



GWE Forum Meeting January 15, 2020

FOLLOW UP AND NEXT STEPS

GWE - Meeting Context

- GWEF Meeting took place on the margins of the 100th Annual Meetings of the American Meteorological Society. The idea was to present a new vision and areas of focus of the GWEF which strives to transit to a more practical-oriented mechanism.
- Forum discussed outcomes of the two recently released reports – “[Power of Partnership: Public and Private Engagement in Hydromet Services](#)” and “[Weathering the change: How to Improve Hydromet Services in Developing Countries](#)” published by the GFDRR.
- Insights were shared around the legal frameworks being considered to assist nations in establishing hydromet enterprises
- Relationship between Global Weather Enterprise Forum and Open Consultative Platform (OCP) - particularly in terms of OCP Regional Initiative(s) were discussed and clarified

Suggestions for Expert Groups:

The Forum will form “expert groups” around specific topics/pilots/events. Some ideas were expressed regarding the future potential expert groups.

- Expert/Working group on regulatory framework should include representation from all three sectors to ensure that it better understands the key roles that private sector , academia and other relevant sectors society can play in providing hydrometeorological services and to ensure that GWE has a voice in the policy and legislation development dialogue
- Expert groups should not necessarily be linked to a specific country pilot but rather look at a wider part of the hydromet value chain
- Although some of the pilots planned by the GFDRR are country focused, in general pilots could be established around regional initiatives or aligned to support cross-cutting initiatives
- General observation: the Forum can play a bigger role as a “help desk” bringing together experts and solutions, ideas and brainstorming. Sharing knowledge, views and building solutions using the expertise available in the Forum can address many specific questions/issues brought up by clients/projects?

Comments on pilots/projects (1)...

- Participants wanted to ensure that there would be effective coordination, sharing and learning from the two forums - OCP and GWEF. The vision of how both forums can be complimentary was presented during the meeting: OCP is focusing on the policy and institutional aspects while GWEF's main objective is to identify and test practical solutions on the ground. Through regular information sharing and cooperation, both forums will work towards an integrated approach.
- The lack of strategic planning is also highlighted as one of the shortcomings, especially in lesser developed countries. It complicates the implementation as well as the efficient use of resources. Pilots should contribute to continuity and long-term sustainability of the new hydromet systems and services as well as to support its core objective of rebuilding a countries' economic resilience.
- Strategy/road map development should ideally be contributing to the national weather enterprise design work. Different models are possible today which are not necessarily structured around traditional approaches. Therefore different options or scenarios should be developed for consideration to support build-up of hydromet services in a country. This should ideally be the first phase of any large investment.
- When we talk about design, we need to do a sober and realistic analysis of suggested solutions considering sustainability as main criteria. Context dependent solutions are necessary.

Comments on pilots/projects (2)...

- Pilot projects where possible should be anchored with some bigger initiatives (it will also help to ensure sustainability of the results)
- To further consider a pilot on standard specifications as a follow up of the work done with HMEI/WMO/Bank
- Recognized importance of gap filling for hydromet data and data sharing. WMO is organizing a data conference in November of 2020. Consideration should be given to engaging GWEF either as part of WMO initiative through OCP or to establish a pilot aimed at increasing “data sharing” with GTS/WIS to improve data coverage.
- Recognizing the importance of global and regional modelling centers to support national hydromet enterprise, GWEF (jointly with OCP and WMO) should encourage greater sharing of national data in the international data exchange. The global NWP models are less accurate over data sparse regions. However, there are examples of improvements in global models when national data were increased and shared, like for example in Ukraine – the national forecast improved after all station data was shared with ECMWF
- Human factor/capacity development should be added to the pilot projects - we need to educate, train and create enthusiasm with people who work in the meteorological offices. There is a need for management training, staff retention strategies and strengthening the value of leadership in core critical hydromet function for countries. Some approaches to encouraging better compensation for these posts would also be beneficial.

Questions:

Some of the questions that were raised during the discussion are captured below:

- What is the most appropriate way to create expert groups?
- Should we expand Membership in the GWEF, for example, DRM?
- How to better integrate academia/research/capacity building? What would be an example of an appropriate pilot?
- How to embrace all the new technologies available for countries? Inventory of new tools? Pros and cons? Information session on new tools, its advantages and constraints?
- Do we need to capture “lessons learn” including “not-so-successful” experience or focus instead on successful cases?

Next steps

Agreed to organize a meeting with private sector and procurement specialists in the Bank (March/April 2020) to address multiple questions and suggestions on procurement impediments.

- The workshop was planned for April 8 in Washington, DC, but it had to be postponed due to the global health situation.

To assess costing for the proposed pilots and form expert groups around them.

To agree on the format and venue of the next GWEF (currently, InterMET in July in Singapore but alternative could be Paris, MetTech, September).