



Recent activities in the Ibero-American meteorological cooperation of AEMET

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Cooperation with Ibero-American NMHSs has been a traditional priority of the Spanish Meteorological Service in the last 50 years. Since 2003, this cooperation is organized mainly by the Conference of Directors of the Ibero-American NMHSs (CIMHET), promoted by National Institute of Meteorology of Spain (now AEMET) and composed of the heads of all the NMHSs of Ibero-America, including those of Portugal and Spain.

CIMHET provides a forum for dialogue and cooperation, with the active participation of WMO and with AEMET holding the secretariat of the organization. In order to contribute to the development of the NMHSs so that they can provide the best possible service to their societies, CIMHET approved the creation of an Ibero-American Meteorological Cooperation Program (PCMI), which carries out the activities included in the action plans discussed and approved in the annual meetings of CIMHET.

CIMHET has allowed to establish a joint line of action among Iberoamerican NMHSs, access to different financing mechanisms, especially from the EU, collaborate with different cooperation programs established in the region and carrying out intersectoral workshops with other Ibero-American networks with complementary interests, such as the Conference of Ibero-American Water Directors (CODIA) and the Ibero-American Network of Climate Change Offices (RIOCC).

Currently is developing the 2018-20 Plan, on three strategic lines: Institutional strengthening and resource mobilization, Provision of meteorological, climatic and hydrological services and Training. Among the main activities that are being developed, should be highlighted:

- Implementation of a regional Central American lightning detection system, financed through EU LAIF funds and expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2019
- Generation of downscaling climate change scenarios for Central America, financed through the Climate Governance Program of the EUROCLIMA + Project, managed by the International Foundation for Ibero-America on Administration and Public Policies (FIIAPP).
- Celebration of intersectoral workshops with CODIA and RIOCC, which have planned a series of activities of common interest between these three sectors, such as: the development of Regional Virtual Prediction Centers for Adverse Hydrometeorological Phenomena; Generation of regionalized climate change scenarios for different regions, including the recovery of climate data; Design of projects to strengthen the NMHSs for better service provision; Economic evaluation of the impacts of severe hydrometeorological events for the awareness of the decision makers
- Continue with the training program, including courses and workshops on technical matters as well as management on NHMSs

For the development of these activities there is a trust fund established by Spain in the WMO to develop the PCMI, as well as the active participation of other institutions such as the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), who through its four training centers in Ibero-America contributes substantially to the development of training activities, the FIIAPP and EUMETSAT