



World Meteorological Organization

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Launch Workshop for the World Bank's Strengthening Early Warning of Mountain Hazards in Central Asia Project.

21 July 2016, Almaty, Kazakhstan



Objectives

The World Bank's Strengthening Early Warning of Mountain Hazards in Central Asia Project (P158373) will provide targeted technical assistance to National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) for operational early warning and risk assessment of severe weather, avalanches, flash floods, debris flows and landslides in mountainous regions, as well as help set the foundation for translating technical forecasts into products that are informed, understood and utilized by the NMHSs' users ("impact-based forecasting"). The objectives of the workshop are to:

- discuss and agree with NMHS leadership areas of support to be provided by the project, both at the national and regional levels;
- discuss potential modalities of support, particularly the notion of "twinning" in the Central Asian context; and
- ensure coordination with and support for related regional projects including CAHMP, CAMP4ASB, CA-WaRM, SWFDP-CA and CARFFG.



Participants

- Representatives of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (HMHSs) from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan as well as the World Bank and World Meteorological Organization (WMO) attended the meeting.



Participants (Cont.)



Common Hydro-meteorological Hazards in the CA Region

Participants stated that the most significant severe weather hazards in the region are: heavy precipitation;

- Flash floods;
- Mudflow;
- Landslides;
- Hail;
- Winds;
- Avalanche;
- Glacier melting;
- Heat waves; and
- Drought.



Challenges

Participants stated the challenges and needs as being:

- Lack of qualified human resources;
- Lack of closer cooperation and collaboration at the regional scale;
- Modernization of hydro-meteorological networks;
- High resolution mesoscale NWP models;
- Hydrological modelling; and
- Capacity building.



Outcomes of the Meeting

Main outcomes of the meeting were:

- participants agreed to proceed with the realization of the project; and
- participants agreed to limit the project implementation to two or three hydrometeorological hazards that are the most devastating and common in the region.



WMO proposal

WMO proposes to implement one or more the following topics within the scope of CARFFG System:

- Integration of Landslide/Mudflow module into CARFFG System;
- implementation of the FFG Routing Scheme (Riverine Forecasting) in a transboundary river basin in the region.



Recommendation

If participants agree on the WMO proposal, PR of Kazakhstan, being the RC, shall write a formal letter to the World Bank, coping to WMO on behalf of NMHSs of five Central Asian Countries to implement them within the framework of CARFFG System by Hydrologic Research Center (HRC).





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Thank you for your attention

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