



Voluntary Cooperation Programme

January – June 2010

New Newsletter

Welcome to the new version of the VCP Newsletter!

This new edition will not only inform you on the requests for assistance from National HydroMet Services that we have received and supported, it will also provide you with news and information from the Secretariat and from the field. We hope you like this new “look” and are looking forward to your comments and suggestions. To continue to receive this newsletter in the future, **please register online** at

http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/dra/nwsltr/index_en.php (tick the “VCP” box).

IPM Meeting held in Bali

The 2010 Informal Planning Meeting (IPM), our “donor members” roundtable, was held on 7 and 8 May in Bali, Indonesia and was well attended by the countries that support the Voluntary Cooperation Programme. Participants shared information and experiences in implementing a wide range of assistance projects across WMO regions and discussed priorities for the coming year. We are looking forward to another great year of working together. The report from the meeting is available for download if you want to read more about the huge level of support delivered to NMSs in more than 50 countries world wide.

<http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/dra/vcp/eventsandmeetings.php>

New Chair of IPM

Mr Steve Palmer of The Met Office resigned from his duties as chair of the IPM, a role he has cheerfully shouldered for many years. We would like to thank him for his efforts during his several terms as IPM chair and his many years of support to VCP and international cooperation within the WMO community. Mr Jaakko Nuottokari from the Finnish Meteorological Institute was elected as the new chair. We welcome him on board and look forward to working with him in the year ahead.

New Website online

The new VCP website was officially launched on 14 June 2010 at www.wmo.int/dra/vcp.

The site provides overview of the requests for VCP support and projects underway and serves as a platform accessing VCP and for current and new partners. The VCP

Secretariat is aiming through the website to give more visibility to partners and donors and linking to their websites. We encourage all VCP Project Managers to include this link in their e-mail signatures. For better internal coordination, the VCP Secretariat has also now has a single e-mail address – vcp@wmo.int.

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Requests for VCP assistance received during the period from January to June 2010

The VCP Secretariat received requests from Angola, Bahamas, Ecuador, Guyana, Mauritania, Moldova, Solomon Islands, Suriname, Tajikistan, Tanzania (2), Uruguay and Zimbabwe. For more details on these and other outstanding requests, please visit our website at www.wmo.int/dra/vcp/partner.

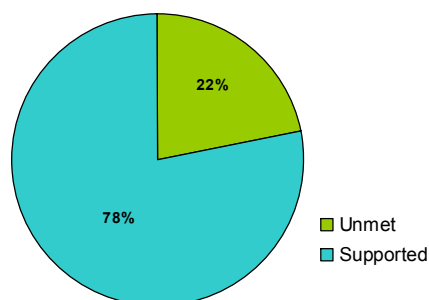
We welcome offers of support for unmet outstanding requests.

Requests supported and in process in 2010

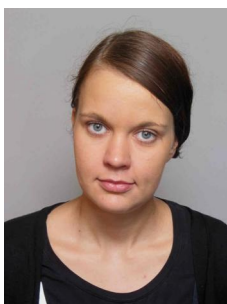
VCP requests from Angola, Cambodia, Guyana, Haiti, Mauritania, Moldova, Suriname, Tonga, Uruguay and Zimbabwe found partners. For an overview of on-going projects and links to partners and donors, please check our website at <http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/dra/vcp/on-going.php>.

Recent Statistics

Between 2008 and now, a total of 59 VCP requests were received. As can be seen from the graph below, we were able to support 78% of those requests, with only 13 requests outstanding. This is a great success for the VCP and we would like to thank everyone involved for their work and dedication to the programme.



New member of staff at the Secretariat



The Finnish government is supporting a Junior Professional Officer (JPO) within the VCP Secretariat. Ms Salla Himberg joined us on 1 June 2010 and her main task will be the administrative coordination of VCP requests, managing the database, being the main focal point for all VCP related questions and supporting VCP project implementation. We would like to welcome Salla to our team and wish her all the best.

The Met Office in the UK has, in line with their VCP contribution, seconded an expert to work at the WMO Secretariat. Mr Tom Butcher is working with the Resource Mobilization Office focused on finding new partners and donors and extending the relationships with the private sector. Tom has been with us since 26 April 2010 and will stay with the Secretariat for one year. We also welcome Tom to our team and wish him all the best with the challenging task ahead of him.



IPM Member honored

The MSC Patterson Medal was presented to Bruce Angle, Meteorological Service Canada, and a long time VCP supporter, for his significant contributions to Canadian and International meteorology through his efforts not only to advance Canada's interests but also to influence the international community to improve societal benefits for all countries by facilitating improved meteorological services. Bruce began his career in the Meteorological Service of Canada in 1979 as a Meteorological Technician. He quickly moved through the ranks to forecast operations in Newfoundland, to training in Cornwall and to his current position as Senior Advisor, International Affairs in 1996. Bruce has been recognized for his efforts in international relations. In 2002, he was honored with a Citation of Excellence from Environment Canada and has been recognized from the Caribbean, the WMO, UK and Australia. (© Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society)

Pictures: <http://www.cmos.ca/Patterson/GrimesAngle2009.html>

Tell us about yourself!

To promote our joint work (the Secretariat and Members) and gain new partners and donors, we would like to publish some of YOUR stories. So, have you organized a training session? Installed a new observing station? Let us know! Send us a short description of your project, along with some pictures, links to your website, documents, etc. and have it published on the WMO website (<http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/dra/vcp/field.php>) and inside this newsletter. Get greater visibility for your efforts. We are looking forward to receiving your stories.

Featured project – Support for Haiti

A WMO Mission (4-10 April 2010) assessed the immediate needs for rehabilitation of Haiti Met Service and observation system. HMS operations were greatly affected during the earthquake and needed immediate support to recommence issuing weather and flood warnings to community and relief organizations as the hurricane season approaches.

In the immediate term, WMO Members committed to providing office equipment, communication systems, internet connection, AWS and deployment of forecasters in addition to supplying the necessary data and information needed to produce forecasts and provide crucial weather information and emergency warnings. Members have also committed to training for new staff to enable the Met Service to become fully functional.

On a longer time-scale, WMO is completing a proposal for the full reconstruction of the HMS in the medium to long term. If you would like to support this project, please contact the Secretariat.



(Source: Harou, A.; Degrace, J.; Pieyns, S.)