



CREWS PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT




(July – December 2021)




1. Project title	Niger - Early Warning Services Modernization	2. Project reference CREWS/CProj/07/ Niger
3. Implementing Partners involved in the project	World Bank (Lead) World Meteorological Organization	4. Regional/National Partners involved in the project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Humanitarian Action and Disaster Risk Management (MAH/GC) which ensures CREWS Coordination • General Directorate of Civil Protection (DGPC) • General Water Resource Directorate/National Hydrologic Directorate (DGRE/DHL) • National Meteorological Directorate (DMN); • Coordination Cell of Early warning system (CC/SAP) of food security • National Agency for Information society (ANSI)
5. Project Duration/Timeframe (from year – to year)	December 2017 – December 2022	6. Total Funding Approved by Steering Committee (in US dollars), including fees 2,740,000
7. Reporting focal point(s) from Implementing Partners	Claudia Soto, Disaster Risk Management specialist: csoto@worldbank.org Pinghouinde Michel Nikiema: pmnikiema@wmo.int	
8. Project overview	<p>Please include objectives, key project deliverables, leveraging, contextual information/statistics, significant events during the reporting period in bullet points. (max 250 words)</p> <p><u>Budget</u>: US\$ 2.74 million - implemented by the WB/GFDRR and WMO.</p> <p><u>Leveraging</u>: CREWS Niger is implemented in close synergy with the Niger Disaster Risk Management and Urban Development Project (P145268) and the Climate Smart Agriculture Project (P153420), both financed by IDA, and Climate Information Development and Forecasting (PDIPC) investment project financed by AfDB-AfDF. The immediate response mechanism (IRM) activated on November 2020 following the unprecedented 2020 flooding in Niger contributed with US\$55000 to establish a communication strategy with its action plan to prevent the (re) settlement of the population in the areas with flooding risk. The CREWS Niger is also informing</p>	



	<p>the preparation of the IDA-financed US\$250M Niger Integrated Urban Development and Multi-sectoral Resilience Project (P175857) planned for board approval in FY22 as well as West Africa Food System Resilience Program (P172769 – US\$45M for Niger), which was approved in November 2021. The amount of funding leveraged is US\$28M (US\$10M from P145268, US\$5M from P153420, US\$13M from PDIPC) or x10.</p>
<p>9. Progress summary</p>	<p>What has been achieved during this reporting period? – Please list in bullet points the most significant and tangible outcomes? (Highlight at least 1 key achievement that can be elaborated in the 2021 Annual Report). (max 250 words)</p> <p><u>To</u> strengthen and scale up the achievements gained by the Government with CREWS's support in Niger, a diagnostic is being conducted to propose a modernization plan of weather, climate, water and early warning services in Niger. It is being carried out by a firm recruited with resources from CREWS-Niger. The objective of this assignment is to conduct an evidence-based analysis informing the strengthening and modernization of Niger’s hydromet and early warning services. More specifically, the assignment includes the following tasks: (i) Prepare a brief inception report, (ii) Identify user needs along the entire value chain of hydromet and associated services, (iii) Assess the regulatory and institutional framework, governance structure, as well as human resources of NMHS ; (iv) Assess the status of regional and international collaboration as well as data sharing arrangements in support of hydromet services and civil protection in Niger ; (v) Take stock of the current status of the NMHS after a thorough review of the existing diagnostics; (vi) Identify the potential for public-private engagement and co-creation of hydromet service with private sector actor, (vii) Identify investment needs for strengthening and transforming NMHS ; and (viii) Provide evidence-based guidance on prioritizing investments based on benefit cost analysis, user needs as well as sustainability aspects, also taking into account ongoing projects and programs. At this stage, the firm has done the tasks (i) and (ii) and provide the User needs and future beneficiaries report. The tasks (iii), (iv) and (v) are ongoing. The outcomes of this study will inform the concrete activities to be financed by Niger Integrated Urban Development and Multi-sectoral Resilience Project (P175857) and the West Africa Food System Resilience Program (P172769).</p> <p>Consultants (hydrologists, meteorologist and a strategic planner) have been recruited to develop a National Strategic Plan (NSP) for Niger's climate, meteorological and hydrological services, which includes an action plan and a proposal to structure a monitoring framework to follow-up of actions. This will allow the DMN (Directorate of National Meteorology) and DGRE/DHL((Directorate General for Water Resources-DGRE / Directorate of Hydrology-DHL)) to improve their respective organizational management, setting priorities and focusing actions and resources to jointly develop and deliver services according to the needs of end users in the country.</p>

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	Disbursement December, 2021 From WB side: is \$1,90 million (84.76% of total amount) From WMO side: <u>\$250,000</u> (100% of total amount)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postponing of certain activities due to COVID-19 • Difficulties also in the development of certain types of ToRs by national actors • Project closing date has been extended to December 2022 	Fully aligned on the EWS objectives as well as the country development priority.

11. Risk Management Status

Risk Status	What is the current risk status as compared to what was identified in the project proposal? Medium/Moderate: In addition to difficulties to implement some activities because of limited capacity, the COVID-19 situation caused additional delays on implementation of mains activities started since 2020.
Measures to address	What mitigation measures have been developed to address the risk status? : As it is difficult to develop certain activities which need to gather or bring many people together, it'll be necessary to identify those which need only to

hire the short term consultant (STC) at local level, Agreement with CMU to relaunch certain training planned by DGPC and CC/SAP stopped due to the Covid-19 pandemic measures, to do them in the 2022.
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12. Contributions to CREWS Output(s)

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

12.1 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	Progress by July 2021	Target for reporting period	Progress by December 2021
Output 1.1: Availability of improved daily weather forecast bulletins by Hydro and Met services. These should include forecasts of extreme weather and droughts by the National Directorate for Meteorology (DMN) and of floods and low flows in the Niger and Komadougou Rivers by the Directorate of Hydrology (DHY).	3	2	2	2
Output 1.2: Enhanced capacity of DMN and DHY services in data analysis and processing. Currently DMN and DHY produce monitoring bulletins in relation with drought (food security) and riverine flooding (in the Sirba watershed and in Niamey). By the end of the project, flash flooding will also be forecasted and monitored.	3	0	2	2
Output 1.3: Enhanced capacity of DMN in meteorological and climate observing, by training of observers in codes and observations, measurements in altitude, cartography, IT and airport practical training (number of observers trained)	20	20	20	20



Output 1.4 : Strategic plans established for NMHSs, guiding the capacity development of national services for 2022-2026	2	0	20	20
<p>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></p> <p>People-centered – demonstrate how the capacity building of DHL actors has resulted in the regular production of information bulletins to reach people</p> <p>National Directorate of Hydrologic (DHL) : It has produced and disseminated decadal bulletins from June to September 2021, i.e. 12 bulletins produced and disseminated. These bulletins give an update on the water flow situation of the Niger River and its tributaries (i.e. Sirba, Gorouol) and the Komadougou Yobé. It also contributed to the production and dissemination of the hydro-climatic situation of the Niger River, the Sirba and the Komadougou Yobe with the support of the national framework for climate services. Monthly hydrological bulletins from June to October 2021, i.e. 5 in total, are also produced and disseminated. A note on the Guinean flood produced and disseminated in January 2021 and another note on the local flood of the Niger River produced and disseminated in September 2021.</p> <p>National Meteorological Directorate (DMN): DMN produced a daily briefing bulletin giving the weather situation of the day and the forecast for the next 24 hours from Monday to Friday and a special weekend bulletin which is produced on Friday and broadcast. These 6 bulletins are regularly produced each week by the DMN and disseminated through WhatsApp groups set up by CREWS actors, the CC/SAP for dissemination via the community radios in place in Niger and the MAH/GC for the women leaders. Also, in its support to the National Climate Services Framework (NCSF), it supports the production of the following monthly bulletins: Climate and Agriculture, Climate and Health, Climate and Energy, Climate and Water Resources and Climate and DRR.</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	Progress by July 2021	Target for the reporting period	Progress by December 2021

Output 2.1: National communication strategy	1 communication Strategy document	ToR	1 communication strategy document focused on sensitizing populations against their settlement and resettlement in flood-prone areas is being prepared within the Immediate Response Mechanism (IRM)	A draft is available with its action plan
Output 2.2: National communication plan	1 national communication plan	1	1	1
<p>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.</p> <p>People-centered: In connection with the disastrous consequences of floods recorded in recent years, the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and Disaster Management has produced a communication plan with individuals, groups of people, community-based organizations and civil society organizations in order to stimulate their interest, increase their knowledge, inform their decisions, modify their attitude and positively change their behavior. The objective of this plan is to establish effective risk reduction communication by identifying relevant and far-reaching communication interventions that can effectively prevent and manage the occurrence of floods at all stages of the disaster event. The plan is developed and reviewed annually to ensure consistency and coordination of communication interventions before, during and after floods. It is built on a diagnostic basis of the flood communication situation, communication activities in relation to objectives, targets, messages, channels and media and a monitoring and evaluation mechanism to measure performance as the plan is implemented. The awareness-raising activities developed and implemented by women leaders in particular are continually inspired by this.</p>				

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 July 2021	Target for the reporting period	Progress by December 2021
Output 3.1: Availability and access to a communication system to deliver timely and adequate alert to vulnerable communities based on the national alert code	Wide diffusion of the national alert code	Spot for awareness on flood produced in several local languages and broadcasted	1 package of spot produced on flood and Covid-19 awareness	3 new spots produced by MAH/GC
<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New awareness spots based on the previous ones and focusing on gender were produced with the support of other partners and disseminated. • Women leaders trained in risk management used them in the regions of Tillaberi, Tahoua, Maradi and Niamey. 				

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 July 2021	Target for the reporting period	Progress by December 2021
Output 4.1: Establishment of operational center for Monitoring and Conduct of Crises (COVACC) and the adoption of the national alert code	COVACC is operational	COVACC is operational	Implementation of the COVACC in the field	The deconcentrated structures of COVACC are being set up in the regions
Output 4.2: Training workshop on Communal Preparedness Planning		Postponed due to COVID-19		



Output 4.3: Training workshop on Disaster local impact assessment	The capacity of the 66 local team enhanced	Postponed due to COVID-19		
Output 4.4 Operational Center for Monitoring and Conduct of Crises (COVACC)			Implementation of the COVACC in the field	Implementation is ongoing
Output 4.5 Multi-risk Contingency plan established		Not started due to Covid-19		
<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People-centered - COVACC: It ensured the permanent monitoring of hydrometeorological phenomena to alert the authorities and the populations exposed to an imminent risk of flooding. To this end, warning and awareness messages were drafted and disseminated by the COVACC through public and private media before and during the rainy season. It also involved the coordination of the evaluation of the impacts of these floods continuously and shared with the actors after validation by the floods' committee. • Multiplier effect - To scale the previous results of CREWS, COVACC has conducted a training activities, with the support of others partners, were firstly focused on the retraining of its members and secondly on the training of the members of the regional CCOs. To this end, nine (9) workshops were organized with the objective of improving the COVACC and its branches. The different trainings are: 1) the initial response time when detecting signs, 2) announcing crises; 3) the evaluation of the crisis and ensure an optimal conduct from the first moments; 4) the monitoring and anticipation of the evolution of the events likely to affect durably the collective life and to engage, if necessary, the sending of significant reinforcements in a given area; 5) the rapid mobilization of the most appropriate resources and ensuring their follow-up and localization throughout the engagement; 6) the permanence of crisis management; 7) the optimization of the quality and speed of information in order to meet the requirements of the authorities 				

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 July 2021	Target for the reporting period	Progress by December 2021



Output 5.1: <i>Organizing a study trip on Tunisia to explore a model of a CRIMSON solution</i>		Trip postponed		
Output 5.2: <i>Development of skits and other products for awareness and flood warning by MAH/GC</i>	At least two products developed	Spot produced in several local language and broadcasted	3 new spots produced with support from UNICEF	3
	Kit for prevention of Covid-19.	12 municipalities supported 11 groups of women DRM leaders	0	0
<p>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.</p> <p>In 2021, the Ministry supported women leaders in Tahoua, Maradi, Tillabéri and Niamey with the support of UNICEF for a six-month sensitization on flooding. An action plan is being prepared to provide them with working tools. Through this platform, the ministry regularly shares alerts, sensitizations on floods, information and warning bulletins and weather reports with the presidents of women leaders who in turn also share in their regional groups. They have thus become good relays and work in close collaboration with the MAHGC regional coordinators. Also, the Ministry relies on these women leaders for any communication action related to Disaster Prevention and Management. They also initiate awareness and solidarity actions of their own accord in their respective regions.</p>				

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

State Project Output(s) in this section	Overall Project Target	Progress by July 2021	Target for the reporting period	Progress by December 2021
Output 6.1: Women training on EWS and disaster risk management	600 women trained and sensitized	Achieved 600 women trained and sensitized	N/A	N/A



Output 6.2: Training on improving the presentation of television bulletins by DMN	5	5	N/A	N/A
<p>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.</p> <p>Multiplier and Gender-responsive: Groups of women leaders in the regions of Tahoua, Maradi, Tillabéri and Niamey initiated by CREWS and MAH/GC have been carrying out sensitization actions on floods for six months under the supervision of MAH/GC with the support of UNICEF.</p> <p>Training of 600 women leaders on early warning and DRM, with network established organically. This network was set up by the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and Disaster Management through the Directorate of Disaster Prevention and Alert (DPAC), which received technical and financial support from CREWS to train 600 women leaders in the eight regions of Niger in January 2020 on disaster prevention and management, particularly floods, which are more recurrent. Following these trainings, the women leaders have created a platform (a WhatsApp group) in all regions to share information. In Tillabéri and Maradi, they have created Associations of women leaders for Disaster Management and Prevention recognized by order of the competent authorities. (The one in Tillabéri is N012/GTI of April 20, 2021 of the Association of Women Leaders GNAYZE FABADIS Disaster Management of the Tillabéri region). The DPAC has set up, under the supervision of the Prevention Division, an informal national platform called the Women Leaders Network, which brings together the presidents of the various regional platforms. These platforms function as follows: Information flows in two directions, first they share information among themselves at the regional level and then the chairperson shares the information with the national platform administered by the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Division (DPAC) of MAH/GC. In the other sense, the national platform shares information on disaster management and prevention to the members who are the chairs of the regional platforms, which in turn disseminate information to their respective platforms. In order to operate, they pay their own membership fees, and the MAH/GC often supports them through its technical and financial partners. In 2021, the Ministry supported women leaders in Tahoua, Maradi, Tillabéri and Niamey with the support of UNICEF for a six-month sensitization on flooding. An action plan is being prepared to provide them with working tools. Through this platform, the ministry regularly shares alerts, sensitizations on floods, information and warning bulletins and weather reports with the presidents of women leaders who in turn also share in their regional groups. They have thus become good relays and work in close collaboration with the MAHGC regional coordinators. Also, the Ministry relies on these women leaders for any communication action related to Disaster Prevention and Management. They also initiate awareness and solidarity actions of their own accord in their respective regions.</p>				

13. Visibility products

14.

- 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*

- *Development of a diagnostic and modernization plan of weather, climate, water and early warning services in Niger is on-going. This plan will be closely articulated with the respective strategic plans for DMN (meteorology) and DH (hydrology).*
- *A National Alert Code is officially endorsed and operational.*
- *Trainings on EWS and DRM were delivered for 600 women leaders around the eight regions of Niger. Trainings were carried out for 20 meteorological observers, in partnership with AGRHYMET.*
- *The user training of PADRE database was conducted for technicians from the Ministry of Humanitarian Action.*