contexts – including the need to promote innovation and emerging technologies, optimizing the mobilization of additional investment, strengthening the full early warning value chain and further anchoring the national and regional ownership of CREWS.
5. The revised pipeline will need to:
 - build on its current source of information and mapping and reflect early warning and climate services capacities gaps and level of climate risk across LDCs and SIDS;
 - provide an evidence-based assessment of strategic programming priorities drawing on national assessment such as the EW4All roadmaps;
 - identify opportunities to scale up impact through other financing mechanisms;
 - strengthen alignment with investment pipelines of these mechanisms and development partners;
 - seize opportunities to build on and strengthen the alignment with relevant regional frameworks, institutions and initiative, such as Weather Ready Pacific (WRP).
6. The primary objective of the pipeline review is, therefore, to ensure that future funding decisions are consistent with CREWS' updated strategic directions and the wider evolving operational contexts, while strengthening the required prioritization and sequencing of CREWS investments by the Steering Committee.
7. Two stages are suggested for the review.
8. **Stage 1: Strategic portfolio review.** Stage 1 will validate existing criteria that inform the pipeline, and as required, include additional ones (see table below). Each current pipeline entry will then be assessed with the revised criteria. The criteria will also guide the regular mapping and documented evidence by the Secretariat, across LDCs and SIDS.

9. The following enhanced criteria/parameters will be used for the Stage 1 Strategic portfolio review.

	Criteria/Parameter	What it assesses
Current	Needs	Institutional capacity for early warning and level of exposure and risk to extreme events
	Demands	Level of political priority given to early warning systems by countries
	Leveraging Potential	Potential for leveraging additional resources and aligning programmes
Additional	Strategic alignment and programme additionality	Assesses alignment with the CREWS 2030 Strategy, MEAL framework, clarity of impact and distinct contribution aligned with other financing
	Potential Impact	Expected social, economic, environmental or resilience benefits and scale of beneficiaries
	Sustainability, scalability and replicability	Clarity of public and private long-term sustainability of services developed and potential to expand or replicate the intervention
	Innovation	Degree to which the project introduces new approaches, new technologies and delivery models

10. **Stage 2: Readiness classification:** Stage 2 will classify pipeline proposals to assist prioritization by the Steering Committee. Stage 2 will build on, and further strengthen, the existing prioritization considerations that have been applied in managing and sequencing the pipeline¹. Stronger emphasis will go to:

- Alignment with country (regional) priorities across the early warning value chain and types of intervention.
- Balance between national, regional and multi-country investments.
- Availability and timing of CREWS financing.
- Time-sensitive opportunities (which include LDC graduation), continuity requirements and alignment with other financing windows (sequencing investments where CREWS provides foundational capacity)
- Underfinanced countries and regions

11. The LDC and SIDS groups will be engaged in a structured manner to complement the technical assessment, readiness assessment and portfolio review to be undertaken by the Secretariat,

¹ Current prioritization considerations, as approved at the 18th Meeting of the Steering Committee:

- Regional and programmatic considerations- promoting a comprehensive geographic and programmatic balance of financing decisions;
- Time sensitive considerations- such as the need to ensure continuation of existing programme and funding, upcoming LDC graduation procedures and the alignment with other financing windows;
- Strategic considerations – specific demand by recipient countries, considerations of Steering Committee members and relevant national political considerations.

supporting a transparent and inclusive review process to ensure that the pipeline reflects country-driven priorities and broader adaptation objectives.

12. **Timeline:** the review will be finalized and presented to the 24th Meeting of the CREWS Steering Committee. Future decisions by the Steering Committee to initiate the preparations of full projects proposals will be made based on the revised pipeline i.e. at or following the 24th Meeting of the Steering Committee.

17 September 2026 – Intersessional Meeting reviews and approves parameters and timeline.

30 October 2026 – Deadline for inputs/revisions to the pipeline by Implementing Partners

30 November 2026 – Stage 1 strategic portfolio review

15 December 2026 – Stage 2 readiness classification

15 January 2027 – Submit as a workdoc the revised pipeline to the 24th Steering Committee meeting

3-4 February 2027 – 24th Steering Committee meeting review and approve pipeline

ANNEX – Information on the Current CREWS Pipeline List

The CREWS pipeline list is a tool for the initiative to have a structured approach to managing CREWS financing decisions. Countries and regions in the pipeline list demonstrate a level of eligibility, ownership and readiness.

Proposals submitted by Implementing Partners to the pipeline list are assessed by the Secretariat against the existing pipelining criteria set out below:

Table 1: Pipelining Criteria

Criteria	Requirements
Need – exposure to risk and institutional capacity for early warning	(i) Capacity of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) and disaster management institutions (ii) Projected average annual loss to disaster (project cost of disasters for the country's economy per year) (iii) Casualty loss risk (where available) (iv) Access and penetration of information and communication technology
Demand – Level of priority given to early warning systems by countries	(i) Requests for support by country (ii) Identification of early warning systems as a priority in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and national development and poverty reduction plans
Leveraging – potential for leveraging additional resources and aligning programmes	(i) Potential to leverage investments from other mechanisms such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the World Bank Group's International Development Association (IDA), the Global Environment Fund (GEF) and other financing mechanisms (ii) Ongoing or planned national and regional programmes related to the objectives of CREWS

Further, at its 18th meeting, the Steering Committee approved prioritization considerations that have been applied in managing and sequencing the pipeline:

- Regional and programmatic considerations- promoting a comprehensive geographic and programmatic balance of financing decisions;

- Time sensitive considerations- such as the need to ensure continuation of existing programme and funding, upcoming LDC graduation procedures and the alignment with other financing windows;
- Strategic considerations – specific demand by recipient countries, considerations of Steering Committee members and relevant national political consideration.

1. Pipeline status

The 22nd CREWS Steering Committee approved a pipeline comprising 29 proposed projects covering 49 countries, with a total estimated funding requirement of USD 124.25 million. Two proposed projects from the list were requested to proceed to project preparation by the 22nd meeting. The remaining proposals continue to form part of the pipeline and are subject to review, clarification, sequencing and future financing decisions.

2. Pipelining process

The consolidation and management of the CREWS pipeline list are informed by:

- Documenting the needs and demands for strategic and targeted support from CREWS in order to identify clear gaps
- Gathering information on opportunities for resource mobilization, programme alignment and synergies with CREWS investments
- Monitoring fragile and conflict-affected situations and LDC graduation status
- Obtaining and validating evidence from multiple sources
- Consulting Implementing partners to clarify the proposed intervention, institutional ownership and readiness

The Secretariat undertakes a thorough diligence process of the pipeline submissions based on the pipeline criteria. In addition, the pipeline submissions are assessed in terms of:

- Alignment with the priorities and intended results of the CREWS 2030 strategy
- Alignment with the CREWS Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) framework
- Alignment with the CREWS value propositions: unique, people-centered, gender-responsive, solution-oriented, multiplier effect and promoting coherence
- Demonstration of transformative actions and credible pathways to improved early warning services
- Contributions and synergies with other ongoing initiatives of key development partners (i.e. SOFF, WISER, GCF and others)
- Contributions to Coherence in terms of sharing of expertise, sharing of resources (possibilities of co-financing) and coordination arrangements for efficiency
- The feasibility, readiness, sustainability and risk profile of the proposed intervention

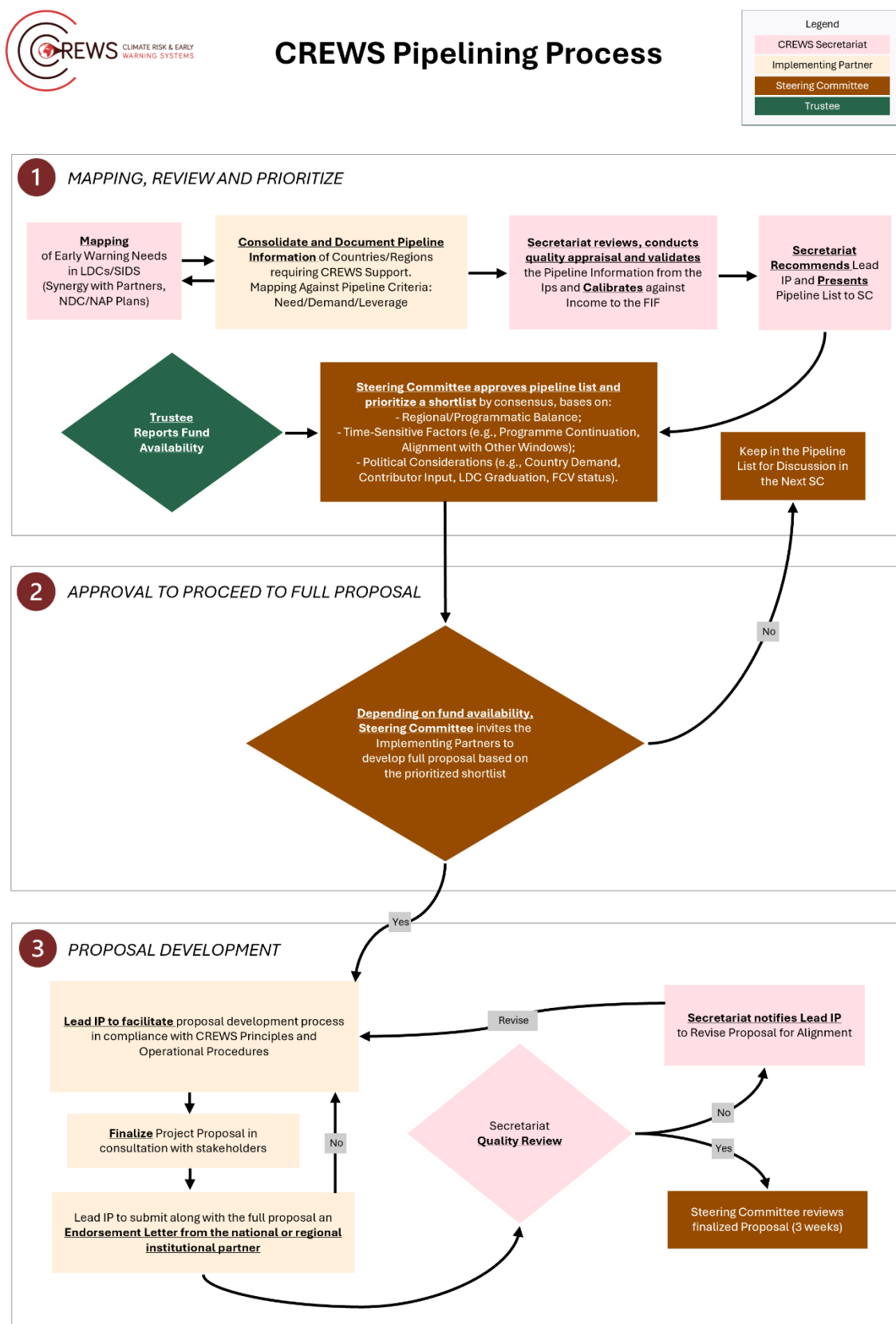
Pipeline management is dynamic and is not undertaken on a first-come-first-served basis. Inclusion and sequencing depend on the quality of submissions, the level of country need and

ownership, readiness for project preparation, expected impact and strategic alignment. When new projects are added, they do not automatically displace existing proposals. All proposals are assessed against a common framework to promote fairness, consistency and transparency.

The sequencing of proposals may be adjusted depending on available funding, readiness, urgency, strategic fit and portfolio balance. Proposed projects may move up or down the pipeline, but such adjustments should be based on documented technical and portfolio management considerations.

The selection of Implementing Partners to lead or participate in a proposed project should be informed by the preferences and needs of the national institutional partner, the technical expertise required, country presence and the capacity to deliver the expected results. The Secretariat may provide recommendations based on the scope and expected results. Joint programming is encouraged where it provides clear added value and is organized in a coherent and constructive manner, with the interests and benefits of the country as the primary consideration.

Diagram 1: Flowchart of the pipelining process



The CREWS Initiative gratefully acknowledges the support of:

CREWS Members



CREWS Observers



Visit www.crews-initiative.org

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