

#### World Meteorological Organization Weather • Climate • Water

### The WMO Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project – bringing the benefits of leading NWP to developing countries

#### Ken Mylne

Chair DPFS (Data-processing and Forecasting Systems) & Chair SWFDP SG Thanks to Alice Soares (WMO), Caroline Bain and Bob Turner (Met Office), Eugene Poolman (S. Africa) and James Lunny (NZ)

WMO; WDS

#### **SWFDP Cascading Forecasting Process**

- <u>Global NWP</u> centres to provide available NWP/EPS and sat-based products, including in the form of probabilities, cut to the project window frame;
- <u>Regional centres</u> to interpret information received from global centres, prepare daily guidance products (out to day-5) for NMCs, run limited-area model to refine products, maintain RSMC Web site, liaise with the participating NMCs;
- <u>NMCs</u> to issue alerts, advisories, severe weather warnings; to liaise with user communities, and to contribute feedback and evaluation of the project;
- <u>NMCs</u> have access to all products, and maintained responsibility and authority over national warnings and services.





- RSMC analysis forecast information
- Guidance every day for the next 5 days
- Hazards: heavy rain, strong wind, high seas and swell, severe winter weather
- Guidance info made available through dedicated Webpage to NMCs
- Links to RSMC La Réunion TC forecasting

# SWFDP Guidance Products from RSMC Pretoria

Designated to

· Ehertunne

Regional Specialised eorological Center (RSMC)

Mag Day Mag Day

n-range (3-5 Days

SMC-PRETORIA

**VFDP Evaluation F** 

VM Africa

# Training

**Funded by NZ Ministry for the Environment** 



Tropical meteorology and climatology, "why do we need ensembles?", how to interpret NWP from different centres. 3-5 days per country.

# Aimed at a broad base of forecasters. No equations. More time spent on exercises than on lectures.

"DRR Day" – practical exercises involving outside agencies.





## **SWFDP Regional Projects**

- <u>Southern Africa</u> (ongoing; 16 countries; RSMC Pretoria, RSMC-TC La Réunion)
- <u>Southwest Pacific Islands</u> (ongoing; 9 Island States; RSMC Wellington, RSMC-TC Fiji)
- <u>Eastern Africa</u> (ongoing, 6 countries; RSMC Nairobi, RFSC Dar)
- <u>Southeast Asia</u> (in development, 5 countries; RFSC Hanoi)
- <u>Bay of Bengal</u> (in development, 6 countries; RSMC-TC New Delhi)
  - WMO global and regional operational centres (e.g. RSMCs)
  - 42 NMHSs of developing countries (29 of which are LDCs/SIDSs)
  - Several WMO programmes (i.e. GDPFS, PWS, TCP, DRR, MMO, AgM, SP, ETR, CD, LDC, RP, and WWRP) and technical commissions (i.e. CBS, CAgM, CHy, JCOMM, and CAS)



#### SWFDP East Africa





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#### Forecasting and nowcasting tools





#### Forecasting and nowcasting tools

# Satellite and remote sensing

(under construction on the website but access through EUMETSAT/ PUMA system)



**Severe Convection** 

#### Numerical Prediction Models



Forecaster guidance





## Daily Teleconferencing between forecasters





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#### Consider Tropical Cyclones Eline (2000) and Favio (2007) (both equivalent to Cat 4 hurricanes ~220 km/h winds)

- TC Eline 2000 Mozambique:
  - 700 deaths, 4.5 million affected
  - Mozambique was not prepared from a DRR perspective
  - Massive international rescue and support
- TC Favio 2007 Mozambique:
  - 29 deaths, 285000 affected
  - Warnings issued days in advance
  - Disaster management infrastructure mobilized
  - Communities prepared in prior training were successfully evacuated within 2 days
- How did improved EWS through SWFDP contribute to this success for TC Favio?



## Case Study: Tropical Cyclone Favio 20-24 Feb 2007



- TC Favio caused widespread damage over Mozambique and Zimbabwe
- The consistency of model forecasts provided confidence to RSMC Pretoria to issue guidance to NMCs on potential landfall and movement 5 days in advance
- The model forecast proved to be quite accurate with landfall at Vilancoulos, moving to Eastern Zimbabwe



#### Impact of Tropical Cyclone Favio

- In both Mozambique and Zimbabwe the NMCs agreed with the guidance products and issued warnings 5 days in advance to disaster management departments
- In Mozambique:
  - Provinces were put on alert levels
    - 2 3 days in advance
  - The public responded well and major loss of live were prevented
- In Zimbabwe:
  - Public received early warnings by radio, TV and newspapers 5 days in advance



## Evaluation

- Since Eline in 2000 there was a dramatic improvement in the entire DRR system in Mozambique
  - including EWS through SWFDP
- Question: How much of the savings of human lives can really be directly attributed to SWFDP?
  - SWFDP definitely lead to earlier warnings issued which resulted in earlier evacuations

# **The Future -** Expansion of SWFDP to a global Programme to Strengthen Operational Centres

Expansion of the SWFDP towards global coverage (3 development and demonstration phases)



Transition to sustainable operations (phase 4)

It requires a programme office to support non-operational activities and development of new SWFDP regional projects





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# Thank you for your attention

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