



CLIMATE SERVICES POLICY DIALOGUE: TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE SERVICES IN SOUTH AFRICA

The South African National Framework for Climate Services (NFCS) is based on the World Meteorological Organisation's (WMO's) Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) pillars, namely: User Interface Platform, Climate Service Information System, Observation and Monitoring, Research, Modelling and Prediction, and Capacity Development. The NFCS is designed to be user driven and to address the entire value chain for the production and application of climate services. The NFCS is aimed towards producing water sector specific products to promote effective Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) and improve decision making in climate-sensitive sectors. These policy dialogues will introduce the NFCS and its implementation to the relevant stakeholders, specifically in the water, agriculture and food security sectors. It will allow for stakeholders to articulate their needs for sector-specific products and services to ensure that South Africa is adequately prepared to implement the NFCS in the water sector. The outcome of the series of policy dialogues is to understand the current status quo of climate services, provide background information towards developing climate services programmes for water, as well as create an opportunity to foster collaboration between South Africa (SA) and the European Union (EU) partners through the SA-EU strategic partnership. The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE), Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Department of Science and Innovation (DSI), Agricultural Research Council (ARC) and the South African Weather Service (SAWS) have partnered with the SA-EU Dialogue facility to conduct a series of policy dialogues between climate service providers and users focusing on water, agriculture and food security.

South Africa is a country with a highly variable climate that is often subject to climate related hazards of flood and drought that is exacerbated by the changing climatic conditions. Hence, well-resourced climate services are a fundamental need for the water sector who either use hydro-meteorological (river flow, groundwater level or rainfall) data to develop products and services that can be used to inform decision making at all levels. Despite the significant role of National Hydrological and Meteorological Services (NHMS) in operating and maintaining hydrological monitoring networks there are challenges that can affect the development of new products and services that strengthen South Africa's climate resilience. While the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) has the overall responsibility for national water resource planning other institutions, such as the South African Weather Services (SAWS), Agricultural Research Council (ARC), Catchment Management Agency's (CMA's) and Water Boards among others have established, operated and maintained their own hydro-meteorological monitoring networks. Subsequently, there exists a lack of appropriate mechanisms to foster collaboration between the climate service providers, EU Partners and users of climate services resulting in limited benefit of the SA-EU strategic partnership in the water sector. Hence, the implementation of the NFCS in South Africa through a series of policy dialogues will promote the implementation of the NFCS with focus on user needs for climate services in the water sector in order to determine the design criteria for a User Interface Platform (UIP). The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) has requested the DWS and Water Research Commission (WRC) facilitate the water specific policy dialogue in collaboration with the SA-EU dialogue facility.

The objectives of the workshop are as follows:

- (i) To determine user needs for climate services and products in the water sector,
- (ii) To determine what actions are needed to ensure user needs for climate services are addressed as part of the operationalisation of the NFCS in the water sector, and
- (iii) To determine the design criteria for the development of the User Interface Platform (UIP) to host the climate services and associated products for improved decision making.



CLIMATE SERVICES POLICY DIALOGUE: TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE SERVICES IN SOUTH AFRICA

WATER SECTORAL WORKSHOP

Date and Time: Thursday, 24th March 2022, 10:00 am to 13:00 pm SAST

Facilitator: Dr Brilliant Petja

Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_UbcA_kA5SkiGHYb4plylhA

Programme:

Time	Presentation	Presenter	Affiliation
10:00 – 10:10	Welcome Remarks SA and EU Delegations	<u>SA Delegation:</u> Mr T Ramaru <u>EU Delegation:</u> Ms Ariane Labat	DWS, DFFE, European Commission
10:10 – 10:15	Workshop Objectives	Dr Brilliant Petja	WRC
10:15 - 10: 25	WMO's WHOS	Dr Washington Otieno	WMO
	National and international climate services of DWD for the water sector	Dr Stephanie Hänsel	DWD
10:25 – 10:35	WRC Presentation	Dr Brilliant Petja	WRC
10:35 – 10:45	Copernicus Climate and Emergency Management Services (C3S & CEMS) for the water sector	Dr Christel Prudhomme	ECMWF
10:45 – 10:55	Space Based Monitoring of Water Resources	Dr Steward Bernard	SANSA
10: 55 – 11: 05	EUMETSAT Products and Services for the Water Sector	Dr Christine Traeger Chatterjee/ Mr Simone Gabellani	EUMETSAT
11:05 – 11: 15	Using climate data services for simulating and forecasting groundwater levels with the French "MeteEAU Nappes" tool. Examples in European countries and potential applications in Africa	Dr Bruno Mougin	BRGM French Geological Survey
11: 15 – 11:25	Flanders Climate Platform: tool to assess impact of local adaptation strategies	Dr Steven Broeckx	Vito, Belgium
11:25 – 11:35	Contactless Radar Technologies for Flow Estimation	Mr Luca Bovo	Sommer, Austria

11:35 – 11:45	Comfort Break	All	N/A
11:45 – 12:45	Discussion, comments and questions	Dr Brilliant Petja	WRC
12:45 – 12:50	Key messages from structured discussion and identified actions	Dr Brilliant Petja	WRC
12: 50 – 13:00	Closure EU and SA Delegation	<u>SA Delegation:</u> Mr Z Maswuma <u>EU Delegation:</u> Ms L Afonso Gallegos	DWS DFFE, European Commission