

SUMMARY

Results of the Survey on Impacts of Achieved Results on Members

The biennial Survey on Impacts of Achieved Results on Members was conducted in August-December 2015 to assess performance in implementation of the WMO Strategic Plan 2012-2015. A total of 104 Members (54%) responded to the survey, with the following response rate per region: RA I (Africa): 53%; RA II (Asia): 44%; RA III (South America): 75%; RA IV (North America, Central America and the Caribbean): 68%; RA V (South-West Pacific): 29%; and RA VI (Europe): 63%.

The following are highlights of the most significant achievements and areas identified for improvement by Expected Result:

Expected Result 1

The major achievements associated with ER1 were high or mostly reliable access to products from global centres by most NMHSs and user satisfaction with NMHSs products, particularly with regard to timeliness, reliability and contribution to decision-making. However, user satisfaction with the range of products was slightly lower, particularly in Region I as relates to all categories and in Region III with respect to reliability, range of products and contribution to decision-making.

Expected Result 2

The major achievements included (a) active contribution to the implementation of multi-hazard early warning systems; (b) high proportion of Members with flood management plans established or under development, except for Regions IV and V where this rate was slightly lower; and (c) good participation in regional hydrological forecasting systems for transboundary river basins.

Expected Result 3

In terms of long-range forecasts and long-term projections, climate watch bulletins were considered to be the top quality product, whereas monthly and seasonal predictions were the timeliest products issued. Members also actively contributed to national local climate assessments and provided basic climate products. A large segment further provided climate diagnostics and climate analysis, conducted hazards and extreme value analysis and issued specialized climate products.

Areas for improvement include the quality and timeliness of long-term predictions as well as the development of new models and analytical tools, policy-oriented climate information, and products based on interdisciplinary models. There was further only a limited use of Quality Management Frameworks for Hydrology, with the lowest level of utilization in Region I.

Expected Result 4

Moderate progress was achieved in executing the WIGOS Implementation Plan and the functions defined in the Manual on WMO Information System (WIS). Most progress was achieved in Region II (in terms of WIGOS and WIS) and Region VI (WIS only). There was only limited progress in Region IV in terms of WIGOS and to a lesser extent Region I, whereas the WIS functions were least prevalent in Regions I and III.

Good progress was achieved on the GCOS Implementation Plan, though a fifth of the tasks remain to be carried out or further developed. The national climate user community further enjoyed high level of access to data archives at national or global climate centres operated by NMHSs. They were most accessible in Regions III, IV and VI and least accessible in Regions I

and V. A continued need for WMO-coordinated data rescue projects was further identified (highest in Region IV, followed by Regions I, V, and III) as well as improvement of climate data management systems, particularly in Regions I and II.

Expected Result 5

Member satisfaction was high with the usefulness of a) GAW measurement guidelines and reports and (b) sand-and-dust storm forecasting system and information. It was slightly lower regarding the GURME chemical weather activities. The operational products and services of NMHSs were also enhanced as a result of WMO research projects, specifically with respect to operational nowcasting services in Regions I, II and IV and access and use of outputs of ensemble modelling systems in Regions I and V. The design and operational use of mesoscale prediction systems saw fewer advances. The level of skill of climate predictions could also be improved, especially in Regions I and VI.

Expected Result 6

NMHSs achieved improved visibility and relevance in national development agendas, mostly as a result of user accessibility to forecasts and warnings and awareness by users on the types of services delivered. Least improvement was noted in terms of contribution to national policy setting. Regarding infrastructure and operational facilities, most progress was achieved in improving surface observing networks and forecasting across all regions. Region VI performed best in numerical weather prediction, followed by Region II. Regarding early warning and hazard risk assessment, Regions V and VI saw the greatest advances, closely followed by Region II. Improvements in the upper-air observing network proved most challenging, especially in Region I.

Regarding capacity development, there was very high level of satisfaction with the WMO Fellowship Programme and the Regional Training Centres (RTCs), especially in Region VI but also in Regions IV and II.

Expected Result 7

NMHSs were actively involved in international projects and the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). WMO and its co-sponsored programmes further contributed with reports to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification. Regarding communications, there was a high level of utilization of WMO public information outputs (e.g. website, press releases, videos, World Met Day materials, In the Media, Facebook, Twitter, etc.).

Expected Result 8

There was a moderate degree of satisfaction with the documentation for Cg-17 and EC-67 and a high degree of satisfaction with the supporting services (e.g. interpretation, paperless sessions).