

# INTEGRATED AFRICAN STRATEGY ON METEOROLOGY (2021-2030)

(Weather, Water and Climate Services)



amcomet.wmo.int



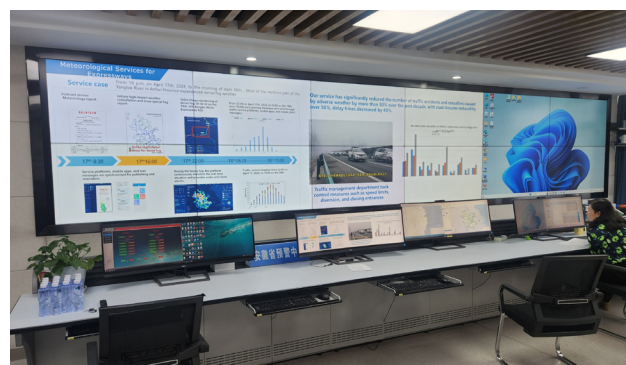
## What is AMCOMET

The African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET) was established in April 2010 when African ministers in charge of meteorology met in Kenya and adopted the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration for African cooperation.

The vision of AMCOMET is to have a framework for cooperation to support security, socioeconomic development and poverty eradication on a pan-African level through sound governance of the science of meteorology and its related applications.

The mission of AMCOMET is to provide political leadership and guidance, policy direction and advocacy in the provision of weather and climate services as well as early warning services that meet societal needs.

In response to major challenges related to the delivery of weather and climate services in Africa, AMCOMET was initiated as a permanent forum where African ministers convene every two years to discuss matters related to weather and climate and how it



can contribute to the socioeconomic development in Africa. The World Meteorological Organization (WMO), in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC), serves as its Secretariat.

## Why AMCOMET

As the ministerial body in Africa responsible for all matters related to meteorology, climate and its applications, AMCOMET is the authority that fosters the political will to strengthen National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS) to enable them to fully perform their roles as a fundamental component of the national development infrastructure and a major contributor to economic and social development.

The key objectives of AMCOMET are to promote political cooperation and streamline policies among member states, and advocate for sound decision-making based on robust science. It further aims to

promote the development and dissemination of weather and climate information to improve disaster risk management, minimize the negative impacts of extreme weather events and climate change on society, and meet developmental needs to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

AMCOMET serves as the platform through, which sustainable development programmes specific to weather and climate services are harmonized and coordinated in collaboration with the African Union (AU), the Regional Economic Communities, governments, non-governmental and civil society organizations and the private sector.

## AMCOMET for development in Africa

Industrialization, population growth and increased demand for food and energy are straining our planet's limited natural resources. Climate change and environmental degradation are likely to induce further pressure on our ecosystems as the resulting weather, climate and water affect all areas of human activity, particularly in Africa. Extreme weather events are projected to be more frequent and devastating; they are likely to pose the greatest risks globally, according to the Global Risks Report 2024 – the World Economic Forum. This is clearly evidenced in the series of the State of the Climate in Africa reports which further indicates that on average, climate-related hazards cause African countries to lose 2%–5% of their gross domestic product (GDP) annually, with many diverting up to 9% of their budgets to respond to climate extremes.



The delivery of tailor-made weather, climate, water and early warning services is critically needed to ensure food security, improved water resource management, disaster risk reduction, better health and limit loss of the development gain across Africa.

Countries are at various levels of producing and using efficiently these services. In some African countries, climate-sensitive socioeconomic sectors already benefit from such services. However, it is essential that no one is left behind. Investments, collaboration, and partnerships should be further strengthened through the AMCOMET process, which will provide the necessary foundational political support.



## Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (weather, water and climate services)

There are critical challenges for most African NMHSs to deliver fit for purposes weather, water and climate information and prediction to decision makers to improve human safety, livelihood, prosperity and preserve precious natural resources to the benefits of communities, especially the most vulnerable, and ultimately contribute to the socioeconomic development of the respective countries as well the continent's realization's aspirations of the AU Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals.

As such, the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (2021–2030) has been approved by the African Heads of States and Government at their thirty-fifth Ordinary Assembly, 5–6 February 2022. The purpose of the Strategy is to position weather, water and climate services as an essential component in the national and regional development framework and for sustainable development in Africa, particularly in poverty reduction efforts, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. It provides strategic guidance and coordinated action to AU member states and all stakeholders on meteorology, climate action, and resilience building on the continent.

### THE STRATEGY FOCUSES ON FIVE STRATEGIC PILLARS:

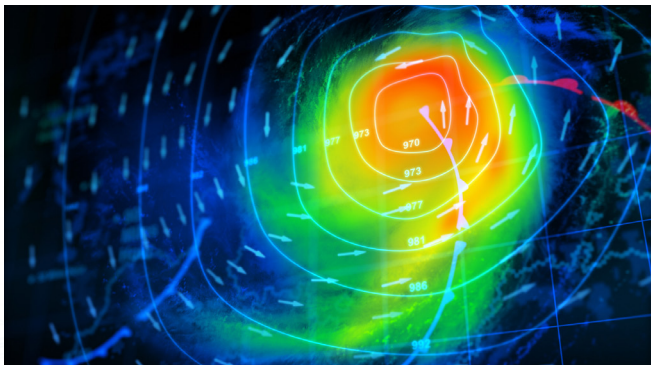
- SP1: Increased political support and recognition of NMHSs
- SP2: Improved observational networks, data access and processing
- SP3: Enhanced capacities for the production and delivery of tailored weather, water, climate and climate change services for sustainable development
- SP4: Research, Innovation, Development and Training
- SP5: Strengthened partnerships with relevant institutions and the private sector



## Implementation and resource mobilization plan

The Implementation Plan, developed holistically across the five strategic Pillars of the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology, has its primary purpose of addressing alarming meteorological and climate services development gaps that cripple the continent to achieve its development goals.

The Implementation Plan for the Strategy on Meteorology is centred around initiating and driving action plans that promote the provisions of the AMCOMET mandate. According to the Implementation Plan: AMCOMET shall focus on legislative and policy issues; high-level resource mobilization; advocacy for enhanced and strengthened infrastructure in AU member states; AMCOMET shall have a strong monitoring and evaluation mechanism to measure the progress on NMHSs development and the capacity to deliver on priorities as defined by the WMO Regional Association I (Africa).



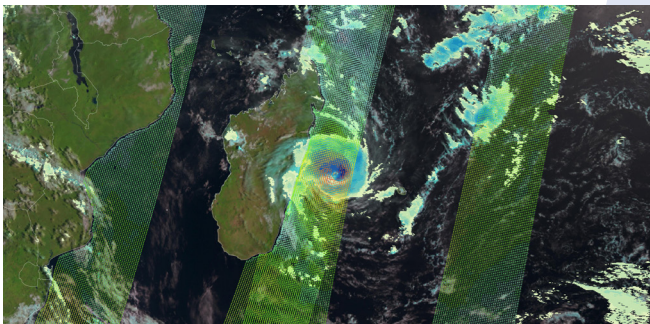
The Implementation Plan is structured to comprise three Key Implementation Areas (KIAs):

### KIA 1: POLICY AND LEGISLATION ADVOCACY

- a) Advocate for the development and promulgation of legislative framework enabling NMHSs to operate as autonomous bodies, with effective cost-recovery mechanism put into place, reciprocal Private, Public Partnership (PPP) regulations and National Strategic Plans (NSPs);
- b) Advocate for NMHSs across the continent to establish the basic infrastructure for their operations as requested by WMO;
- c) Advocate for a legal framework for the establishment and operationalization of the National Framework for Water and Climate Services (NFWCS), to support decision-making and key for sustainable development and for adaptation to climate change and variability;
- d) Ensure the implementation of the African Union Strategy for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (2018–2028), the WMO Gender Policy and Action Plan, the African Union Gender Policy, the African Youth Charter, the AU Youth Engagement Strategy, and other youth related policies at all levels in Africa;
- e) Ensure strengthened partnership with users, producers, national institutions, private sector, academia, civil society organizations, women associations, development partners, etc.

## KIA 2: HIGH-LEVEL RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

- a) Advocate the commitment of Members to commit to 0.02% of the country's GDP for enabling NMHSs to develop their capacities across the weather, water and climate services (WWCS) value chain;
- b) Compile business cases and cost benefit models that can be applied by Members to solicit funding from their respective treasury ministries in their countries, and to influence policymakers and decision makers in mainstreaming WWCS in planning at all levels;
- c) Establish the Joint-Africa Weather Water and Climate Funding Programme to enable Members to centralize access to all available funding sources such as Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF), African Development Bank Group (AfDB), Green Climate Fund (GCF), Adaptation Fund (AF);
- d) Convene a funding forum comprising development and technical partners, the private sector partners, and philanthropy organizations on the continent, to commit resources to support adaptation and resilience, in particular vulnerable societies, through the Corporate Social Responsibilities commitments;
- e) Consider the establishment of the Africa Weather, Water and Climate Fund (AWCF) to support the NMHSs to build adaptative and resilience capacities and emergency preparedness for their AU member states.



## KIA 3: NMHSS CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE ENHANCEMENT FOR OPERATIONS

- a) Advocate for national governments to provide more support to their NMHSs for implementing basic meteorological and hydrological observing networks, data transmission, data archiving and processing infrastructure in line with WMO standard operating procedures (i.e. Global Basic Observing Network (GBON), WMO Information System (WIS), WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System (WIPPS), etc);
- b) Strengthen the implementation of the Aircraft Meteorological Data Relay – AMDAR programme by the NMHSs in collaboration with aviation authorities in their AU member states;
- c) Create enabling platforms and forums for users and producers at regional and national levels to ensure an operational and meaningful user interface platform for ensuring that the WWCS are user based across the continent;
- d) Strengthen the NMHSs within AU member states and the Regional Centres (RCs) in generating meteorological, hydrological and climate services including early warnings as key components of climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction;
- e) Solidify partnerships in satellite programmes, in particular in data access and technology transfer to establish African Meteorological Satellite Application Facilities (AMSAF);
- f) Assist the AU member states NMHSs in implementing the Quality Management System (QMS);
- g) Advocate for national governments to provide support to their NMHSs for implementing the WMO Regional Association I (Africa) priorities.

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