

ASSOCIATED PROGRAMME ON FLOOD MANAGEMENT



REPORT of the Virtual SUPPORT BASE PARTNERS FORUM

6 October 2021

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Acronyms

ADPC	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center
AfDB	African Development Bank
APFM	Associated Programme on Flood Management
CBFM	Community Based Flood Management
CHy	WMO (former) Technical Commission for Hydrology
CIFDP	Coastal Inundation Forecasting Demonstration Project
CIMA	Centro Internazionale in Monitoraggio Ambientale
COO	Chief Operating Officer
DHI	Danish Hydraulic Institute
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction

DSS	Decision Support System
E2E-EWS-FF	End-to-End Early Warning System for Flood Forecasting
EWS	Early Warning System
FFGS	Flash Flood Guidance System
FFI	Flood Forecasting Initiative
FGG	Flood Green Guide
FM	Flood Management
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GFCS	Global Framework for Climate Services
GHSF	Global Hydrometry Support Facility – (a.k.a. HydroHub)
GWP	Global Water Partnership
GWP-WAF	Global Water Partnership West Africa
ICHARM	International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management
IDMP	Integrated Drought Management Programme
IFM	Integrated Flood Management
IGAD-HYCOS	Eastern Africa Hydrological Cycle Observing System
IRHA	International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NHSs	National Hydrological Services
NMHSs	National Meteorological and Hydrological Services
PAC	Project Advisory Committee (for VFDM Project)
PEARL	Preparing for Extreme And Rare events in coastaL regions
SBPs	Support Base Partners
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals

SWFDP	Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project
TSU	Technical Support Unit
TUD	Technische Universität Dresden
VBA	Volta Basin Authority
VFDM	Volta Flood and Drought Management project
WACDEP	Water, Climate and Development Programme
WHOS	WMO Hydrological Observing System
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WYN	Water Youth Network
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

Support Base Partners Forum

1. Executive summary

Due to the situation brought about in 2020 by the Covid-19 pandemic and the subsequent cancellation of face-to-face events, the APFM held its second 2021 Support Base Partners Annual Forum virtually. During the meeting, the progress achieved by the APFM during the reporting period 2020-2021, the lessons learned through implementing the new APFM Business Model and the way forward were presented and discussed.

Link to the forum recorded video: click [here](#)

Link to the full presentation: click [here](#)

The partners gave the following series of recommendations to be implemented in the upcoming year (2021-2022):

Issue Identified or Recommendations	Solutions Discussed or Action to be taken
SBP Collaboration, Outreach, and Catalogue of Services	

<p>APFM TSU will request SBPs to provide information to be placed on the Catalog of Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Help from WYN. They will contact the SBPs and get the information regularly. ● SBPs are requested to provide contact details and timely information of their products, services and tools on IFM. This will help to better disseminate the information through Catalogue of Services and Social Media channels to Donor and networks as well as other general users. ● The partners could use some of their time to be a support base, and to help the APFM and TSU with information sharing.
<p>Webinars or workshops will be organized by the TSU in support of the SBPs on the following topics (collected at the virtual meeting):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Smart cities and integrated water management - IFM and IDM linkage with Nature based solution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Series of webinars will be organized, that could be only for partners, or open to anyone. This would give the partners opportunities to share information
<p>General Discussion Points</p>	
<p>SBPs who have not yet signed the new APFM LoE, need to have bi-lateral discussion with the TSU</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The remaining SBPs will be contacted for signing the new APFM LoE
<p>The TSU is looking for new opportunities. Not enough staff for TSU to handle more tasks such as develop new project idea and approach donors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Partners could give their support, by sharing avenues to submit IFM project proposals, so joint project proposals can be developed together between partners and the TSU.

2. Opening

The Annual Support Base Partners Forum of the Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM) was held on 6 October 2020 virtually, via Teams.

The Meeting was chaired by Prof Marcelo Uriburu Quirno, Vice-chair of the Standing Committee on Hydrological Services (SC-HYD) and opened by Johannes Cullmann, Director Water and Cryosphere Coordination in WMO, by Dario Soto-Abril, Executive Secretary, GWP and by Johan Stander, Director of the Services Department WMO. All speakers congratulated the programme for its 20th anniversary, highlighting that progress in regard of integrated flood management has been made with a great contribution of APFM. Despite the progress, the

implementation is still lacking behind in many countries and Climate Change is aggravating the situation. Especially the WMO State of Climate Services for Water Report, which was launched on 5 October 2021, but also the just released Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) provided new insights in these deficits and both speakers confirmed, that the APFM mission is currently even more crucial than it was 20 years ago, when APFM was founded.

Adoption of the Agenda:

The tentative agenda was proposed, and no concerns were raised. As such, the Committee adopted the agenda (Annex I) with no amendments.

3. Update on the APFM activities

Giacomo Teruggi (GT), Head of the APFM TSU presented the APFM activities after last virtual meetings in August 2020 and March 2021.

He explained highlights in regard of institutional changes, new members, communication and other updates.

Institutional updates:

GT explained the role of APFM in the new WMO structure after the Secretariat Reform. APFM has moved from an extrabudgetary activity to a core activity of WMO under the Services Commission (SERCOM). It is structurally linked to other committees, such as the Standing Committee on Hydrological Services (SC-HYD), on Disaster Risk Reduction (SC-DRR), agricultural meteorology (SG-AGR), climate (SG-CLI), Study groups on health (SG-HEA) and Urban issues (SG-URB), etc. and the TSU is exploring all the possible synergies with the committees and study groups. The Hydrological Coordination Panel (HCP) has appointed Prof Marcelo Uriburu Quirno to oversee on its behalf APFM activities. Prof Uriburu Quirno is also the vice chair of the SC-HYD. Ralph Philips, acting COO of GWP, joined SC-HYD to represent GWP in this body. Dario Soto-Abril joined GWP as executive secretary and Valentin Aich has replaced Frederik Pischke from October 2020 as seconded staff in the TSU of APFM and IDMP.

New members:

GT welcome 4 new members of APFM and the provided a short overview of the activities of their organizations:

- SEPIA
- HKV
- CREALP
- Waterframes

Outreach and communication

In this section, GT explained activities in regard of social media, the newly established Catalogue of Services and other items. Main points were:

- The restructuring of the APFM website is completed
- A communication specialist has been hired to support the 20th Anniversary activities and in general to support the development of a communication strategy

- The Water Youth Network supports APFM in social media outreach
- SBP community exchanges through bi-annual virtual forum, LinkedIn, WhatsApp and other social media accounts (managed by WYN volunteers)
- Managing floods and droughts session at Stockholm World Water Week 2021
- WMO Regional Hydrologic Advisers Forum – quarterly meetings of Hydrological Advisers of WMO Members to collect needs and update them on recent WMO activities related to hydrology. APFM activities, IFM tools, HelpDesk have been widely presented in the different WMO Regional Associations
- ECOWAS Hydromet Forum and Caribbean Hydromet Summit
- Development of a training manual for mainstreaming gender for E2E EWS for flood forecasting and IFM
- Catalogue of Services showcases APFM and SBPs expertise and products
- 4 Webinars have been organized with different partners and varying topics.

Letters of Engagement

In order to align with the new business model of APFM, GT explained the TSU continues to renew the Letters of Engagement (LoE) with SBP and 17 have been renewed during this period, specifying the areas for collaboration.

Other Updates:

GT reported that APFM is exploring new avenues for preparing project proposals. It has supported 5 initiatives on a cost recovery basis of which 2 have been completed, 2 are ongoing and 1 is about to be started.

4. APFM communication strategy

Giacomo Teruggi (Head of the APFM TSU) explained that APFM is using the 20th anniversary as an occasion to renew and improve its communication strategy. Therefore, a consultant has been hired and has shared preliminary results. The SBP forum marks the beginning of this 1-year celebration, which will include backward success but also at least as much forward looking components. To celebrate the success of APFM, it will include an interactive timeline with the story of the APFM and how the network and its partners have shaped integrated flood management.

The communication strategy itself will focus on different aspects including the partnership management and more awareness raising for the HelpDesk.

5. Implementation of the Volta Basin Flood and Drought Project activities and roles of SBPs

Ramesh Tripathi (RT), staff of the APFM TSU and programme manager of the Volta Basin Flood and Drought Project (VBFDP) reported on progress of the project during the past year including challenges encountered and the way forward. It includes many of APFM's partners and the objectives are to improve flood and drought management strategies/plans at regional,

national and local levels. Due to Covid-19, the implementation is delayed but the objectives of year 1 and 2 have nevertheless been achieved.

After the presentation, there was a short discussion on the challenge to reach people in the communities in the current pandemic context and how important these activities are. Another discussion point was the risk map development and how it is connected with the capacity building efforts.

6. Integrated Flood Management Project Marketplace

In this session, Valentin Aich (VA), presented ongoing and planned project proposal activities of the TSU and partners reported about their project related activities. VA updated the audience about the following proposals:

- CREWS Cambodia and Lao's project
- EU Horizon Europe 2021 project call
- Lake Chad Basin HYCOS EWS project – pre-concept note accepted by the Adaptation Fund; Concept note under development.
- WMO HydroSOS – a new concept note developed for the Ganga Brahmaputra Meghna Basin project

Gabriele Quinti, Knowledge and Information (K&I) reported on the current development of a proposal for a Horizon Europe call on Supporting Transitional Equality PlanS for Just Transition (STEPS4JT). It aims on promoting climate change transitional equality plans (e.g., on floods in Germany) and strengthening the idea of equality and justice in projects.

Doreine Ligt, HKV, presented current efforts of the organization in regard of flash floods. In one activity HKV is using rainfall retrieval from satellites to drive now-casting models that predicting hourly rainfall information. The goal is to make the data behind the information accessible to more organizations and governments. HKV is now looking for organizations to be hosts of this data (database).

Link to presentation : click [here](#)

7. Closing of the meeting

The chair wrapped the session up and explained that there was still an opportunity to comment on the annual report until 22 October. In regard of the next bi-annual SBPs virtual forum, the participants agreed tentatively on March 2022

ANNEX I - List of Participants

Organization	Name	Title
Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)	Hans Guttman	Executive Director
Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)	Thitiphon Sinsupan	Project Manager
Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)	Sisira Madurapperuma	Director
CERFE	Gabriele Quinti	Director
CIMA Research Foundation	Marco Massabo	Program Director
CIMA Research Foundation	Antonio Parodi	Program Director
Caritas Schweiz	Boris Orłowski	Program Director Tajikistan

DHI	Chengzi Chew	Business Development Manager - Emerging Technologies
IHE Delft	Biswa Bhattacharya	Associate Professor of Hydroinformatics
IAHS - International Association of Hydrological Sciences	Christophe Cudennec	Secretary General
ICARM	Mamoru Miyamoto	Researcher and Executive Manager of IFI Secretariat Associate Professor, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS)
Deltares	Herman Van der Most	Senior Advisor Flood Risk Management
Flood Hazard Research Centre - Middlesex University	Christophe Viavattene	Senior Research Fellow
GWP	Sara Oppenheimer	Network Officer
GWP	Peter Repinski	Chief Operations Officer and Interim CEO
GWP	Gergana Majercakova	Senior Learning Specialist

GWP	Rianna Gonzales	Youth Engagement Specialist
GWP	Guilherme Monteiro	Technical Support
GWP	Blaze Horn	Intern
GWP	Victoire Mialaud	Intern
GWP	Valentin Aich	Associate Scientific Officer
IUCN	Verónica Ruiz	Nature-based Solutions Programme Officer
PROHIMET	Angel Luis Aldana Valverde	International Consultant, WMO and WB
Polytech Nice-Sofia / Nice - Sophia Antipolis University	Philippe Gourbesville	Professor
Technische Universität Dresden	Firas Al Janabi	Senior Scientific Coordinator
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe	Sara Datturi	Environmental Affair

UNOSAT United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)	Luca Dell'Oro	Head Disaster Risk Reduction, Disaster Mapping and Climate Services
University of Dundee, UK	Andrew Allan	Senior Lecturer
USAID-OFDA	Curtis Barrett	Senior Consultant
UNITAR-UNOSAT	Imra Hodzic	Research Associate Fellow, Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Services
Water Youth Network	Ana Cecilia Escalera	Focal Point Volunteer
Water Youth Network	Nivedha Elango Alexia Calvel	WYN Member Focal Point Volunteer
WMO Hydrological Coordination Panel and Standing Committee on Hydrology	Marcelo Uriburu Quirno	Professor and Vice chair, SC-HYD
WMO	Michael Schwab	Junior Professional Officer
WMO	Caroline Wittwer Bonnefous	Hydrologist and Consultant

WMO	Roberto Silva Vara	HydroSOS Project Officer
WMO	Giacomo Teruggi	Technical Support Unit
WMO	Ramesh Tripathi	Technical Support Unit
WMO	Hwirin Kim	Head of the Hydrological and Water Resources division and overseeing the activities of APFM

ANNEX II - Agenda

Agenda for the Annual APFM SBPs virtual Forum

Date and Time: 6th October 2021 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm CET

Virtual meeting through Teams meeting

Chair/moderator of the meeting: Prof Marcelo Uriburu Quirno, Vice-chair of SC-HYD

Time	Activities
12:30– 12:45 (0:15 h)	<p>Welcome words</p> <p>Johan Stander, Director, Services Department, WMO</p> <p>Dario Soto-Abril, Executive Secretary, GWPO</p> <p>Hwirin Kim, Head, HWR, WMO</p> <p>Adoption of agenda</p>

12:45– 13:00 (0:15 h)	<p>1) Update on the APFM activities after last virtual meetings in August 2020 and March 2021</p> <p>20th Anniversary of APFM ((video from Johannes Cullman, Director, Water and Cryosphere, WMO),</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Institutional updates - New members - Implementation status of the VFDM project activities - Outreach and communication (social media, Catalogue of Services, CoP, SWWW) - Webinars - HelpDesk and Expert Service requests - Letters of Engagement between WMO, GWPO and SBPs - Other updates
13:00– 13:15 (0:15 h)	2) Discussion on the progress of APFM activities
13:15– 13:45 (0:30 h)	3) APFM communication strategy (methodology and way forward)
13:45– 14:15 (0:30 h) Ramesh	<p>4) Implementation of the Volta Basin Flood and Drought Project activities and roles of SBPs</p> <p>Way Forward</p> <p>Q&A session</p>
14:15 – 14:35 (0:20 h) Valentin	5) IFM Project marketplace
14:35 – 14:45 (0:10 h) Valentin	6) Discussion on future topics for APFM webinars
14:45 – 15:00 (0:15 h) Marcelo	7) Concluding remarks from the moderator and discussion on the date for the next SBPs forum

Note: For 5) IFM Project marketplace we invite you to share shortly your updates about ongoing or planned IFM project developments (3 minutes each). If you want to present, please contact Valentin before 4 October (valentin.aich@gwp.org and rtripathi@wmo.int).

