

**Proposed Amendment to the CREWS
Investment Plan 2016-2020
Western Africa**

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

CREWS Members



Australia



France (Chair)



Germany



Luxembourg



Netherlands

CREWS Observers



Canada



Japan



New Zealand



Switzerland



ACP

Implementing Partners



Western Africa Regional Work Plan

Level of disaster risk ¹	BF: 38 Mali: 27 Niger: 25 out of 191 countries	Average Annual Loss to disasters ² (USD million)	BF: 25.04 Mali: 56 Niger: 24.43	Access to information and communications (ICT index) ³	BF: 159 Mali: 145 Niger: 175 out of 175 countries
Capacity of NMHS	BF: Low monitoring coverage, low resolution weather forecasts and seasonal forecasts Mali: Low Niger: Low	Status of hydromet and EW services	BF: Agro-meteorological bulletin every 10- days Mali: Weak Niger: Very weak	Disaster loss and risk data to inform early warnings	BF: Low (disaster loss database under development) Mali: Projects on hold, lack of institutionalization Niger: Low (National disaster loss database developed, limited risk information)
Capacity of ACMAD ⁴	Provision of support for national EW services is weak due to outdated data products, and lack of technical/scientific capacity, professional staff, and data sharing arrangements				
Demand/priority	BF: High Mali: High Niger: High	Leveraging Potential	BF: High Mali: High Niger: High ACMAD: High		

1 Descending ranking of risk based on the INFORM Index. 2 Average Annual Loss (AAL) projected cost of disasters for the country's economy per year 3 Ascending ranking countries' access to information and communications based on ICT Development Index 2015. 4 WISER report: Capacity Needs Assessment of ACMAD

Timeline 3 years (2018-2020)

Budget (US \$ million) 1.5

Context

The CREWS-initiative supports the national developments of early warning services in three Western African Least Developed Countries (LDCs) Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger (currently under development). Regional support for forecasting and early warning is needed to further strengthen the national capabilities. Regional centers provide support by preparing and disseminating monitoring and forecasting products, risk analyses and by organizing training and capacity building for National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) and high impact sectors. NMHSs of the Sahel region are supported by the Regional Climate Centre (RCC) at the African Centre of

Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) in Niamey, and the Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre (RSMC) in Dakar.

The capacity of ACMAD to deliver its climate services for DRR and MHEW to key users and sectors in CREWS target countries in Western Africa is limited. An assessment of the capacity needs of ACMAD was made and recommendations are given to improve on computer and communication infrastructure, technical and scientific skills of staff, monitoring and forecast products, and regional institutional coordination.

The aim of this project is to strengthen the EWS capacity in Western Africa by reinforcing ACMAD to function as a RCC that supports NMHSs, and to consolidate collaboration and coordination between Regional Centers and NMHSs. It will strengthen and complement the national CREWS projects in this region.

Key Deliverables

Improvement of basic systems: - data bases containing climate data, indices of climate extremes and impacts; - development/validation of forecasting capabilities; - preparation of monitoring products based on satellite and in-situ observations, and existing international datasets (e.g. Copernicus products);

Capacity building: -training on the use and tailoring of regional EWS products; - workshop to foster collaboration, coordination and raise awareness of decision and policy makers in the region in the field of early warnings; - Training to prepare, optimize, and disseminate EWS products tailored to user needs

Institutional strengthening: -collaboration with regional outlook fora, regional observational data providers, NMHSs, and (regional) EWS product users; active participation in the international RCC network.

Partners

World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI), German Meteorological Service (DWD) and ACMAD

Further collaboration with RSMC-Dakar, AGRHYMET, NMHSs in Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger, EU/Copernicus Climate Change Service, World Bank/GFDRR, UNISDR

KNMI, DWD and MétéoFrance are the European Regional Climate Center (RCC) nodes on climate data, monitoring and long-range forecasting respectively. Regional support for early warning will be organized through twinning KNMI and DWD (two European RCC-nodes) and the African RCC at ACMAD, and will be aligned to national CREWS projects in Mali, Burkina Faso (both with involvement of MétéoFrance).