Improving the value chain from observations to climate services to support climate policy, adaptation and mitigation in Africa

Joint GCOS – Copernicus – WIGOS – GFCS Workshop

**in collaboration with UNFCCC**

Uganda –31st October to 2nd November 2018

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| Aim | 1. Explain how products (weather forecasts, seasonal predictions, changing frequency of extreme events, etc.) available to countries (including NHMS) from reanalysis depend on local observations. Demonstrate the link from local observations to global reanalysis and back to local climate applications and services. These services will support responses to the regional findings of the IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C. 2. Link to HIGHWAY as example of a project aiming to reduce loss of life, in this case by providing better prediction of high impact weather on Lake Victoria. 3. Provide training in access to and use of Copernicus data products. 4. Identify regional observation and data needed for different application areas to improve these products and develop plans to address these needs. |
| Partners | Copernicus, WIGOS (through HIGHWAY), GCOS, GFCS |
| Location | Uganda, participants from East African countries, including: Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi |
| Participants | Invited: Mix of those who would use the data and higher-level managerial personnel to discuss observational needs  Representatives of Copernicus, GCOS, WIGOS, GFCS |
| Timing | 31 October – 2 November 2018 |
| Costing | Assume 5 countries, 3 people per country  5 from Copernicus/GCOS/WIGOS/GFCS  Venue needs computers and reliable internet |
| Duration | 3 days |
| Format | Options:   1. Plenary, with some breakout groups 2. Parallel sessions for Part 1 and 2   Part 1 contains practical training – need computers and reliable internet |
| Output | 1. A group of people able to access and use Copernicus data and toolkit 2. An analysis of the issues and problems facing sustainable observations for weather prediction and climate analysis in the region 3. A proposal for a sustainable solutions for different application areas; how to build on the basis provided by HIGHWAY and other development projects |
| Draft  Agenda | ***DAY 1:***   1. Intro to Copernicus, GCOS, GFCS and WIGOS 2. What is reanalysis? 3. Link national observations > NWP data assimilation > weather prediction> climate reanalysis > global and national outputs (forecasts, seasonal forecasts, longer projections etc.) > climate services. Discuss the main set of observations needed for different application areas. Note similarity in NWP and reanalysis needs and differences (accuracy, time series) connect this to the ECVs Observational requirements. Impact of improved observations on improved national products for different application areas. 4. What are the regional gaps in data supplied to major NWP/reanalysis centres; input from WMO Rolling Review of Requirements 5. Need for data exchange/open data access to support reanalysis and NWP 6. Need for data rescue – last 10-20 years/ longer term   ***Day 2-3 (parts in parallel):***  *PART 1: Use and availability of national data products*   1. Discuss how to access and use data. 2. Access to and use of Copernicus toolbox 3. From Products to Services   *PART 2: Observational issues and needs*   1. Gaps/issues/problems in national/local observations – national presentations    1. Gaps in observational networks    2. Problems with sustainable long-term operations 2. Results from HIGHWAY Gap Analysis Workshop to be held in Arusha, August 13-14 2018. 3. International Reporting of data – how? Who to? Codes etc. 4. Develop future plans:    1. Identify data rescue priorities    2. Prioritise new/restored sites    3. Regional v National needs    4. Identify regional funding opportunities |