

# Second Meeting of the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems Initiative (CREWS) Steering Committee

9 November 2016, Marrakech, Morocco

## MEETING REPORT

The objective of the CREWS initiative is to significantly increase the capacity to generate and communicate effective impact-based, multi-hazards, gender-informed, early warnings and risk information to protect lives, livelihoods, and assets in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Islands Developing States (SIDS).

### CREWS Members



### CREWS Observers



### Implementing Partners



## Summary of Proceedings and Decisions

1. The 2nd Steering Committee (SC) meeting of the CREWS initiative took place in Marrakech, Morocco, on 9 November 2016, at the Ecole Supérieure des Arts Visuels.
2. The meeting was attended by representatives from Australia, France, Germany, Luxembourg, New Zealand, The Netherlands, Switzerland, ACP Secretariat, UNISDR, WMO, GFDRR, the World Bank and UNDP (list of participants attached).

### 1.1 Welcome and Adoption of the Agenda

3. The Chair of the CREWS SC, Ms. Brigitte Collet, French Ambassador for Renewable Energies and Climate Risk Prevention, welcomed CREWS partners and new observers (New Zealand and UNDP). She reflected on disaster events that occurred recently which demonstrated the importance of the CREWS initiative, citing the severe drought in Madagascar and Hurricane Matthew in Haiti and where early warnings and risk information played a crucial life-saving role. She emphasized the short time since the last SC in Geneva (September 2016) and the hard work by the implementing partners to get the project proposals ready. The Chair thanked the contributing partners for their effective engagement in approving the Contribution Agreement template and encouraged all to transfer funds into the Trust Fund. She further stressed the need to up-scale the resources available to CREWS and noted the high-level event on 16 November as an important opportunity in this regard.
4. Representatives from the Implementing Partners, WMO, UNISDR and GFDRR made welcoming remarks, each briefly outlining the progress and collaboration in the previous months to finalize the investment plan projects for approval.
5. After an introduction of each participant (tour de table), the Chair outlined the objectives of the meeting. As there were no comments, the agenda was adopted.
6. The Chair reviewed the follow-up actions from the decisions of the 1<sup>st</sup> Steering Committee meeting and it was noted that all pending issues were addressed.
7. Specific update was provided regarding Decision 1.7<sup>1</sup>:
  - a. France updated the Steering Committee on their commitment to invite additional donors to support CREWS. Since 2015, they have approached approximately 60 countries, many of which have expressed interest in the initiative without further commitments to date. During the last months, the European Union, Ireland, and Monaco have shown firm support, which France is following-up upon. Saudi Arabia has requested additional information on the initiative.
  - b. UNISDR provided an update on preparations for the regional DRR Platforms (November 2016 in Africa; March 2017 in Europe and North America), which address Sendai

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<sup>1</sup> Decision 1.7 from the 1<sup>st</sup> SC meeting states: *“The Steering Committee welcomed the intention of the COP21 President to write to partners inviting their engagement and support to the CREWS initiative. The Steering Committee welcomed the suggestions to use every opportunity to promote CREWS, including the Global and Regional Disaster Risk Reduction Platforms, the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, 13 October 2016 and the World Tsunamis Awareness Day, 5 November 2016. The Steering Committee welcomed the proposal by the Chair to organize a CREWS high-level event at COP22, Marrakech, Morocco, preferably during the second week.”*

priorities, including early warning. It was also noted that the CREWS Secretariat, once formally established, will play a role in aligning and coordinating the advocacy for early warning.

## 1.2 Update on Status of CREWS

8. The Chair presented an update of progress since the last meeting, which includes the finalization of country projects for consideration at the meeting and consultations and preparatory missions. She mentioned that the experience drawn from these early consultations are useful to define the modus-operandi for CREWS country implementation and it will be important to continue learning and further enhancing these moving forward. The Chair informed, with satisfaction, that the procedures are now in place to transfer funds to the Trustee and approve project allocation.
9. WMO updated on the status of the establishment of the CREWS secretariat, which has office space allocated, and stressed the importance of transferring the funds as per the revised CREWS Administrative Budget to get started.
10. The representative of the World Bank as Trustee reported on the status of the processing of Contribution Agreements (CA) and Financial Procedures Agreements (FPA), noting that the Steering Committee had approved the template CA on 14 October 2016, enabling the Trustee to send draft agreements to all contributors for their review prior to execution. The Trustee also reported that:
  - a. as of 9 November 2016, three contributors had confirmed the draft agreements, permitting clearance and execution of these contribution agreements to proceed;
  - b. execution of the first CA and FPA were expected soon;
  - c. as of the date of the Steering Committee meeting, no funds in the CREWS Trust Fund to support Steering Committee funding decisions;
  - d. pledged amounts for FY17<sup>2</sup> to the CREWS Trust Fund amounted to approximately USD eq. 11.7 million (pledges reported in the CREWS Investment Plan amounting to approx. USD 13.7 million included amounts that would be provided outside the CREWS Trust Fund);
  - e. it is therefore not expected that there would be sufficient funds in the CREWS Trust Fund to proposed decisions totaling USD 13.3 million (USD 12.7 million for projects and USD 623 thousand for FY17 administrative budget).
11. The revised Administrative Budget - amended in order to include an allocation to each Implementing Partner for Secretariat costs- was discussed. The Trustee explained the need to update the Governance document to add reference to the Implementing Partners receiving funding to be able to finance the secondment of their respective staff to the Secretariat. The total of the revised Administrative Costs is slightly lower than the projected costs in the Investment Plan. A point welcomed by Contributing Partners, who reiterated the need to keep overhead costs as low as possible to ensure best impact on the ground.

### **Decision 2.1**

- **A revision to the Governance Document is approved. The revisions are:**
  - a. **The definition of the “Administrative Costs” now reads: “means the administrative and other costs incurred by the Trustee and the Secretariat and Implementing**

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<sup>2</sup>Fiscal Year 2017: period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.

Partners in connection with the performance of their administrative services and other activities in support of the CREWS Initiatives”;

- b. Paragraph 13, section (j) now reads “approving the Administrative Cost estimates of the Trustee and the Secretariat and related costs of the Implementing Partners”;
- The revised Administrative Budget for the CREWS is approved reflecting the respective cost of the Implementing Partners for staffing the Secretariat.

### 1.3 Consideration and approval of the draft CREWS Operational Procedures Note No1 on programming and Project Development

12. The CREWS procedures for programming and project development were presented and proposed for Steering Committee approval.
13. The Steering Committee raised several points as follows. Mentioning their work on insurance schemes, Germany suggested to the interaction between EWS and insurance schemes as a criteria for selection of projects.
14. It was further suggested to add coherence and coordination as an additional principle for CREWS programming, along with gender-sensitive programming.
15. Partners also suggested to better reflect the “last mile principle” of reaching people in the document.
16. A presentation on gender sensitive programming for CREWS was delivered.
17. The Steering Committee welcomed the presentation, and discussed the points as follows. UNISDR mentioned they are working with UNWOMEN on a DRM gender marker to be included in Sendai targets monitoring, and would work together with the CREWS team to ensure alignment with the overall system. Australia agreed to the points above and added that it should also be included in the Monitoring and Evaluation principles.

### Decision 2.2

- **The Steering Committee approves the Operational Procedures Note No 1 Programming and Project Development, with the pending inclusion of three additional programming principles; (1) people-centered, (2) gender sensitive and (3) coherence and coordination. A further change will reflect the importance to align with existing initiatives on risk-sharing and insurance in the country projects at the stages of the identification of programming priorities and implementation. The revised Note will be circulated to the Steering Committee for approval, under a no-objection procedure.**
- **The Steering Committee requests the CREWS Secretariat to develop, in consultation with the gender experts in the Implementing Partners organizations, an Operational Procedures Note on Gender Sensitive Programming for CREWS for consideration at the next Steering Committee meeting.**

### 1.4 Consideration and approval of the draft CREWS Operational Procedures Note N°2 on Monitoring and Evaluation

18. The CREWS modalities for project monitoring and evaluation were presented and proposed for approval.

19. The Steering Committee welcomed the presentations, and shared the following observations. The Netherlands requested clarification on how the CREWS impact will be measured, as the proposed indicators are at country level. It was clarified two points: (1) that the proposed Monitoring Framework will serve as a guide for the indicators used in the project proposals, that will be country based indicators, measured by the Implementing Partners; and (2) the Monitoring Framework will also allow the aggregation of country indicators to reflect how CREWS is contributing to national targets of the countries and global targets, such as those in the Sendai Framework, the Sustainable Development Goals and the Climate Change Paris Agreement.

### **Decision 2.3**

- **The Steering Committee approves the Operational Procedures Note No. 2 on Monitoring and Evaluation, with the pending inclusion of gender sensitive aspects in the Monitoring Framework once the Operational Procedures Note on Gender Sensitive Programming for CREWS has been developed. The revised Note will then be circulated to the Steering Committee for approval, under a no-objection procedure.**
- **The Steering Committee requests the Secretariat to revise the Template Format for project submissions and the Monitoring Framework to reflect gender considerations.**

### **1.5 Presentation of CREWS projects**

20. The Chair reminded the Steering Committee of the purpose of this agenda item, namely – to decide on projects proposals that are of sufficient level of development to pipeline them for future no objection approval, once sufficient funds are in the Trust Fund.
21. Implementing Partners were invited to present the projects, of which five were already submitted for approval, and two projects that are part of the Investment Plan will be submitted later:
- a. GFDRR presented the projects for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Mali;
  - b. WMO presented the Burkina Faso and Pacific region projects;
  - c. UNISDR presented the project focusing on LDCs and SIDS participation at the International Conference on Early Warning.
22. The Steering Committee discussed the various projects. Clarification was provided on the choice of the countries, which are among the most in need and with the least developed EWS; the need to bring co-financing to complement Global Climate Fund's funding; the complementarity and sustainability of the projects. UNDP suggested to consider synergies with three activities they're engaged in Africa on climate resilience, hydromet, and a new vision for weather and climate information, and proposed to collaborate on these. Australia proposed to forward later comments on the proposal for the Pacific.
23. The Steering Committee was reminded of the proposal made at the First Steering Committee to include a CREWS project for the Caribbean, also reiterated by the ACP Group representative.
24. In this regard, it was suggested to revise the Investment Plan to include a Caribbean country project.

### **Decision 2.4**

- **The Steering Committee took note that Australia will circulate written comments on the Pacific project proposal.**

- **The Steering Committee approved the five projects submitted pending the availability of funds in the Trust Fund.**
- **The Secretariat was invited to consult with the Implementing Partners to prioritize and set a timeline for the allocation of funds based on project readiness and the advancement of consultations in country, keeping the Chair informed. The proposed allocations will be circulated to the Steering Committee for approval, under a no-objection procedure.**
- **The Secretariat was invited to consult with the three Implementing Partners and relevant regional organizations in the Caribbean (CDEMA, the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) and the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology- CIMH) to carry out a rapid mapping of capacity, gaps, needs and ongoing initiatives on early warning in order to allow the Steering Committee to identify a priority country or priority countries to guide discussions at the upcoming session of the Steering Committee.**
- **Based on the result of the mapping, the Steering Committee will revise the Investment Plan to include a project(s) from the Caribbean region.**

### **1.6 Any other business and date of next meeting**

25. France updated the meeting on the status of preparation for the Special Event on CREWS on 16 November at the COP22, and invited partners to confirm the participation of their respective high-level representatives.
26. Options for the date and location of the next SC meeting were discussed. It was suggested that the decision will be communicated by the Chair in the first quarter of 2017. Members welcomed Steering Committee organized concurrently with other international fora and/or through video link to avoid additional travel.

### **Decision 2.5**

- **The Chair will revert to the Steering Committee by email with a suggested date and time for the Third Meeting either in the margins of the Global Platform or the in the margins of the Subsidiary Body meetings of the UNFCCC.**

### **1.7 Summary of proceedings and closing remarks**

27. The draft Steering Committee decisions were reviewed and agreed upon.
28. The 2nd CREWS Steering Committee draft Meeting Report, including draft decisions will be circulated by the Chair for review by the Steering Committee prior to finalization.

## Annex I - List of Participants

<b>Contributing Partners</b>		
France (Chair)	Ms. Brigitte Collet	Ambassador for renewable energies and climate risk prevention
	Mr. Michel Pré	Environment and climate Department , MAEDI/DGM/DDD
	Ms. Marie-Pierre Meganck	International and European affairs Unit MEEM/DGPR
Australia	Ms. Emily Pugin	Multilateral Policy Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
	Mr. Russel Miles	Multilateral Policy Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Germany	Mr. Philipp Knill	Special unit Climate - Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
Luxembourg	Mr. Georges Gehl	Ministère du Développement durable et des Infrastructures Département de l'Environnement
The Netherlands	Mr. Vincent Swinkels	Climate Unit - Ministry of Foreign Affairs
<b>Observers</b>		
ACP Secretariat	Mr. Olusola Ojo	Expert - Sustainable Economic Development and Trade Department
New Zealand	Ms. Amy Tisdall	Environment Division at Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade
Switzerland	Mr. Frank Bertelsbeck	DRR Programme Officer - Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
UNDP	Ms. Cassie Flynn	Climate Change Advisor
<b>Trustee</b>		
World Bank	Mr. Jonathan Caldicott	Sr Financial Officer Development Finance
<b>Implementing Partners</b>		
WMO	Mr. Maxx Dille	Director Climate prediction and adaptation branch
	Ms. Mary Power	Director - Office for Resource Mobilization and Development Partnerships
UNISDR	Ms. Shoko Arakaki	Chief Regional Program Coordination and National Implementation Support
	Mr. John Harding	Program Officer
WB/GFDRR	Mr. James Close	Director Climate Change
	Mr. Francis Ghesquiere	Head of GFDRR Secretariat
	Ms. Manuela Chiapparino	Team Leader GFDRR Europe and European Donors relations
	Ms. Cristina Otano	Sr Partnership Specialist
	Ms. Henriette B. Mampuya	Disaster Risk Management Analyst



## Annex II - Provisional Agenda

9 November 2016

Venue: Ecole Supérieure des Arts Visuels, B.P. n° 4006 Marrakech-Amerchich, Morocco

Time	Agenda Items
12.30 – 13.00	Registration
13.00 – 13.20	Agenda item 1 - Welcome and adoption of the Agenda
13.20 – 13.40	Agenda item 2 - CREWS status
13.40 – 14.20	Agenda item 3 - Consideration and approval of the draft CREWS Operational Procedures Note N°1 on Programming and Project Development
14.20 – 14.50	Agenda item 4 - Consideration and approval of the draft CREWS Operational Procedures Note N°2 on Monitoring and Evaluation
14.50 – 15.10	Coffee break
15.10 – 17.00	Agenda item 5 - CREWS projects
17.00 – 17.15	Agenda item 6 - Any other business and date of next meeting
17.15 – 17.30	Agenda item 7 - Summary of proceedings and closing remarks