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| **TASK TEAM ON THE PLAN FOR THE WIGOS PRE-OPERATIONAL PHASE (TT-PWPP-2)** |  | Submitted by: | Secretariat |
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# National WIGOS implementation

(Submitted by S. Barrell and B. Calpini, Co-Chairs, ICG-WIGOS)

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| **Summary and purpose of document**This document sets the scene on ”What do we expect at a national level”. |

**Action proposed**

The session is invited to consider the many aspects that national WIGOS plans need to address.

**4.1 National WIGOS implementation**

**Introduction**

1. For WIGOS to deliver on its vision for "an integrated, coordinated and comprehensive observing system to satisfy, in a cost-effective and sustained manner, the evolving observing requirements of Members in delivering their weather, climate, water and related environmental services", commitments and actions are required at the global, regional and national levels.
2. In the last financial period (2012-2015), WIGOS was guided by the WIGOS Implementation Plan and developed from a concept to a framework, with much of the focus on developing the building blocks essential for WIGOS implementation. Activity was largely focused at the global level, engaging the WIGOS Project Office, all of the technical commissions, especially CBS and CIMO, and their experts, supported by voluntary contributions from Members, to draft regulatory material, construct the WIGOS metadata profile, develop core components of the WIGOS Information Resource and deliver a comprehensive work program that spanned all of the WIGOS 'Key activity areas'. At the regional level, activity focused on the drafting and adoption of Regional WIGOS Implementation Plans, supported by a range of regional and sub-regional projects and capacity building activities.
3. The WIGOS Pre-operational Phase, which will occupy our attention over the 2016-2019 financial period, will take WIGOS through to operational readiness. Accordingly, a major focus will be on National WIGOS Implementation, which has been designated as one of five 'priority areas' for the WIGOS Pre-operational Phase. To complement this, much of the activity across the other four priority areas will be directed at developing the guidance material and the governance, coordination, information and quality systems that are essential to support Members in their efficient and effective implementation of WIGOS.



*Figure 4.1 The five priority areas of the WIGOS Pre-operational Phase will build on the WIGOS Framework and support the delivery of WMO's strategic priorities.*

**National WIGOS Implementation**

1. The leadership role of NMHSs in integrated observing systems is central to the success of WIGOS implementation. WIGOS provides an opportunity to strengthen the role of NMHSs in all aspects of their national mandates, from national coordination and exchange of observations across all relevant domains (weather, climate, hydrology, space weather, ocean, atmospheric composition, cryosphere, environment, etc) to reinforcing their status as the national meteorological and hydrological service provider of choice.
2. Building on the achievements of WIGOS to date, the further development and promulgation of practical tools, templates, guidance and case studies will help Members:
* to develop their national WIGOS plans,
* to establish appropriate governance and coordination systems,
* to build the relationships and partnerships that will help expand and share their national and regional observations to meet needs across relevant disciplines and communities,
* to implement quality monitoring systems that enable them to respond promptly and effectively to feedback on data availability and quality; and
* to implement modern data management and practices to ensure they extract full value from their national observing systems.
1. In developing their national WIGOS implementation plans, Members will be guided by the key activity areas (KAA's) that comprise the building blocks of the WIGOS framework. The 10 KAA's provide a comprehensive foundation for WIGOS, although issues that were perhaps not well articulated in the early definition of the KAA's but are proving important to implementation of WIGOS include:
* data lifecycle management, to support extraction of highest value from observations at lowest cost;
* access to and integration of non-NMHS observations (eg GAW, GCW and ocean observations, which are frequently provided by other institutions), including guidance on development of partnership agreements and on engaging with commercial providers; and
* workforce and capability planning, to reflect among other things the impact of automation and economic pressures on the traditional roles and competencies of our observing and supporting technical workforces.
1. To help Members better appreciate their readiness for WIGOS and the challenges ahead of them, but especially to recognise that WIGOS is a natural progression from operating the NMHS's observing system, Members will be encouraged to draw on the WIGOS National Self-assessment Checklist, including some completed examples. A wide range of other materials also exist to guide Members in relation to WIGOS, including EGOS-IP and relevant plans for GAW, GCW, GCOS, WHOS, etc. The existing WIP and its workplan, which has been overseen by ICG-WIGOS, is also an important guide to the steps that Members will need to take. Together, these will assist in identifying national priorities and gaps in observations, systems, processes, capabilities, etc, and will provide the basis for developing an achievable national WIGOS plan.
2. Alignment of WIGOS plans with national planning for GFCS, DRR, WIS and other WMO priorities is an important opportunity:
* to ensure that their specific observations requirements are factored in as effectively as possible;
* to capture efficiencies and synergies and avoid duplication of effort and potential conflict;
* to optimise and align capacity development and project opportunities; and
* to demonstrate to stakeholders and donors the professionalism and joined-up approach of the NMHS.
1. Members will be encouraged to develop a national WIGOS plan that reflects their national situation, in terms of the mandate of their NMHS, the requirements of their user community and the need to reach out to partners to develop a comprehensive integrated observing system to meet national service needs. Each plan will be different, both in content and style, and while Members can learn from the plans and experiences of others, through case studies and workshops, it is proposed that Members be provided with guidance materials to assist them to understand what steps they needed to take but not with a specific template that might unduly constrain them.
2. The following key items with milestones for the National WIGOS Implementation priority area were proposed by ICG-WIGOS-4:
3. Tools and guidance to help Members to plan, deliver, expand and evolve their national WIGOS implementation; available progressively from 2016;
4. Activities to support Members to implement inclusive national governance mechanisms and partnership arrangements; underway by 2016;
5. Training activities and material to support implementation of WIGOS at a national level, including new Station Identifiers, WIGOS metadata, use of OSCAR and WIGOS quality monitoring system, progressively from 2016.

**Requested Action**

1. At the second meeting of the TT-PWPP, participants are invited to consider the above information and provide advice on how specific aspects of the guidance to Members can be developed, and to consider the mechanisms and timelines for assisting them in developing their national WIGOS implementation plans.