



Harnessing knowledge and expertise from meteorological institutions - current practices on early warning system development with least developed countries.

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Neutral analysis of practices in the implementation and application of effective weather and climate services by development partners is not readily available. In order to learn from effective programme implementation, there is a need to identify, collect and analyse practices to distil key elements for replication, expansion and collaboration. This presentation draws on the experience of work across 19 least developed countries and small island developing States. It addresses effective modalities for cooperation drawing on the expertise of meteorological institutions, including national hydrometeorological services, academic institutions and specialized regional centres.

Documented practices will be shared, from Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Pacific region. They address the application of data management tools and models for specific sectoral needs, as well as advisory service for institutional strengthening and the development of standard operational procedures. Early lessons from current practices have been identified regarding the sustainability of investments, the maintenance of equipment, developing agreements between institutions, capacity building and the co-development of certain services.

The Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative was launched at the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties in 2015. It is a financing mechanism driven by the expertise and specialist network of its partners, the World Bank and its Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk reduction (UNISDR). The objective of CREWS is to close the capacity gap on weather, climate and hydrological services between developed and developing countries with sustained investment in early warning systems.

As of December 2018, CREWS works in three regions (Africa, Pacific and the Caribbean) for a portfolio of USD 50 million. Over twenty institutions provide expert services to CREWS country projects. CREWS is committed to continuous learning and to developing feedback loops for so-called 'agile or transformative development operations'.