

QUARTERLY BRIEF FOR WMO NATIONAL PUBLIC WEATHER SERVICES (PWS) FOCAL POINTS

1 OCTOBER 2013 – 31 DECEMBER 2013

I have the pleasure of presenting you with this Quarterly Brief, in your capacity as the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Public Weather Services (PWS) Focal Point of your country. This Brief contains highlights of the activities undertaken during the last quarter of 2013 (1 October 2013 - 31 December 2013).

PWS Activities, Reports and Outcomes

Seminars on "Social and Economic Benefits of Service Delivery for Meteorological and Hydrological Services"

The Public Weather Services (PWS) Programme organized three seminars addressing the Social and Economic Benefits (SEBs) of Service Delivery for Meteorological and Hydrological Services. The seminars were held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, 21-25 October 2013; Johannesburg, South Africa, 11-15 November 2013; and Willemstad, Curaçao, 9-13 December 2013. The main objectives of the Seminars were to:

1. Increase the capacity of Meteorological services in determining and demonstrating the benefits of the services they provide to various user sectors;
2. Inform and strengthen the development of a WMO-World Bank joint publication on SEB through regional experience, expertise and insight; and



Some of the participants at the SEB Seminar in Johannesburg discuss how a SEB project initiative could be implemented in the Southern African Region

3. Introduce "The WMO Strategy for Service Delivery" and its Implementation Plan to National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in order to assist them raise the standard of service delivery to their users.

The participants shared their current practices on methodologies for assessing the socio-economic benefits of meteorological and hydrological services. They also tested a model for the assessment of current status in service delivery and methodology on how to improve the delivery of services. More information is available at the following web-link: http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/amp/pwsp/eventsworkshops_en.htm.

"Meeting of the Commission for Basic Systems Open Programme Area Group on Public Weather Services (PWS) Expert Team on Communication, Outreach and Public Education Aspects of PWS Delivery (CBS/OPAG-PWS ET/COPE)", WMO Regional Training Centre (WMO RTC), Nanjing, China, 28 October - 1 November 2013



The CBS/OPAG-PWS ET/COPE Expert Team Members during the meeting in Nanjing, China, 28 October 2013 - 1 November 2013

This Meeting agreed to develop an online toolkit to assist NMHSs that wish to develop a formal communication strategy for the engagement of external stakeholders. Such strategies can be very helpful in ensuring that the key messages are articulated and the target audience is successfully identified. The Meeting also agreed on developing a short Summary Guide for NMHSs on how to utilize Twitter during high-impact weather. The Guide will include tips on how to utilize Twitter for instant, real-time messaging and for keeping the public informed

of current conditions by interacting with the affected community. The Final Report of the meeting is available at the following web-link: http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/amp/pwsp/documents/ET-COPE_Final-Report.doc.

The “Fourth Coordination Meeting of the World Weather Information Service (WWIS) Website Hosts (WWIS-4)”, Warsaw, Poland, 27-29 November 2013



WWIS Website Host Experts at the “Fourth Coordination Meeting of the World Weather Information Service (WWIS) Website Hosts (WWIS-4)”, Warsaw, Poland, 27-29 November 2013

The meeting was convened to discuss coordination issues for the different WWIS language version websites. The WWIS (<http://worldweather.wmo.int/>) is now available in ten languages: Chinese; English; French; German; Italian; Polish; Portuguese and Spanish. WWIS is a global website that presents OFFICIAL weather observations, weather forecasts and climatological information for selected cities supplied by National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) worldwide. Links to their official weather service websites are also provided.

By December 2013, over 166 WMO Members supplied official weather forecasts and/or climatological data for 1,713 cities.

The Meeting discussed the finalization of a new version of WWIS which will be launched in mid-2014.

Other Activities

The following important activities were also carried out during the report period:

1. “Regional Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project (SWFDP) - Southern Africa Training Workshop on Severe Weather Forecasting and Warning Service”, Pretoria, South Africa, 18-22 November 2013;

2. “Regional SWFDP - Eastern Africa Training Workshop on Severe Weather Forecasting and Warning Services”, Bujumbura, Burundi, 18-22 November 2013;
3. The “Sixth RA I Training Course on Tropical Cyclones and Public Weather Services”, Saint Denis, La Réunion, France, 6-8 November 2013;
4. “Enhanced National Climate Services (ENACTS) Workshop”, Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, 16-17 October 2013;
5. “Stakeholders Workshop on the use of the new products and services” offered to the health sector by the Direction de la Météorologie du Madagascar (DGM), Antananarivo, Madagascar, 14 October 2013;
6. “Enhanced National Climate Services (ENACTS) Workshop” Antananarivo, Madagascar, 30 September-11 October 2013; and
7. The “10th Southern Hemisphere Workshop on Public Weather Services”, Nadi, Fiji, 2-4 October 2013.

More information is available at:

http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/amp/pwsp/eventsworshops_en.htm.

Feedback from Focal Points

We greatly appreciate the feedback that we receive from PWS Focal Points regarding their activities and experience. In order to share this feedback, please open the following link:

http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/amp/pwsp/PWS_National_Focal_Points_en.html.

We encourage you to write to us, using the contact information given below, and inform us about your experiences, for example, on how you are putting PWS publications to use, as well as how you are sharing such material with your colleagues.

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