



WMO Congress 2019: Public-Private Engagement in meteorological products and services.

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The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is an intergovernmental organization with a membership of 192 Member States and Territories. It originated from the International Meteorological Organization (IMO), the roots of which were planted at the 1873 Vienna International Meteorological Congress. Established by the ratification of the WMO Convention on 23 March 1950, WMO became the specialised agency of the United Nations for meteorology (weather and climate), operational hydrology and related geophysical sciences a year later. The Secretariat, headquartered in Geneva, is headed by the Secretary-General. Its supreme body is the World Meteorological Congress.

WMO, as a United Nations organization, is driven by the Global UN agenda. Today, it is based on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted in 2015 with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). The achievement of the 2030 SDGs will require different sectors and actors working together in an integrated manner by pooling financial resources, knowledge and expertise. The new development era with 17 intertwined SDGs and 169 associated targets as a blue print for achieving the sustainable 'Future We Want', cross sectorial and innovative multi-stakeholder partnerships will play a crucial role for meeting the targets by the year 2030.

Sustainable Development Goal 17, which reads "Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development", recognizes multi-stakeholder partnerships as important vehicles for mobilizing and sharing knowledge, expertise technologies and financial resources to support the achievement of the SDGs in all countries, particularly developing countries. Goal 17 further seeks to encourage and promote effective partnerships between public, private and academic sectors, as well as civil society, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships.

Starting from 2014, several important events organized or supported by WMO in cooperation with various partners, traced a new approach towards an extended engagement between the public, private and academic sectors in the context of the global weather enterprise. The 70th Session of the Executive Council (June 2018) and the 18th World Meteorological Congress (June 2019) will develop further the guidance and policies needed by Members to strongly encourage and enable mutually beneficial partnerships and engagement between all sectors and stakeholders bringing tangible benefits to industries, peoples and society as a whole.