



World Food Programme



World Health Organization



Norad



**TECHNICAL REPORT ON THE INCEPTION WORKSHOP & LAUNCH OF PHASE-II OF THE GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE SERVICES – ADAPTATION PROGRAMME IN AFRICA**

**Day and Date:** Thursday 27 September 2018

**Venue:** Crossroads Hotel, Lilongwe, Malawi

## **1.0. The Opening Ceremony**

The ceremony for the launch started at 09:35am. The Master of Ceremonies (MC) presented the programme for the half day event, highlighting what every section would entail.

The launch was graced by the guest of honour: the Chief Director in the Ministry of Natural Resources Energy and Mining, flagged by the representative of the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Malawi, the representative of the World Meteorological Organization and the Permanent Representative of the World Meteorological Organization in Malawi who is the director of Climate Change and Meteorological Services.

### **1.1. Remarks by the WMO Representative**

After the opening prayer, the WMO representative, Yvette Evers gave remarks on behalf of the GFCS Director Mr. Fillipe Lucio, who was not able to attend due to unavoidable circumstances. She thanked the Malawi Government through DCCMS for their commitment in providing climate services; the PDT for the great achievements of phase I and the the Norwegian Government for funding phase I and II of the GFCS-Adaptation Programme for Africa in Malawi and Tanzania. She highlighted the need to sustain efforts started in the first phase in light of increased extreme weather occurrences globally and climate uncertainty that is making most communities vulnerable; heightening the for climate knowledge if they are to adapt well.

She observed that with climate services communities and climate sensitive sectors are able to plan well if they have they information required, hence the need to ensure good quality climate services addressing users' needs and to improve climate risk management. Climate services can help transformation in life through enhanced collaboration in climate services delivery. She hoped that more collaboration will be done in the Phase-II and that the country will take strides in ensuring that the National Framework for Climate Services (NFCS) is put in place.

### **1.2. Remarks by the Royal Norwegian Embassy Representative**

In his remarks, the Royal Norwegian Embassy representative informed the meeting that the Government of Norway supports efforts of the WMO and climate service delivery, acknowledging that Norway had taken great strides in the science of weather and climate which they are happy to share with the world. He noted that that the Norwegian government is also supporting other important sectors such as agriculture, climate change, health and education through the embassy and encouraged information sharing amongst the initiatives. He underscored the need for good meteorological data in Malawi which is frequently affected by weather related disasters. He wished the meeting well and hoped that the support offered by the Government of Norway in climate service delivery will be of help to all Malawians.

### **1.3. Remarks by the Director of Climate Change and Meteorological Services**

The director welcomed all to the launch and briefly informed the meeting about climate service delivery in Malawi. He underscored the importance of climate services in the social and economic development

of Malawi and stressed the need to improve capacity in order to offer better services and enhance the communities' understanding of their climate.

The director informed the meeting that DCCMS is the institution mandated to monitor and predict weather and climate, and address user specific climate information needs. The Director DCCMS emphasized that DCCMS cannot deliver climate services alone and encouraged collaboration with the users.

He was confident that phase II of the GFCS will enable enhancement of relevant capacities for climate service delivery. He conveyed thanks to the WMO for considering Malawi in the in the next phase of GFCS with funding from the Norwegian Government. He wished all a successful welcome and requested the guest of honour to officially launch phase-II of the GFCS.

#### **1.4. Official Launch of the GFCS Phase-II by the Chief Director of Natural Resources Energy and Mining**

In his remarks, the Chief Director conveyed regards from the Minister for Natural Resources Energy and Mining who could not be part of the launch due to other commitments. Having welcomed all local and international participants, he informed the meeting that the global framework for climate services was established as a United Nation's initiative to guide the use of climate services in decision making, enabling communities to make informed decisions in adapting to climate through planning and policy enrichment.

The producer-user partnership built through GFCS is important in enabling quality climate service development and adaptation to climate change. GFCS stands to complement the efforts of Malawi as a nation committed to delivery of climate services as exhibited by various platforms and technical committees for such partnership. He noted that DCCMS provides various climate services contributing to the development of the country, and therefore the need to heed to climate information in planning. The chief director also recognized the media present in the launch as an important tool in disseminating climate information to all users.

The chief director thanked the Norwegian Government through the WMO for providing support to DCCMS and partners by including Malawi in the two countries beneficiary to the GFCS-APA phase I and II. He hoped that WMO will always consider Malawi in similar interventions to GFCS, and assured that the Government of Malawi will support GFCS implementation. He hoped that the project will impact people's lives through resilience building and hoped to note improvement in the quality of climate services, with users appreciating the services. The director expressed concern over the short timeline for the project and urged WMO to consider Malawi in future programming as the need for climate services was still immense and long-term initiatives are needed to consolidate success.

He wished all well and officially launched the GFCS Phase-II.

#### **2.0. Presentations on the GFCS Phase-I Implementation**

The session presented an overview of the first phase of the GFCS-APA in Malawi. Key achievements and lessons learnt.

Stakeholders recommended:

- The need to work with civil society, particularly NGOs as agencies that can deliver climate information to the community especially in the rural areas;
- The need to target people living with disability, the elderly, women, youth and children as vulnerable communities in need of climate information and advisories;
- The need to use agricultural resource centres for information dissemination after observing that some district climate information centres were not effectively operating. The ministry responsible for agriculture will be engaged on this.

On the implementation period of Phase-II it was hoped that an extension will be achieved for impact.

Stakeholders had interest in ensuring that the ministry of health is supported not only in finalization but also in the implementation of the health National Adaptation Plan (H-NAP) that is hoped to guide implementing the health-climate and climate change issues. WHO had assisted in its development and the ministry of Health was hopeful that resources would be availed for its implementation.

### **3.0. Presentations on the Overview of GFCS Phase-II**

The session provided information on the focus of phase II of GFCS implementation. Phase II will target 5 districts of Balaka, Chikhwawa, Lilongwe, Nsanje and Zomba and target four outcomes: health, agriculture, DRR and climate services. Some outputs from the project were highlighted in each outcome.

In the discussion, stakeholders noted that the health stream had many activities that needed to be achieved within the short project period. Although an assurance was made by the outcome partners that these will be achieved there is need to review the activities under this outcome to ensure that they are realistic and indeed can be achieved. The concern on the short project period was raised also with regard to the other outcomes especially considering Malawi has only one major rainfall season per annum, it may be difficult to deliver all projected outputs as the project is starting just at the beginning of the season.

Stakeholders were also concerned that some of the outputs and targets had been presented at the start of phase II without a proper baseline and encouraged the project to quickly establish its baseline as a benchmark against which success will be measured.

The issue of coordination and delivery as a programme rather than outcomes was emphasized.

As coordination had been highlighted as a challenge from phase one, stakeholders suggested some actions to enhance collaboration as follows: (i) utilization of climate services institutional mapping analysis conducted during the Phase-I by academia, (ii) ensuring that the national framework for climate services is in place to champion all coordination with policy support, and (iii) establishment of the technical working group on climate services.

The project promised to work with other projects working on climate services in the country and stakeholders also encouraged to work with GFCS project partners in their provision of climate related services.

#### **6.0. Closing Remarks**

In his closing remarks, the director of Climate Change and Meteorological Services thanked all for participating in the launch and discussions to improve implementation of phase II of the GFCS-APA. He noted that the issue of coordination was taken seriously by the meeting, and assured all that there will be effort to have effective coordination in climate services delivery. Special thanks were made to WMO, the Government of Norway, GFCS partners and all stakeholders for making the GFCS Phase-II possible and the launch successful. He expressed hope that after inputs from the launch, PDT members will have renewed energy to undertake successful implementation of the project.

**Annex I: Agenda**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic / Activity</b>	<b>Outline / Speakers</b>	<b>Facilitator</b>
09.00-09.30	Registration	Registration	Secretariat
09.30-10.15	Opening Session & Launch Phase II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remarks by Representative from WMO</li> <li>• Remarks by Ambassador of Norway to Malawi</li> <li>• Remarks by DCCMS Director - Mr. Jolamu Nkhokwe</li> <li>• Remarks by Principal Secretary for Natural Resources, Energy and Mining</li> <li>• Speech by the Honourable Minister of Natural Resources, Energy and Mining</li> </ul>	PRO
10.15-10.45	Group photo and Tea break		
10.45-11.45	Review of Phase I & Overview of Phase II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phase I achievements, lessons learned and challenges - DCCMS</li> </ul>	PDT Chair
		Overview of Phase II or the project  Phase II planned impacts, outcomes, outputs and activities - Project Partners (WHO/ MoH, IFRC/MRCS, WFP/MoA, DCCMS)	PDT Chair
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion &amp; Questions</li> </ul>	

11.45-12.30	Plenary & Closing Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stakeholders views and recommendations to support Phase II implementation and expression of commitments</li><li>• Wrap-up and summary-PM GFCS</li><li>• Closing</li></ul>	PDT Chair
12.30-1330	Lunch		
1330-1430	Debrief meeting Project Partners		

**Annex II: Participants' list**

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