



# THE IFMS NEWSLETTER

VOL. 1 ISSUE 2, 2018

## IFMS' UPDATES

MESSAGE FROM IFMS PRESIDENT

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT WMO

MESSAGE FROM HMEI CHAIR

STATUS REPORT OF IFMS

WHY HAVE A NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL OR HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY?

IFMS GLOBAL MEETING FIVE

IFMS ELECTION PROCESS AND PLAN

INTERMET ASIA 2018 CONFERENCE-EXHIBITION & GFDRR SESSIONS

FIRST MEETING OF THE GLOBAL WEATHER ENTERPRISE FORUM

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR IFMS ACTIVITIES

## SELECTED ARTICLE

ENHANCED NATIONAL WEATHER INFORMATION SERVICES: SUSTAINABILITY BASED ON PPP

## MEMBERS' UPDATES

UPDATES FROM SOCIETY OF HYDROLOGISTS AND METEOROLOGISTS-NEPAL

CONTRIBUTION OF THE ETHIOPIAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY

CMS-NEWS UPDATE

AMPG XXXV SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

LATEST UPDATES FROM THE ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY (RMETS)

EMS TV WEATHER FORECAST AWARD 2018

IAUC NEWS:THE TENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON URBAN CLIMATE (ICUC-10)

### Webinar on Accreditation in Meteorology: Open to All

- Please join Liz Bentley (RMetS) and Keith Seitter (AMS) for a live webinar on Accreditation/Certification in Meteorology.
- The webinar will provide a general overview of accreditation schemes with a focus on the US Certification Program in Meteorology and the UK Professional Accreditation in Meteorology. The webinar will run for 1 hour including 30 mins for a question and answer session.
- Sign up to one of the live webinars on either **Tuesday 17th July at 1200 GMT** or **Wednesday 18th July at 1800 GMT** by sending an email with the subject 'Live Webinar' to [ifms.collaboration@gmail.com](mailto:ifms.collaboration@gmail.com). Details of how to join the webinar will be emailed to you a few days before the event.

### »»» Call for Volunteers «««

- IFMS needs Volunteers for various Value Proposition items (Please see the corresponding Article in page 16 of this Newsletter)
- Please offer your service by sending an email to the following address: [ifms.collaboration@gmail.com](mailto:ifms.collaboration@gmail.com)



## MESSAGE FROM IFMS PRESIDENT

Dr. Harinder Ahluwalia/President of IFMS



*Welcome to the second Newsletter of IFMS. Our Newsletter is meant for our member societies and partner organizations (like WMO, HMEI, WBG) to exchange information, communicate important news e.g. about the Global Weather Enterprise (GWE) and provide technical information about actions being taken to combat global warming*

The WMO and the World Bank Group (WBG) (through its Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)) have been working seriously on the initiative to strengthen GWE by increasing collaboration between Public, Private and Academic (PPA) sectors. Since the November 28, 2017 Workshop in Washington D.C., two additional events have been held in Austin and Singapore. GFDRR-WMO organized meetings and workshops in the InterMet-2018 Show in Singapore over a period of three days (April 9, 10 and 13, 2018) which are summarized in this Newsletter. Additional meetings are planned during the IFMS Global Meeting #5 in Budapest which is being held during the week of September 3, 2018 concurrently with the Annual Conference of the European Meteorological Society (EMS). This will be followed by a GWE session in the Meteorology Technology show in Amsterdam in October, 2018.

In the development of GWE, there will be some known and some unknown challenges which GWEF will have to face and overcome. But strong cooperation between the players in the GWE, and meticulous planning and execution can overcome such challenges. With membership from all three sectors (PPA: Public, Private and Academic) and its international character, IFMS can provide strong support and play an important role in the development of GWE. Messages from David Grimes (President WMO) and Brian Day (Chair - HMEI) in this Newsletter show intent to collaborate with IFMS.

We plan to request PPA organizations for articles expressing their views about this collaboration and the ways they believe it can achieve optimum results. These articles will be published in our future Newsletters for a very wide circulation through IFMS Member Societies, HMEI, WMO and WBG. We also urge our readers and partner organizations to provide interesting articles to be included in the future issues of our Newsletter.

We have also started our mission to create new Meteorological Societies and have included two articles related to that in this Newsletter. One of them shows the benefits of such Societies and the other is about the experience of the Ethiopian Meteorological Society (EtMS) in its development over time. It also shows the challenges being faced by EtMS and how they are being overcome.

We have started sending letters to the National Hydro-Meteorological Services of many countries urging them to start National Hydro-Met Societies in their country with the assistance of IFMS.

In this Newsletter, we have also provided the Progress Report of the IFMS development with respect to its stated Value Proposition.

We urge the National Hydro-Meteorological Societies to send their representatives to the IFMS Global Meeting #5. We also strongly request WMO and WBG to support the travel expenses of the members of the needy societies so that we can have participation of as many societies as possible.

We believe that with the cooperation of WMO, GFDRR and HMEI, IFMS will become a strong volunteer-based organization capable of assisting and participating along with these organizations in strengthening GWE through strong collaboration between PPA sectors to create a Weather Ready Globe.



## Message from the President of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

**David Grimes/President WMO**



I would like to congratulate IFMS on launching this Newsletter. WMO values its collaboration with IFMS and welcomes the opportunity to improve communications and linkages with stakeholders in the Global Weather Enterprise. I am pleased to use this newsletter to share highlights of WMO's long term strategic priorities.

WMO's Mission is to facilitate worldwide cooperation on monitoring and predicting changes in weather, climate, water and other environmental conditions through the exchange of information and services, standardization of observations and measures, application, research and training.

WMO is currently finalizing the next Strategic Plan for 2020-2023, which will help the Organization realize its 2030 vision, "... where all nations, especially the most vulnerable, are more resilient to the socioeconomic consequences of extreme weather, climate, water and other environmental events; and underpin their sustainable development through the best possible services, whether over land, at sea or in the air."

The Strategic Plan's long-term goals and strategic objectives for 2023 prioritize: (1) Enhancing preparedness and reducing losses of life and property from hydro-meteorological extremes; (2) Supporting climate-smart decision making to build resilience and adaptation to climate risk; and (3) Enhancing socioeconomic value of weather, climate, hydrological and related environmental services.

WMO will continue supporting the activities of its Member States in understanding the past, monitoring the present and predicting the future state of the atmosphere, the hydrosphere and other vital elements of our planet, to meet these priorities. To enable this will require further enhancement of coordinated and interoperable networks and systems for data collection and processing, improvement of predictive skill through advanced science and computational technologies, and finally highly innovative approaches of service delivery that will ensure that accurate, fit-for-purpose information will reach its users on time for making their weather- and climate-informed decisions.

WMO will also focus efforts in closing the capacity gap, addressing the needs of developing countries to develop and sustain competencies and expertise and to scale-up effective partnerships for investment. Finally, in order to optimize its effectiveness and efficiency, WMO is reviewing its governance structures to streamline programs and reduce duplication, while advancing equal and effective participation of men and women in governance, cooperation and decision-making processes.

There is a need to draw upon a broad range of stakeholders and experts in the global weather enterprise to address the current and future challenges of changing weather, climate and water conditions. The IFMS and its members are important partners with WMO in meeting these challenges. I look forward to our continued collaboration.

Thank you / Merci



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THE HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL EQUIPMENT INDUSTRY (HMEI)

**Brian Day/The Chair of the Association of the HMEI**



HMEI is an international association of service providers and manufacturers of observation equipment in support of the Global Weather Enterprise (GWE). Our Association was formed in 2001 at the request of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). As an association we believe in One Globe, One Industry, One Voice. This Core Purpose is in keeping with our participation in the discussions on how to evolve the GWE for the unprecedented growth required to characterise our rapidly changing environment.

The IFMS has contributed significantly to these conversations on Public Private Partnership (PPP) within the GWE. This is the second newsletter to be published by the IFMS and it represents an important venue for the sharing of information with many of the Meteorological Societies around the world as the discussions on the GWE unfold.

One item that should be shared with the members of IFMS is a practical project of PPP that supports the idea of an evolving GWE will need to think and act differently. This project, that was initiated by HMEI is being done in partnership with the WMO and with funding from the World Bank, specifically The Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR). In 2016, HMEI launched a pilot project to develop vendor agnostic tender specifications for synoptic weather station networks that supports foundational data set for local area forecasting and nowcasting models. The WMO Commission for Instruments and Methods of Observation (CIMO) Guide No. 8 was used as a reference for the development of the specifications. This project promotes one of CIMO's mandates which is data quality fit for purpose that enables world-wide compatibility for world-wide comparability.

While it may seem odd for the Private Sector to develop specifications for a broad range of Public Sector procurement initiatives, it does make sense if the process is transparent and vetted properly. Across the board, our membership (both manufacturers and service providers) struggle with poorly written tender documentation. Many times, specifications are ill conceived and the equipment procured is either not fit for purpose or expensive given the high level of accuracies requested. The proposed tender specifications also include the costing of system maintenance and life cycle management so that the end user understands the total investment required to operate the network over its lifetime. To assist National Met Services and others in their creation of tender documents, HMEI also developed an internet tool (alpha version) that will simplify and populate a complete set of tender documents.

HMEI has completed its work on the Tender Specification Documentation Project. For the past several months WMO has been reviewing the documentation to ensure that the specifications meet the needs of their members. HMEI and WMO along with the GFDRR have been working together in a true Public Private Partnership that will be tested by select National Met Services this spring. Upon completion of the testing phase, HMEI will complete its work on the Internet Tender Tool for general use by all sectors in the GWE. One of the unique benefits of this project and this PPP is that we will have developed the necessary processes that can be applied to other areas like Lightning Detection, Upper Air, etc. In the coming months we will report more on the progress of this project.



## Status Report of International Forum of Meteorological Societies

Relevant. Valuable. Unique. Helping WMO/WBG to create a 'Weather Ready Globe'.

*Dr. Harinder Ahluwalia*

### 1 Introduction

The IFMS plays a key role in supporting developing and developed meteorological societies to be custodians of both the profession and science of meteorology, hydrology and oceanography in their own country or region. The real strength of the IFMS is that it brings together societies and related organisations to collaborate, deliver shared outcomes and share best practice for the benefit of all. The IFMS achieves this by creating a strong communications infrastructure – some of which is already there, the rest is being implemented.

In 2016, IFMS defined the following Value Propositions which are being implemented. Here is the current status of their implementation.

#### 1. Collaborating on joint activities

**Objective:** Collaboration between the National Hydro-Met Societies (NHMSocs) on joint activities, where appropriate, to advance the science and profession of meteorology.

We have provided the "Collaboration" Tab on our Website which interested parties, whether individuals or societies, can use for requesting collaboration. Please provide the information requested under that tab and send it to the following email address [ifms.collaboration@gmail.com](mailto:ifms.collaboration@gmail.com),

We will then request the counterpart society or societies to send a message to their members for any potential interested parties. We will also advertise the request on our website ([www.ifms.org](http://www.ifms.org)).

#### 2. Establishing access to an information channel

**Objective:** To create meaningful communication channels to unite the member societies and provide means for distributing information and creating discussion groups.

Our Website ([www.ifms.org](http://www.ifms.org)) provides various pieces of information (e.g. Newsletter, Reports, Status Reports, etc.) and infrastructure for Collaboration and Best Practices. Our member societies and partners can request us to carry information about their events or interesting documentation for a wide circulation by sending us a request on [ifms.website@gmail.com](mailto:ifms.website@gmail.com).

We are currently implementing Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and WhatsApp. We should have it going within the next three months.

#### 3. Gaining support from WMO and International Organizations such as the World Bank, etc.

**Objective:** To create a meaningful relationship with WMO and WB to create a win-win situation.

We have made a request to WMO for an MOU of cooperation with them. They will hopefully present the request to WMO Executive Committee for approval in their next meeting in June 2018.

That will launch official collaboration in various areas where we can support each other. We are already supporting their GWE Initiative of strengthening collaboration between Public, Private and Academic (PPA) sectors. The MOU should result in much more collaboration.

#### 4. Outreach to developing Societies

**Objective:** Helping Developing Societies and creating new ones to address issues concerning global warming and create a "weather ready globe"

This Value Proposition needs to use the Collaboration mechanism. Societies needing assistance can send a message through this mechanism and we will arrange appropriate (non-financial) help.

In addition, we are starting to encourage various countries which do not have an NHMSoc but should have one to try to start one. We will organize help through neighboring countries. For example, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Pakistan do not have NHMSoc but should have one. IMS (IMS) is prepared to help them create one.

#### 5. Creating Global Context/Collaboration with – EMS, FLISMET, EAC, etc.

**Objective:** Creating a global context for the varied activities of Met Societies and to collaborate with Regional Associations of Met Societies, such as the European Met Society (EMS), Iberian and Latin American Federation of Met Societies (FLISMET), African Regional Economic Cooperation (AREC) groupings, etc., is a core activity for IFMS.

This activity is meant to leverage the strengths of these societies to achieve IFMS objectives. They are used whenever we feel appropriate. We are holding the IFMS Global Meeting #5 concurrently with the Annual Conference of the EMS. This will allow interaction between the two Societies. Similar events will be planned for the future.

#### **6. Assistance in Accreditation/Certification and Training (ACT)**

**Objective:** *Providing assistance in Accreditation/Certification and Training (ACT)*

We are currently in the process of preparing to launch this activity. Our first WebEx presentation will be made by RMetS in collaboration with AMS in June 2018. After that mentoring will start for those NHMSocs which are interested in implementing the ACT activity in their country.

#### **7. Assist WMO/WBG to promote Public-Private-Academic (PPA) Sector Partnerships**

**Objective:** *Help WMO and WBG create strong collaboration between Public/Private/University sectors to create bigger value by optimal use of resources.*

This is being supported through our work and publications on GWE-PPA Collaboration. Any assistance requested by WMO/WBG/HMEI will be provided as per availability of resources. Some interesting reports such as those for GWE activities, etc., are available on our Website.

#### **8. Aligning IFMS Plans with WMO strategic plans/priorities to increase cooperation**

**Objective:** *To increase the probability of strong collaboration between WMO and IFMS for societal benefit*

After the MOU with WMO is signed, we will then consider and discuss additional cooperation.

#### **9. Promoting the contributions of individuals**

**Objective:** *Promoting the contributions of individuals within the meteorological community and beyond by highlighting excellence.*

The IFMS is an International Society and we believe that as IFMS achieves its basic goals and collaborates with WMO, WBG and HMEI, our awards and recognitions will receive the prestige and recognition we need to attach to these awards. Most likely the IFMS Meeting #6 in Boston and concurrent AMS' Centennial Celebration will be a good place to start implementing this Value Proposition.

#### **10. Assistance to Industry through local Met Society to create Infrastructure & PPA Partnerships**

**Objective:** *Assistance to Industry through local Met Societies to increase collaboration and assistance in connecting with business in that country to develop required infrastructure and to support the WMO/WBG Effort to strengthen GWE through strong collaboration between PPA Sectors.*

This will progress the goal of "Strengthening GWE by increasing collaboration between PPA Sectors." If a local NHMSoc can provide any assistance to Private or Academic sector, it should aim to strengthen the GWE. Our participation in InterMet Asia 2018 was another example of creating relationships with the private sector.

## **2 Conclusions**

- 1) Over the past 2 years IFMS has made a strong progress by incorporating itself in Washington DC, opening an Account, obtaining non-profit status from US-IRS, creating a Council and a Value Proposition and working on it diligently. We have had 16 Council Meetings since our last Global Meeting #4 in New Orleans which was held concurrently with the AMS Conference in January 2016.
- 2) Our Global Meeting #5 is an important milestone to review our progress and set the course for the future.
- 3) We are hoping to develop MOUs with the WMO, GFDRR-WBG and HMEI which will help us define our relationship and identify how we can help each other.
- 4) Being a volunteer-based organization, we are always looking for volunteers in order to fulfill our mandate. We have received some offers but are still looking for additional volunteers.
- 5) Like most volunteer-based organizations, our major challenge is financing which remains to be tackled.
- 6) We strongly appreciate the financial support provided by the American Meteorological Society (AMS) to cover the sundry expenses required for incorporation, maintaining the Website and willingness to assist IFMS in any manner we have so far requested. We hope that the WMO and WBG as well as many other benevolent organizations will provide IFMS with financial support to assist IFMS with capacity building and improving coordination to strengthen Global Weather Enterprise in order to combat Global Warming.
- 7) We will be further developing ideas to try to resolve the financial issue and hope to receive sufficient financing to fulfill our mission and continue to work towards the improvement of the Global Weather Enterprise.

# WHY HAVE A NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL OR HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY?

Dr. Harinder Ahluwalia

## 1 Introduction

This article presents the advantages of having a National Hydro-Met Society (NHMSoc) in your country. Such societies are often started and financially supported by the National Hydro -Met Services (NHMS) of the country. NHMSs draw many benefits from such societies, e.g., they promote the profession of meteorology and they get the assistance of a Volunteer-based organization to do so. This document outlines some of the advantages which members of such societies draw from their membership making it a win-win situation for the members, NHMSocs and NHMSs.

## 2 Case for having a National Hydro-Met Society (NHMSoc)

The National Hydro-Met Society (NHMSoc) provides a forum for hydro-met professionals to interact with each other and exchange information, ideas about their profession and stay abreast with related Science and Technology. Here is the list of some of the advantages provided by an NHMSoc to its members which will develop after the formation of a new Society:

**1. Enhance your network:** We all know that networking is key for the scientific and professional community. Making connections is critical, and joining associations gives countless opportunities to connect on a local, national, and as an eventual member of the International Forum of Meteorological Societies (IFMS), even on a global level. For most people, creating professional relationships is important, and joining a group allows you to have a sense of security and trust. From this, you are able to support and help one another in reaching your professional goals.

Most such organizations have an annual conference that brings together the national community and often attracts international experts. This is an opportunity for you to mix and mingle with others in your field in both professional and leisure settings. There is also often a job fair where you can make contact and stay up to date with the very people who hire – even if they are not hiring right now.

**2. Professional Development:** As a part of their activities, many NHMSocs offer professional development via courses, workshops, publications, Conferences and information on their website shared only with members. They also keep members up to date on industry trends and how to deal with them. Professional organizations offer news and print coverage of their annual conferences which can provide some very useful information. Many NHMSocs provide communications tools such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, WhatsApp, etc. for members to stay in touch and develop discussion groups.

**3. Broaden your knowledge:** As a Professional organization, as you develop, you can take advantage of IFMS resources to offer courses, seminars and/or lectures to keep yourself and your members up to date on the latest industry innovations, research, and trends. Staying informed on your industry's trends will only help you in the long run and will put you one step ahead of the competition!

**4. Professional Accreditation / Certification:** Some NHMSocs have Professional Accreditation/ Certification Programs which are very useful for ensuring the quality of professionals in your country. An Accreditation and/or certification provides you recognition and confidence that your employers and peers can appreciate. IFMS can connect you to these NHMSocs should your NHMSocs see a need.

**5. Rewarding Excellence:** Most NHMSocs reward excellence and/or service in the disciplines by providing prestigious awards to deserving members.

**6. Act as an Independent Voice for the profession:** Many NHMSocs play an important role as a 'peak body' representing their discipline through public statements or commentary. This is a valuable role in those political environments where NHMSs are constrained by their government or under other political pressures.

**7. Mentoring:** Mentoring is the cornerstone of many NHMSocs when it comes to working with younger members. You may never get in the room with someone at the top of your field, for a very long time. But many NHMSocs have the ability to pair you with someone much more experienced. IFMS can connect you to these NHMSocs should your NHMSocs see a need.

**8. Become a mentor:** Giving back can be the greatest reward and benefit. Participating in forums, chat groups or discussion boards sponsored by an association is also a great way to grow your network. This allows you to use your peers as sounding boards and often make some great friends with the same interests as you.

**9. Scholarships** For the youngest of members (high school and college), scholarships may be the primary reason to join a professional organization. Many offer scholarships to new members studying to enter the field. IFMS can connect you to these NHMSocs should your NHMS see a need.

**10. Take charge of your career:** Many NHMSocs help their members find jobs, or at the least, offer up job listings that other members may be offering. Associations often have job listings online or in print available only to their members. This is a great way to find targeted job postings for your area of interest. With IFMS volunteer support you are able to take advantage of these career resources.

**11. Build a better resume:** Many organizations have career resources available such as tips on effective resumes or cover letter writing. Listing your association membership on your resume is impressive to current or future employers as it shows that you are dedicated to staying connected in your profession.

**12. Be a Leader:** Professional associations give you an opportunity to develop your skills as a leader, and this is important not only for your personal growth, but for your growth in your firm.

**13. Make a new friend:** Once we graduate from school, we all know how hard it is to get out and meet new people and make a new friend! Use professional networking groups as an opportunity to escape the norm and meet new people that may give you a reason to come out of your shell a bit more and have fun.

**14. Give back to the community:** There are plenty of organizations that coordinate socially conscious initiatives to support community efforts to educate the public on various issues related Global Warming or disasters caused by weather events.

**15. Strength in Numbers:** We live in a day and age where establishing a presence in any given career field often demands working long hours in the office and bringing work home when the doors close. At the end of the day, you may have ideas for cultivating partnerships, yet not feel up to shouldering all the responsibility to organize them. In a community organization, you have access to an established support system of experienced people who are motivated to get things done. The battle is half-won!

**16. Stay Inspired and Stay Motivated:** Members learn to love what they do! They may not even know that they love something, but it's important to be proactive about things they discover on the journey.

**17. Participation in International efforts:** Only NHMSocs can become members of the International Forum of Meteorological Societies (IFMS) through which its members can connect with International Professional Circles. IFMS will also help in the development of the new NHMSocs with its continued support.

In addition, having an NHMSoc will help in your stronger participation in the **Global Weather Enterprise Mission** of WMO and avail the services of IFMS to guide you how to create a Forum in your Society for discussion between the Public, Private and University (PPA) Sectors to strengthen collaboration.

### **3 Financing National Hydro-Met Society (NHMSoc)**

Although most of the people running such organizations are volunteers, finances are required for some staff, some events and some of the above stated Value Propositions to be provided to its members. Often such organizations are supported financially or in-kind by the NHMSs as well as the following sources:

- 1) Reasonable Membership Fee with special consideration for students
- 2) Fee for Conferences
- 3) Donations or sponsorship by individuals and by Private Sector organizations related to the profession.

### **4 Conclusions**

In order to strengthen and grow the profession of meteorology in your country, it is important to have a NHMSoc which can give all the advantages as listed above to its members.

It is obvious that this effort will require work to establish a society in your country, but IFMS will assist you by providing guidance and pairing you with some existing member society near your country.

With strong effort by WMO in strengthening the Global Weather Enterprise (GWE) by increasing collaboration between the PPA Sectors, NHMSocs can provide an important forum for such discussions.

IFMS can keep you informed and provide you the benefit of discussions within other societies on important issues and questions.

***In conclusion, we strongly urge you to start a National Hydro-Met Society in your country to strengthen and grow the profession of Hydro-Meteorology.***

## IFMS Fifth General Meeting and the Host Society-MMT



The Fifth General Meeting of IFMS will be taken place at Budapest, Hungary from 5 to 6 September 2018. The Hungarian Meteorological Society (MMT) will be the Host Society of IFMS GM5#. MMT is the founding member of the European Meteorological Society (1999) and International Forum of Meteorological Societies (2010), and the Community of Earth Science Civil Organisations in Hungary (2014). The Society is a co-operative member of Global Forum of Agrometeorological Societies and Global Forum of Phenological Networks. The tentative agenda is as below:



Dr. Zoltan Dunkel/  
IFMS Vice President

### Wednesday, 5 September 2018

Time	Program
08:30-10:00	Registration and organizational meeting
10:00-10:30	Coffee Break
10:30-12:00	Opening ceremony
	Welcome President of Hungarian Meteorological Society
	Welcome President of Hungarian Meteorological Service
	General opening by President of IFMS
	Presentation about IFMS
	What happened since the GM4?
	Financial matters. Website. Membership
	Constitution of IFMS
12:00-13:30	Lunch break
13:30-15:30	IFMS Value Proposition Discussion & its Implementation & Role of IFMS in Strengthening GWE
15:30-15:45	Coffee Break
15:45-16:15	Experiences of various societies in engaging members in Volunteerism
16:15-16:45	Financing of IFMS
16:45-17:15	Announcement of Members of the New Council Members
19:00-21:00	Welcome Dinner by invitation of MMT-Hungarian Meteorological Society

### Thursday, 6 September 2018

Time	Program
8:30-10:00	Invited presentations
	International organizations and meteorological activity
	WMO, EUMETNET, EUMETSAT, ECMWF, National meteorological Services
	Meteorological Society Activities and Challenges
	The Role of Meteorological Societies in Fostering International Scientific and Professional Cooperation
	The role of meteorological societies in climate change research, education and outreach
	Possible role of Meteorological Societies: IFMS, EMS in professional accreditation
	Possibility and limiting factors
10:00-10:30	Coffee break
10:30-12:00	Presentations by Societies
12:00-13:00	Lunch
13:00-15:30	Plenary Session
15:30-16:30	Conclusion of meeting, summarization of discussions
16:30	Date and place of next meeting
Closure of GM5*	



# THE IFMS NEWSLETTER IFMS' UPDATES

MMT was founded in 1925. Historically the main goal of the organization of the Society was to financially support the only Hungarian meteorological journal **IDŐJÁRÁS** (the name means WEATHER), which was established as a private paper in 1897 and was in financial crisis in 1925. The new Society was able to save the journal. Nowadays IDŐJÁRÁS is the Quarterly Journal of OMSZ – Hungarian Meteorological Service and has obtained an indexed abstracted in Science Citation Index Expanded™ and Journal Citation Reports/Science Edition impact factor. It is included in the abstract and citation database SCOPUS®. Nowadays the IDŐJÁRÁS is issued in English and the only Hungarian word is in the title and it is absolutely independent of the Met Society.

MMT commonly issues and edits a periodical, called **LÉGKÖR** (in Hungarian ATMOSPHERE), with OMSZ – Hungarian Meteorological Service. The first copy of LÉGKÖR was printed in 1956. It publishes scientific and popular papers, mainly in meteorology. From time to time it includes summaries of events, as well as official and financial reports of the Society. For example, the special issue of LÉGKÖR in 2015 celebrated MMT's 90th anniversary.



The basic objective of MMT is to improve general education, disseminate meteorological knowledge, encourage environmental awareness and disseminate new scientific results. The MMT organizes scientific meetings and symposia, establishes permanent and ad hoc committees, maintains sections and co-operates with other institutions, and international organizations. MMT organizes meetings, special lectures, issues and edits meteorological publications, prepares meteorological studies, awards the outstanding meteorological activities as defined in the Constitution of MMT. The special lectures are organized by the departments and sectors.

The MMT has 8 sections, namely Agro- and Biometeorological Section, Aviation Meteorology Section, Climatological Section, Róna Zsigmond Youth Club, Section for Atmospheric Dynamics, Section for Atmospheric Environment, Sun- and Wind Energy Section, and Remote Sensing Section. The last one was established in 2017.

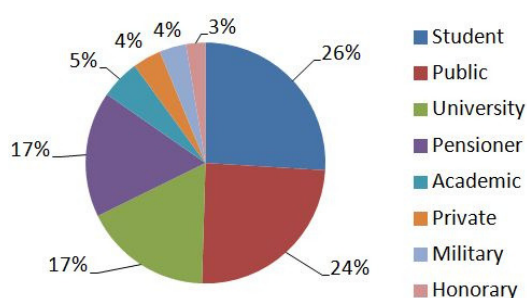
In addition to these sections, the MMT has got six regional sections in the country, in main cities of Hungary: Debrecen, Nyíregyháza, Pécs, Szeged, and Szombathely, and in Eger-Bükk County. During the 2014–18-period 143 meetings were organized together with the annual assemblies and biennial meetings in different cities of the country. The last, 36th biennial meeting was held in Sárospatak and the next 37th will be in Veszprém this year. The slogan of the meeting is 'Meteorology, Sustainability, and Climate Change'.



Each year, awards are presented to groups and individuals involved in outstanding meteorological activities. The main award of the Society is the Steiner Lajos Commemorative Medal. The outstanding activity in climatology is awarded by Hegyfok Kabos Commemorative Medal; the best publication of year is laureate by Literature Niveau Award, outstanding agrometeorological work recognized by Berényi Dénes Memorial Certificate. There are two awards in the youth meteorologist category. The best diploma work is honoured by the Hille Alfréd Youth Prize, and the outstanding young fellow, below 35 years, is a laureate provided by Róna Zsigmond Foundation Support. The Society also awards a special honorary membership. It can be domestic or foreign. If the recipient is domestic, the diploma of honorary membership will be written in Latin and Hungarian, but if the recipient is foreign, it will be written in Latin and in language of laureate.



The Hungarian Meteorological Society has 416 regular (individual) and 8 legal (supporting) members after the membership revision in 2018. The Society is fully operated by volunteers. MMT sincerely welcome all Societies across the world to participate in the IFMS GM5#, and hope all participants can enjoy the beauty of Budapest.





## IFMS ELECTION PROCESS AND PLAN

Dr. Keith Seitter/IFMS Vice President

### 1 Background:

- The International Forum for Meteorological Societies (IFMS) was formed in 2010 with a primary goal of strengthening the collaboration between professional meteorological societies worldwide. It currently has 30 members and 7 associate members.
- In 2015, IFMS undertook an initiative to strengthen its organization and plans for collaboration. As a part of this initiative, an IFMS Council was created and populated by IFMS Members who have held their positions in an "Acting" Capacity. This Council incorporated IFMS as a non-profit organization under the laws of Washington DC. The IFMS Council positions are:
  - o President
  - o Two Vice-Presidents
  - o Secretary
  - o Treasurer
  - o Six representatives – from member societies in the six IFMS geographic regions I to VI which match exactly the WMO – Region I-VI.
- A Council election will be conducted this summer using electronic ballot through email.
- This document defines the process and plan to conduct election and schedule for the election.

### IFMS Council Membership and Terms of Office

- Current Council members will serve until a formal election is conducted. The current Council leadership position incumbents (in "acting" capacity) are:
  - 1) President Dr Harinder Ahluwalia (CMOS - Canada)
  - 2) Vice-President Finance Dr. Keith Seitter (AMS – USA)
  - 3) Vice-President Administration: Dr. Zoltan Dukel (MMT – Hungary)
  - 4) Secretary Mr. Kung-Yueh Camyale Chao (MSCT – Taiwan)
  - 5) Treasurer Mr. Kung-Yueh Camyale Chao (MSCT – Taiwan)
- **Six Regional Representatives – one for each IFMS/WMO Region**
  - 6) Region 1 Mr. John Mungai (EAMS – East Africa)
  - 7) Region 2 AVM Dr. Ajit Tyagi (IMS – India)
  - 8) Region 3 Dr. Eduardo Agosta (CAM – Argentina)
  - 9) Region 4 Dr. Jack Hayes (AMS – USA)
  - 10) Region 5 Dr. Todd Lane (AMOS-Australia)
  - 11) Region 6 Prof. (Dr.) Elizabeth (Liz) Bentley (RMetS-UK)
- Typically, IFMS work requires a minimum of 5 hours a month from all Council members and more from the President and other Executive Committee members.
- The IFMS Constitution (available on the IFMS Website) defines terms of office to be three years for each position. Regional Representative terms of office are staggered to provide stronger continuity - in other words, each year one-third of the Representatives will be replaced by newly elected representatives.
  - o A staggered system of terms of office for the Regional Representatives has been defined in the By-Laws: each year, one-third will be replaced by newly elected representatives. This staggered system is designed to strengthen continuity within the IFMS Council.
  - o For this first regular election, a random drawing to specify which Regional Representative positions will serve 1-,2-, and 3-year terms will be completed before the electronic ballot is set out. At the end of a three-year cycle, all Regional Representatives will serve three-year terms.
  - o This Election process will require:
    - > >The IFMS Council Leadership defined by the first 5 positions in the above list (also called Executive Committee) to be elected every three years
    - Note: The Executive Committee will have the Executive Director (when hired) as the sixth member who will not have the voting right.
    - >> An annual election of two new Regional Representatives.

## 2 IFMS Election Process:

- An Election Commission will be created at least 60 days prior to the election. It will be composed of no fewer than three individuals (either current Council members or other volunteers who will not be seeking election to a position on the ballot). The Election Commission chair will be chosen by the President.
- Nominees will be solicited from all IFMS member societies for open positions. Each society is eligible, but not obligated, to nominate one person for the Council position representing their IFMS (WMO) region and one for each of the 5 open positions of the Executive Committee.
- The Election Commission will review all responses and create a ballot that includes anyone who has been nominated and has agreed to have their name included on the ballot.
  - o According to the IFMS Bylaws, each IFMS Region will vote for its own Region's Representative. Ballots will be created that allow Region-specific voting, in addition to the IFMS-wide elections for the 5 Executive Committee Members.
- Each candidate will be asked to provide a short bio (one page) and personal IFMS vision statement (no more than one page) and what he/she would bring to the position being sought.
- The Election Commission will combine all bios and candidate statements into a single PDF document, and send it, along with the ballot, to the official representative of each voting member of IFMS, with instructions to return the ballot to the Election Commission chair.
- The Election Commission chair will share all returned ballots with the entire Election Commission, which will collectively confirm the votes for each position.
- The IFMS President will then inform the rest of IFMS of the outcome.

## 3 Current Election Plan

6/30: Form Election Commission

7/5: Start nominations

7/20: Complete nominations

7/25: Candidates provide resumes and vision statements

7/30: Distribute ballots

8/20: Complete balloting

## INTERMET ASIA 2018 CONFERENCE-EXHIBITION & GFDRR SESSIONS

Dr. Harinder Ahluwalia

### 1 Introduction

This article summarizes the proceedings of the InterMet Asia 2018 (IMA-2018) in which three Council Members of IFMS (Dr. Jack Hayes, Mr. Kung-Yueh Chao and Dr. Harinder Ahluwalia) participated on behalf of the IFMS. We also had an IFMS booth courtesy of IMA-2018 organizers.

The following article contains excerpts taken from their Program Book. The purpose of this article is to inform the readers of this Newsletter about this Important event. More National Hydromet Services should participate in future because, in addition to participating in the discussions on the issues of the day, they can also see a variety of equipment from various manufacturers. In addition, the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) of the World Bank Group (WBG), World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the HydroMet Equipment Industry (HMEI) also organize sessions to strengthen Global Weather Enterprise (GWE) by strongly supporting the collaboration between the Public, Private and Academic (PPA) sectors.

More details about this Conference and Trade Show are available on the website of IMA-2018:

<http://www.intermet.asia/main-programme.html>

In addition, the proceedings of the conference are available in mp3 audio files as well as PDF versions of the PowerPoint presentations on the following site:

<http://www.intermet.asia/proceedings.html>

These include all conference and workshop proceedings for InterMET Asia 2018 and InterFLOOD Asia 2018, including the proceedings of the two World Bank-GFDRR hosted sessions on April 10 and 13. A password is required to access these Proceedings for which readers are requested to contact IMA-2018 organizers.

## 2 InterMET Asia/World Bank-GFDRR Cooperation Framework Program

This year InterMET Asia featured an expanded Co-operation Framework Program which included the following special sessions organized by the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR).

**Monday (April 9, 2018):** The first Meeting of the Global Weather Enterprise Forum (GWEF) was held. The 11 members who have been selected for the GWEF and 14 additional invitees participated. The summary of this meeting provided by Dr. Jack Hayes, who participated in this meeting, is provided in this Newsletter.

**Tuesday (April 10, 2018):** A special session of InterMET Asia-World Bank-GFDRR took place on the following topic: "Meeting the needs of people and society" by Empowering the Global Weather Enterprise (GWE) by strengthening Public, Private and Academic Collaboration.

**Friday (April 13, 2018):** A 1-day Project Workshop on the Modernisation of Hydromet Services – 'NMHSs in the 21st Century' was held after the main InterMET Asia two-day Show.

Here is a summary of the GFDRR sessions.

## 3 GFDRR (WBG) Special Session on Public-Private-Academic Engagement

### 3.1 Morning Session: The GWE - Meeting the needs of People and Society

During the Opening session four speakers provided their remarks. Peter Lennox (CEO, Meteorological Service of New Zealand Ltd.) opened the session with introductory remarks as the moderator, Jyoti Shukla (Director, World Bank Office, Singapore) opened this special session of GFDRR, Brian Day (Chair HMEI) provided the welcome remarks on behalf of HMEI and Petteri Taalas (Secretary General, WMO) provided welcome remarks on behalf of WMO.

#### 3.1.1 PANEL SESSION 1 - DATA QUALITY AND STANDARDS

This session focused on the fundamentals of information (observations and forecasts). A discussion took place on: How do we ensure reliability and quality across all aspects of the enterprise? Users (government, industry and public) of weather information (observation, forecast, etc.) need to have confidence regarding the accuracy, reliability and credibility of that information. Increased global co-ordination of data and products of known quality is advantageous to all sectors in the GWE.

#### 3.1.2 Panel Session 2 - New and Innovative Data for Better User Services

This session emphasized new data sources; new ways of providing data to users (data services); crowdsourcing and other techniques. Given pressures on public funding in many countries, the increase of privately funded data and the increasing rate of availability of new data sources, are the current mechanisms robust enough to ensure that the global observing system can be maintained and enhanced so that improved weather information can be provided?

### 3.2 Afternoon Session: Panel Session 3

#### 3.2.1 Data for All – Development Aspects

This session emphasized how data contributes to development goals; what is limiting development goals; ways to improve products and services in developing countries. Data is a key contributor to development in both Developed and Developing worlds. While sharing similar data needs, and business processes, there are distinct and significant differences between the two.

This session focused on using data as a vehicle that contributes to the overall value chain and value adding process that bolsters Developing World countries. The questions below focus on how to mobilize international resources to enhance observational networks in low- to middle-income countries to benefit regional and local information (and thus also to benefit global analyses and predictions)?

#### 3.2.2 Reflections, Wrap-Up and Closure

The wrap session provided an opportunity for GWE Forum members to reflect on the issues discussed and to provide some thoughts on ways forward to address the issues raised. The forum also discussed how they should proceed with future activities in general.

## 4 GFDRR (WBG) Workshop Session NMHSs for the 21st Century

Lessons from the modernization of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services.

### 4.1 Panel Session: Lessons Learned – What Works and What doesn't?

The panelists reflected on the importance of integration of meteorology and hydrology and services for users. What works well and what doesn't in modernization projects was also considered from the perspective of the client, systems integrator and development partners, highlighting ways to improve design, implementation and outcomes.





## 4.2 DISCUSSION SESSION

Turning ideas into action - Re-imagining NMHSs in the 21st Century. The Moderator for this session was Vladimir Tsirkunov of GFDRR.

### 4.3 Questions and statements for the panel were:

1. How to strengthen cooperation among meteorological, hydrological and other operational actors to deliver fit for purpose national services?

a. Often investments follow traditional disciplinary lines, which don't reflect the needs of end-users, despite emphasizing service delivery

2. How to improve the effectiveness of investments?

a. Role of Systems Integrators

3. What are the potential alternatives to improving and sustaining NMHSs?

4. How to use existing instruments to enhance preparation?

a. Strategic planning – where does the NMHS want to go?

b. Assessment of existing operations and how far away they are from the desired state?

c. Role of international advisors?

d. Other actions that can be taken?

Readers are encouraged to think about these questions and statements and provide their ideas for further discussions through LinkedIn Groups which IFMS is creating. Further information about these groups will be provided in the near future.

## 5 Conference and Exhibition

There were two days (April 11 and 12) of Conference and Exhibition which are summarized below. A more detailed Program including speakers, their affiliations and topics of presentation are available on the following website.

<http://www.intermet.asia/main-programme.html>

### Wednesday 11th April

#### Plenary Session

There was a Joint InterMet /InterFlood Plenary Session in which welcome address was provided by Petteri Taalas, Secretary-General, WMO through a recorded Video.

The following sessions were held:

Session 1: Observing Systems Technologies

Session 2: Advances in Weather and Flood Forecasting Systems



Session 3: Forecaster Visualization Tools

Session 4: Tools for Communicating Extreme Weather Risk

### Thursday 12th April

#### Joint InterMet / InterFlood Keynote Session

This is the session in which two of our Council Members made presentations:

**Dr. Harinder Ahluwalia:** The Role of the IFMS in Strengthening the Global Weather Enterprise

**Jack Hayes:** When Hydrology and Meteorology Work Together: The Value of Operational Collaboration and Coordination.

Session 5: Overview of Impact-Based Forecast and Warning Services

Session 6: Impact-Based Flood Forecasting and Early Response

Session 7: Implementing Impact Based Forecast and Warning Services in Developing Countries Wrap Up

In addition, a Parallel Session of Technical Presentations was also held in which Private Sector companies showcased their companies through presentations on their technologies.

## 6 Exhibition

A total of 45 companies participated in the Exhibition. The list of these companies is presented on the following website:

<http://www.intermet.asia/exhibitor-list-2018.html>

Thanks to InterMet Asia-2018, IFMS also was given a booth display some posters and pamphlets about IFMS.

In general it was a nice experience for the participants and their strong interest was demonstrated by the attendance of so many delegates .







## FIRST MEETING OF THE GLOBAL WEATHER ENTERPRISE FORUM 9 APRIL 2018

Dr. Jack Hayes/IFMS Council Member



On 9 April, I attended the first meeting of the Global Weather Enterprise Forum (GWEF) in Singapore as an invited adviser from the American Meteorological Society and the International Forum of Meteorological Societies (IFMS). The meeting was attended by 25 participants, including 11 GWEF members, invited experts, advisers and representatives of the supporting organizations – the Association of Hydro-Meteorological Equipment Industry (HMEI), the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) of the World Bank Group (WBG) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

The growing incidence and impact of weather extremes has increased the recognition that increased collaboration and coordination is needed across the Global Weather Enterprise, which draws from its three sectors: Public, Private and Academic. At an international meeting hosted by the World Bank Group last November, an action plan was developed to strengthen the partnership among the three sectors to improve weather, hydrological and climate services to societies worldwide. The meeting in Singapore was an initial step and focused on establishing a Global Weather Enterprise Forum (GWEF) to provide a platform for consultation and to facilitate co-operation, engagement and liaison across the global weather enterprise for the benefit of all. Sponsoring organizations are the WMO (lead), the GFDRR and the HMEI.

At the Singapore meeting, it was agreed that representatives would be drawn from each of the GWE sectors and to keep the membership small – four core members from each of the three sectors. A Coordinating Group composed of leaders and advisers from WMO, WBG and HMEI was also established. In addition, an initial draft of the GWEF Terms of Reference was developed committing the forum to:

- a) Help to identify and exploit opportunities and to mitigate risks associated with the growth and development of the GWE.
- b) Contribute to establishment of common understanding of the GWE landscape and related roles and responsibilities of its stakeholders, by developing agreed principles of mutually-beneficial partnerships and code of ethics.
- c) Keep in focus the need of the developing and least developed countries and make proposals for solutions across three sectors to improve their sustainable capacity.
- d) Provide input to the WMO Executive Council, HMEI Council, and to relevant Global Practices and groups within the World Bank Group on matters related to the global weather enterprise.
- e) Recommend studies and evidential reports on the status and progress of the global weather enterprise.

- f) Coordinate the publication of position papers and other communication materials regarding the growth and development of the global weather enterprise.
- g) Promote a series of dialogue opportunities for the three GWE sectors to meet and discuss developments.
- h) Explore ways to engage and involve the community as widely as possible.

Monthly GWEF telephone conferences are planned to ensure timely progress on agreed upon actions. And, another face-to-face meeting is targeted for the Met Tech International Conference in October. The GWEF vision is an ambitious one – to create a GWE partnership which strengthens weather, water and climate services worldwide to better meet society's needs. IFMS has been involved in meetings from the start and has been invited to provide input which will support the goals of the GWE partnership. IFMS Members are asked to provide ideas, questions, etc., to Harinder Ahluwalia, Jack Hayes, or any member of the IFMS Executive Council. With your support, IFMS can make a positive impact on this important initiative.

GWE Forum members:

- Daisuke Abe, Chief Service Officer, WeatherNews Inc.
- Peter Ambenje, WMO PR for Kenya
- Patrick Benichou, CEO, Meteo France International
- Erland Källén, Director, Centre for Climate Research, Singapore
- Tatsuya Kimura, Director, Public Awareness and Partnerships Division, Japan Meteorological Agency
- Alessandra Liberto, Business Development Manager, Campbell Scientific Inc.
- David Parsons, Director, School of Meteorology, Oklahoma University
- Peter Platzer, CEO, Spire Global
- Celeste Saulo, WMO PR for Argentina
- Michael Staudinger, Director General, Zentralanstalt für Meteorologie und Geodynamik (ZAMG) and President of WMO Region 6, Europe



## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR IFMS ACTIVITIES



Dr. Harinder Ahluwalia

### 1 Introduction

The IFMS is a key organization working for the promotion of hydrometeorology. It is also a very important component of the promotion of the Global Weather Enterprise. Although we plan to have a small secretariat to run the day to day affairs, fundamentally IFMS is a volunteer-based Organization. In order to implement its Value Proposition (see the Article of IFMS Progress Report) we need volunteers for the following activities:

1. Webinars
2. Best Practices
3. Campaign to attract additional Member Societies and also create new societies
4. Fund Raising Campaign Coordinator
5. Coordinating Website Updates
6. Coordinating Collaboration
7. Reviewers for Newsletter
8. Evaluation of best ways of using Social Media by IFMS.

### 2 Description of Duties

For each of the items discussed below, we are looking for a Chief Coordinator Volunteer who can form his/her own team to implement the stated item.

## 2.1 Webinars

One of the activities of IFMS is presenting Webinars on various topics including technical ones. We are looking for a Volunteer to be the Chief Coordinator of this activity. Kindly offer your services. The tasks will include:

- 1) Looking for interesting Webinar Topics
- 2) Getting topics approved by the Council
- 3) Sending messages to all societies asking them to contact their members so that interested ones can register for the Webinar
- 4) Organizing the Webinar.

## 2.2 Best Practices

One of the Value Propositions of the IFMS is to promote professional standards and best practices across meteorological service providers and practitioners around the world. Best Practices are an important component of running an organization efficiently. Normally each Society creates such documents and spends considerable effort in doing so. The idea here is that all IFMS member Societies can help each other – especially by developing Common Documents related to Best Practices which can be tailored by each Society to meet its local requirements and governance.

The duties of the Chief Volunteer for this activity are:

- 1) Looking for available Best Practices
- 2) Getting them approved by the IFMS Council
- 3) Receiving suggestions and think about creating new Best Practice items and details.

## 2.3 Campaign for Membership

The IFMS would like to have all existing National Hydro-Met Societies (NHMSoc) to become member of IFMS. In addition, there are many countries which should have an NHMSoc but do not. We are starting a campaign to convince local National Hydro-Met Services to start such a society in its country. We have included a couple of articles on this issue in this edition of our Newsletter.

The typical tasks of the Chief Volunteer for the Membership team are to:

- 1) Identify countries which have an NHMSoc but in which it is not a member of IFMS
- 2) Send the standard letter - prepared by the President - on his behalf
- 3) Identify countries where there is no NHMSoc but there should be one
- 4) Send the material we have prepared to these countries
- 5) With the assistance of IFMS, pair them with societies in their region who are prepared to help such countries.

## 2.4 Fund Raising Campaign Coordinator

IFMS needs funds to become a very strong organization for the betterment of the Global Weather Enterprise (GWE).

We need funds for:

- i. Secretariat – with an Executive Director and an assistant
- ii. Very essential travel of staff and Council Members
- iii. Website and its support
- iv. To cover the travel cost of members of needy societies
- v. Other miscellaneous costs.

We are hoping that utility of the IFMS, and the help it can provide to the WMO in strengthening the GWE, will persuade the WMO and the WBG to provide financial assistance. However, we need additional funds and define ways in which we could generate these additional funds. We expect this Volunteer Group to do the following:

- 1) Explore and define potential ways of financing IFMS
- 2) With the help of IFMS, produce a document discussing different ways of financing IFMS
- 3) IFMS will consider the suggested methods to finance IFMS and decide which ones to implement.
- 4) Make plan to implement selected items
- 5) Help implement them.

## **2.5 Coordinating Website Updates**

Currently, the IFMS Website is maintained by AMS for which we are grateful. We need to request updates and plan regular updates. Volunteer assistance is required to coordinate this effort.

## **2.6 Coordinating “Collaboration”**

One of the Value Propositions of the IFMS is to create “Collaboration” between member societies and also between members of these societies. For this we have created a “Collaboration” tab on our website. Those member societies or their members who are interested in collaborating with another society or its members can make a request by filling the provided form and submitting it via email address: [ifms.collaboration@gmail.com](mailto:ifms.collaboration@gmail.com). The Chief Volunteer for this activity will monitor this email address frequently and check whether any collaboration request has been received. If yes, then he/she will take the required action which means advertise this request on the IFMS Website and find interested parties.

## **2.7 Reviewers for Newsletter**

We are creating an IFMS Newsletter Review Board which will consist of three members. One of these reviewers will be the Chief Reviewer who will coordinate the activities of the Review Board. The duties of this Review Board will be to solicit material from member societies, review the received material for the relevance of the subject matter to the activities of the IFMS and quality of text.

## **2.8 Social Media usage by IFMS**

One of the popular and effective ways of communication between all components of the IFMS (society to society, individual to society and individual to individual) is Social Media. The potential Social Media candidates for Professional Societies are Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, WhatsApp, Snapchat and Instagram.

We would like to have volunteers to determine the best ways of using these Social Media and steps to implement them. It would be very useful if proposed volunteers have already implemented it for some organization.

## **3 Conclusions**

The IFMS is basically a volunteer-based organization. In order to implement its Value Proposition, we need assistance of volunteers. We are requesting members of our member societies to offer their service for important tasks discussed in this article. In turn, we will recognize our best volunteers through rewards and publishing their names in our Newsletter.

## Enhanced National Weather Information Services: Sustainability Based on Public Private Partnerships

Ari Davidov, Director of International Business and James Anderson, Senior Vice President of  
Sales Earth Networks, Inc.

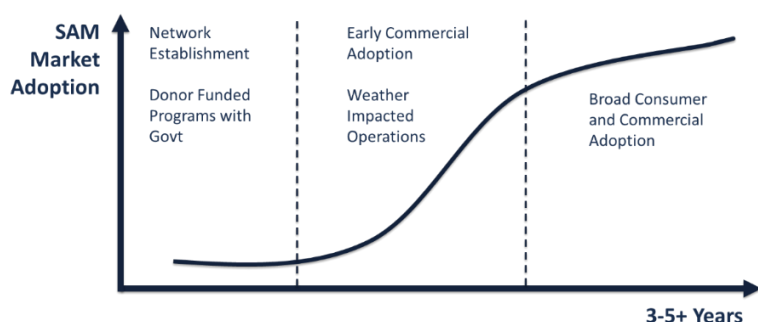
### Overview

National Meteorological and Hydrological Agencies (NMHS) in many countries struggle to provide basic services to stakeholders and the public. A combination of unsustainable technology and funding, exacerbated by limited management and operational capacity, creates a reinforcing cycle resulting in further degradation of the services they provide and overall organizational sustainability. Here, we try to define a set of conditions that could reverse this cycle: improving the services NMHS deliver, lowering the cost and technical capacity requirements to deliver those services, and generating revenue for the NMHS associated with those services.

Conditions for Sustainable Program Development consist of four categories.

1. Fit for Purpose Technology
2. Multi-Year Project Investment
3. Public Private Partnership (PPP)
4. Regional Approach

### Market-Based Pathway to Improving NMHS Sustainability



For numerous years Earth Networks has developed Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) and worked with leading international donor funded programs on long-term sustainability. It is generally understood that there is a development curve for the establishment and adoption of weather information services, and thus for sustainability models. In fact, this resembles a classic product adoption curve.

The Sales Addressable Market (SAM) expands as market adoption increases. The potential for commercial sustainability of the implemented Weather Information Services also increases, reducing the burden on the NMHS.

**Fit-for-Purpose Technology.** The technologies implemented must be low cost to deploy, operate and maintain and must meet many user and NMHS needs. The focus should be on automation and “leapfrog” technology, enabling the benefits of improved monitoring and forecasting at a fraction of cost and technical investment required for traditional systems. Importantly, this can be implemented in target countries with severely limited, unevenly distributed infrastructure, or in more thoroughly developed countries. Fortunately, there are such technologies available that have good track records of operational sustainability in developing countries.

**Multi-Year Project Investment.** A multi-year investment approach allows countries to assimilate new technologies without assuming significant additional operational costs at the outset. As the ICT skills, technical infrastructure, and sustainable revenues increase to appropriate levels, the NMHS assumes more responsibilities for operating, financing, and managing the new services.

**Public Private Partnership.** Once the new services are established, NMHS and their private sector partners have permission to access and sell data and value-added services to third parties interested in utilizing it, allowing NMHS to take advantage of the available market opportunity. The data rights aspect is particularly key – the PPP must provide for sufficient licensing and relicensing of data and value-added services to enable lawful commercialization under a long-term agreement. This can be done in harmony with, and even serving to reinforce the NMHS sovereign institutional role, as the single authoritative voice for official weather information.

**Regional Approach.** It is beneficial to all parties to take a multi-country, multi-user approach to projects that deploy and operate technologies based on interoperable observational systems. Benefits of a regional approach include: reduction in the number of points deployed per country, reduction of ongoing maintenance commitments, more resources allocated to capacity building and sustainability objectives, and more.



## Practical Examples from the Field

### United States

For over a decade, EN (Earth Networks) has worked extensively with US National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Weather Service (NWS). EN contributes significantly by supplying NOAA/NWS with quality controlled data on current weather conditions from the largest private sector based networks in United States under the budget-saving National Mesonet Program ([www.nationalmesonet.us](http://www.nationalmesonet.us)), where EN is a key private sector partner. Furthermore, EN also supplies NOAA/NWS with real-time, wide-area total lightning data and nowcasting derivatives as a service. While the United States is a vastly different environment from that of a typical NMHS in a developing country, best practices from these proven initiatives can serve as foundational models for the PPP based collaboration required for success.

### Brazil

In 2010, EN announced it had entered into a joint research and evaluation partnership with the Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais (INPE), the National Institute for Space Research in Brazil and deployed the Brazilian Total Lightning Network (BrasilDAT).

Customers of the data and content services include the largest electrical utility companies. These companies invest in severe weather data because it helps to improve power quality, prevent and manage outages, and improve overall operations. In aviation, global oil majors use the data for their airplane and helicopter fleets that deliver goods and staff to and from offshore facilities. Mining companies have many operating sites in Brazil and use the EN real-time proximity alerting services on a routine basis.

The advanced severe weather content has improved federal and state level services and enabled indigenous commercial weather service providers to enhance availability of high-quality weather information to the public.

### East Africa

For several years, EN and the NMHS of Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, and Burundi of the East African Community conducted a pilot project in the Lake Victoria region. Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) leads the way in scaling this up. The EN technology has been extended to cover most of the countries, including those most prone to flash floods. Data servers were installed at UNMA facilities to house the collected data. Training has taken place with network technicians and forecasters. Meanwhile, another competition-based grant program has enabled a partner's mobile service to automatically distribute UNMA forecasts and alerts to millions of subscribers.

### West-Central Africa

Since 2013, EN has been deploying its suite of services for use by the NMHS and other stakeholders in the region. This includes pilot programs and national programs that operate on a long-term basis. Liberia, Sierra Leone, and The Gambia in partnership with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have engaged EN to build and operate comprehensive weather information services for them. Additionally, EN is the technology supplier for the multi-country aviation safety program with the Agency for Aerial Navigation Safety in Africa and Madagascar (ASECNA). ASECNA and other commercial interests provide for sustained network operation, expansion and service delivery in 17 countries in the West-Central African region.

These are just a few examples of ongoing projects that have helped inform the core principles defined above. These principles really define the basic criteria for successfully developing sustainable capacity development initiatives in developing countries. With the right combination of technology, financial support, the Public Private Partnership model and a regional approach, an NMHS can really improve its service delivery and begin to reverse the cycle that can erode its capacity to deliver services. The smart adoption of this framework can have a sustainable impact.

## SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIETY FOR ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES



**SASAS2017 conference participants, 21-22 September 2017, Ranch Resort, Polokwane**

The 33rd annual conference of the South African Society for Atmospheric Sciences was successfully hosted by the University of Venda during 21-22 September 2017 at Protea Hotel Ranch Resort, Polokwane. It was the first time the conference was held in Limpopo Province. The aim of this conference is to promote climate change research hence the choice of the theme "Challenges of a warming planet", was selected following recent record warming as 2016, 2015 and 2014 became the hottest years globally since instrumental records began more than 150 years ago.

Day 2 (22 September 2017) of the conference coincided with the spring equinox in the Southern Hemisphere – a day when the sun's disk is directly overhead the equator heralding the approach of the early summer to southern Africa.

The two-day conference consisted of 57 oral presentations in four plenary sessions and six parallel sessions. 24 poster presentations were made during poster sessions on day 1. Twenty-six peer-reviewed papers were accepted and published as conference proceedings on <https://www.sasas.org/2017-sasas-conference>. A unique feature of the 33rd annual conference was that the keynote and invited speakers are all South Africans – recognizing and celebrating contributions our own experts have made to the field of the atmospheric sciences globally. By far the larger proportion of delegates were graduate students from seven universities such that there were five sessions which were "all student" sessions – and chaired by students!

### **BEST ORAL PRESENTATION (BSC HONS CATEGORY)**

"Continental tropical low-pressure systems and their associated rainfall over the Highveld of South Africa using self-organizing maps", by Matshidiso Mogale, University of Pretoria

### **BEST POSTER PRESENTATION (BSC HONS CATEGORY)**

"Influence of tropical-temperate-troughs on southern African climate", by Kgabo Lamola, University of Venda

### **BEST ORAL PRESENTATION (MASTERS/PHD CATEGORY)**

"Downscaling of projected changes in the South African hydro-climate domain" by Thabo Makgoale, North West University,

### **BEST POSTER PRESENTATION (MASTERS/PHD CATEGORY)**

"Modelling the low-frequency variability of the Indian Ocean" by Mthetho Sovara, University of Cape Town



From Left: Mr Mthetho Sovara, Ms Matshidiso Mogale, Ms Kgabo Lamola and Mr Thabo Makgoale

**First Call**  
**34th Annual Conference of the South African Society for Atmospheric Sciences (SASAS) 2018**

The 34th annual conference of the South African Society for Atmospheric Science will be held in **KwaZulu Natal Province at Ballito (La Montagne)** during **20-21 September 2018** and hosted by the **ATM-RESET (Atmospheric Remote Sensing Education and Training)** at University of KwaZulu Natal. The theme for the SASAS 2018 conference is **"Interactions between the atmosphere and ocean"**. Short abstracts (no more than ONE page) and extended peer review conference proceeding are welcome and may be emailed to the conference email [sasasconf@gmail.com](mailto:sasasconf@gmail.com). More details are available in the conference website <http://sasas.ukzn.ac.za>.

**Important dates:**  
Expression of Interest : **15 May 2018**  
Early Registration : **15 June 2018**  
Late Registration (additional fees): **31 July 2018**  
First submission of extended refereed abstracts: **15 July 2018**  
Second submission of extended refereed abstracts (after review-final submission): **15 August 2018**  
Non-extended regular abstracts: **15 August 2018**

**Registration**  
Early registration (paid before 15 June) : R1800 (Members), R2000 (Non-Members), R1600 (Students)  
Late registration (paid after 15 June) : R2000 (Members), R2200 (Non-Members), R1800 (Students)  
\* Proof of payment is required and may need to send it to [sasasconf@gmail.com](mailto:sasasconf@gmail.com)

## MEMBERS' UPDATES (REGION I)

CONTRIBUTION OF THE ETHIOPIAN  
METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY**The aims of the Ethiopian Meteorological Society (EtMS) are to:**

- contribute to the promotion of the improvement and modernization of the science of meteorology, hydrology and atmospheric sciences in Ethiopia;
- promote research in the field of meteorology and allied sciences;
- carry out capacity building activities so that its members are armed with the capabilities in their professional field;
- ensure that meteorology and allied sciences are applied for the economic development of Ethiopia;
- issue a scientific journal periodically;
- create awareness amongst the public in Ethiopia regarding the benefit of meteorological science; and
- promote close association among its members.

EtMS was established in 2007.

It has 200 members and there are two branch offices in Ethiopia.

**NEWS**

- The EtMS Executive Committee awarded the Fifth EtMS scholarship to four EtMS members in 2017.

The following are winners of the scholarship and their paper titles:

1. Yimer Mohammed : Characterization of Climate Variability and Its Effect on Sorghum (*Sorghum bicolor* L.) and Teff (*Eragrostis tef* (Zucc.) Production in Oromia Special Zone, North Eastern Ethiopia .....
2. Leta Bekele: Modeling the Impact of Climate Change on Haricot Bean Production and Intently Adaptation Option in the Semi Arid Central Rift valley of Ethiopia
3. Bekele Kebebe: Modeling the Impact of Climate Change on Food Barley Production in Lemu Bilbilo Oromia Regional State, Ethiopia
4. Jemal Gebeyehu: Potential Impact of climate Change on Maize Production in West Gojjam, Amhara Region, Ethiopia

- Proceedings of the EtMS ENSO Conference, held on 8 February 2017 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, was published and distributed by email to EtMS members and to others concerned, on 8 December 2018.

- The preparation of "Guide for Users of Meteorological Information" which was initiated by the Ethiopian Meteorological Society was redrafted by a joint team of 10 experts designated by the National Meteorological Agency and the Ethiopian Meteorological Society: The Guide was finalized and submitted to the National Metrological Agency for publication.

**EVENTS**

EtMS participated in the following events:

- The World Meteorological Day which is celebrated all over the world on 14 March every year. It was celebrated in Ethiopia by the National Meteorological Agency in 2017 in Hawasa, Ethiopia and in 2018 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- National climate Outlook Forum for the main June – September 2017 rainy season organized by the National Meteorological Agency on 01 June 2017, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- Meetings organized by the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Ministry of Science and Technology ( MoST ), namely :
  - The 8th National Science, Technology & Innovation Award in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
  - MoST 2018 Public Wing 6-month and 9-month activities performance evaluation.
- The 45th Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum ( GHACOF ) which was held from 06 – 07 February 2017, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- The 47th Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum ( GHACOF ) which was held from 21-22 August 2017, in Zanzibar, Tanzania.
- Agricultural Transformation Agency International conference on Agrometeorology, 3-4 July 2017, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- NASA IDS: Seasonal Prediction of Hydro-Climatic Extremes in the Grater Horn of Africa (GHA): The Third Participatory Research Workshop" that was held on 24-25th October 2017, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. EtMS was the event organizer.

## MEMBERS' UPDATES (REGION I)

## PUBLICATIONS

- The 3rd Journal of EtMS ( JEtMS ) is in the preparation phase and is expected to be published as soon as possible.
- The 16th issue of the EtMS Newsletter was published in February 2018.

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- EtMS 11th Annual Regular General Assembly (GA) and a Seminar on “ Drivers and Trends of Hydrometeorological Extremes and their Sensitivities to the Changing Climate and the Resulting Impacts on Selected Economic Sectors in Ethiopia” will be held, back to back, on 4 and 5 June 2018 at the invitation of Arbaminch University, 500 km south of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- The 6th EtMS members excursion is planned along with the 11th EtMS GA at the beginning of June 2018.

## Starting New Hydro-Met Societies

Workneh Degefu (Ethiopian Meteorological Society) with Introduction by Harinder Ahluwalia

### 1 Introduction

IFMS believes that National Hydro-Met Societies are an important component of the Global Weather Enterprise (GWE). They tend to have members from all three sectors (Public, Private and Academic - PPA) and can provide a strong value proposition to their members as well as a venue for interaction between three sectors. With IFMS' Value Proposition, these societies can leverage each other's strengths and can develop at a faster rate.

One of the many activities IFMS plans to execute is creation of new National Hydro-Met Societies in countries where none exist but that are large enough to have one. WMO has 191 Members States and territories as its members and there are less than 70 National Hydro-Met Societies in the world. Therefore, there is considerable scope for IFMS to encourage the formation of new societies. IFMS has taken up that challenge and has started inviting such countries to start a Hydro-Met Society. We will request the established societies in the region to help newly created societies and IFMS will also provide required assistance. Such societies are often started and financially supported by the National Hydro -Met Services (NHMS). NHMSs draw many benefits from such societies, e.g., they get assistance in promoting the profession of meteorology and they get the assistance of a volunteer-based organization to do so. A document containing benefits of having a National Hydro-Met Society is contained in this Newsletter and will also be made available on the IFMS Website ([www.ifms.org](http://www.ifms.org)).

In order to show a live example of starting a new society, we asked the Ethiopian Meteorological Society, which is 11 years old, to narrate their experience for the benefit of those countries which would like to start such a society. Here is what they contributed.

### 2 Experience of a Developing Society

The Ethiopian Meteorological Society (EtMS) was established in 2007. There were seven founding members. It has now about 200 members. Its formation relied on the efforts of a few individuals who came together and drafted the constitution and submitted it to the Government Agency responsible for regulating the affairs of professional societies and NGOs. It did not take long to get the Society established and get going.

The Ethiopian National Meteorological Agency provided the Society with office space, furniture and used computers to start with.

The office started to function with a Manager and an Accountant.

A few dedicated members provided seed money to start the Society. Recruitment of members was very aggressive. The Society entered an agreement with the Ethiopian National Meteorological Agency to deduct members dues from their monthly salary and hand it over to the Society. This has been very helpful since it provides a regular flow of income to run the operational work of the Society. However, member's dues are so small that they cannot cover all the financial needs of the Society. Therefore, income generation became an important focus of the Society. We strengthened the Society's event organizing capacity in order to obtain payment for its services. The Society also organizes its own seminars and conferences and obtains some funds from sponsors. So far, we are able to generate income to run the Society's activities at a minimum level.

## MEMBERS' UPDATES (REGION I & II)

The Society also approaches donors and international organizations to provide us with used computers, furniture and other office equipment. So far this has been very successful.

The Society has two major challenges. The obvious one is lack of financial resources and the second is to demonstrate the benefit of membership.

With regard to the first challenge, the Society is making every effort to generate funds through cooperation and collaboration with NGOs, international organizations, research institutions and various universities by holding joint seminars, conferences and research activities.

In terms of the second challenge, the Society has awarded fellowships in support of graduate students completing their research work, publish the research work of its members in the Society's Journal free of charge, provide letters of recommendation and support for employment purposes or for scholarship applications. This has helped to interest young professionals in the work of the Society. For the older and retired professionals, the Society organizes excursions to various historical, research and other sites of interest at least once a year to keep their interest in the society alive.

### 3 Conclusions

1. Although, the Society's experience over the past 11 years illustrates some challenges, these challenges have been met through the use of innovative ideas.
  2. Financial challenges could persist, but the Society is upbeat about its future. Its usefulness in the development of Weather Enterprise in Ethiopia is unquestionable.
  3. By participating in the IFMS activities, they will learn new ideas over time and will benefit from IFMS' Value Proposition.
  4. The Ethiopian Meteorological Society is ready to share its Ethiopian Meteorological experience with any other countries in the African region that intend to establish meteorological societies.
- The IFMS congratulates the Ethiopian Meteorological Society for its zeal for making progress by finding innovative solutions to all its challenges.
- We encourage the Ethiopian Meteorological Society to use its experience in mentoring new societies in its region.



## MEMBERS' UPDATES (REGION II)

## News from the Chinese Meteorological Society

The Chinese Meteorological Society (CMS) was initiated in Qingdao, China on October 10, 1924. CMS aims to advance meteorological research and develop meteorological observation. CMS is one of over 200 academic societies of the China Association for Sciences and Technology (CAST), and has long been affiliated with the China Meteorological Administration (CMA). CMS currently has 150 institute members and more than 19,000 individual members. Under the CMS Council, there are 35 academic subject committees and 4 working committees. The 28th Council of the CMS was elected in November 2014, with Professor Huijun WANG as the President. An election for the 29th Council of CMS has been scheduled to be held in the second half of 2018. Meanwhile, a new five-year strategic plan for CMS will be proposed. CMS's major tasks include academic exchange, meteorological science education and outreach, science and technology consultation and assessment, and journal publication. It has been designated as a 4A-level academic social organization by the Ministry of Civil Affairs of China, and it has received a number of awards and honorary titles from CAST and CMA. For more than 90 years, CMS has been striving to enhance its service capabilities and expand its overall strength and social impacts. Recent CMS activities are summarized as follows.



## CMS Awards

The 2017 Award for Fundamental Research Achievements in Atmospheric Sciences and the 2017 Award for Meteorological S&T Advancement were conferred at the 34th CMS Annual Meeting on September 27, 2017 in Zhengzhou, Henan Province, China. CMS also issues two more prestigious awards: The TU. C. W. Young Meteorologist Award (bi-annually, since 1985) and The ZOU J. M. Talent Award (bi-annually, since 2008).

## Academic Exchange

CMS hosts 50+ domestic academic conferences at the national, regional, and local levels for researchers, forecasters, and other professionals in the field of meteorology each year. The CMS Annual Meeting usually attracts about 1500 attendees and over 100 exhibitors, which is the largest academic event in the meteorological community in China. The pictures below show the plenary session and the local media interview in the exhibit area of the 34th CMS Annual Meeting in September 2017.



CMS also actively participate in international exchanges. A series of international meetings have been organized jointly by the CMS and related societies/organizations, such as the International Symposium on Tropical Meteorology and Marine Science and Technology, China-ASEAN Disaster Reduction and Sustainable Development Expert Forum, the 7th COAA International Conference on

## MEMBERS' UPDATES (REGION II)

Atmosphere, Ocean, and Climate Change, Forum on Regional Climate Monitoring, Assessment and Prediction for Asia (FOCRAII), and so on.

Under the MOU between the AMS (American Meteorological Society) and CMS, CMS and AMS have jointly hosted two sessions. One was at the CMS Annual Meeting in 2015 in Tianjin and the other at the AMS Annual Meeting in 2017 in Seattle.

CMS, KMS (Korean Meteorological Society), and MSJ (Meteorological Society of Japan) jointly host the biennial Asian Conference of Meteorology (ACM) or the Joint CMS-KMS-MSJ conference of Meteorology. The First and Second ACMs were organized by MSJ and KMS, respectively, in Kyoto in 2015 and in Busan in 2017. The Third ACM will be held in China in 2019.

### Academic Exchange

CMS sponsors and organizes a variety of outreach education programs, such as the Met Summer Camp (since 1982) for middle and high school students, University Student Volunteers Program in Climate Change Education (since 2008), science salons, arts (such as photography) competition, toastmaster TV shows. CMS, together with CMA, have endorsed 279 outreach education bases across China, and conducted annual assessment and appraisal of these bases for better outreach impacts. CMS has developed nearly 200 types of outreach products and opened up an online platform (<http://kpqx.cms1924.org>) to satisfy the high demand of such products. The CMS outreach programs are reaching farther than ever before.



*The Robot "Pang Pang" (plump boy) is answering questions about weather and climate change.*



CMA General Administrator, Yaming LIU, and CMS Secretary General, Jinxing WANG and Xuezhu FENG, at the World Meteorological Day (3.23) in front of the CMS Booth.



A CMS Met Carnival in a high school in Beijing

### Journals Publication

CMS publishes *Acta Meteorologica Sinica* (in Chinese) and the *Journal of Meteorological Research* (in English). It co-publishes with the Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, *The Chinese Journal of Atmospheric Sciences* (in Chinese), *Climatic and Environmental Research* (in Chinese), *Advances in Atmospheric Sciences* (in English), and *Atmospheric and Oceanic Science Letters*. CMS also co-publishes, together with CMA, a science education magazine, *Meteorological Knowledge*.



Lan Yi and Aida Liu visiting AMS staff at our Boston Headquarters, in May.



The Association of Meteorological Journals (AMJ) of China, led by the CMS Working Committee on Meteorological Journals (WCMJ), is now comprised of 48 meteorological journals published at national and provincial levels. WCMJ organizes sessions at the CMS annual meetings to promote better writing of scientific papers. Members of WCMJ have also visited the AMS publications department and joined the AMS publications Commission Meeting in May 2016.

## MEMBERS' UPDATES (REGION VI)



## XXXV SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE OF AME AND 19TH SPANISH- PORTUGUESE MEETING OF METEOROLOGY

The President of AME, Fernando Aguado, welcomes the participants of the XXXV Scientific Conference of AME and 19th Spanish-Portuguese Meeting of Meteorology.

The Portuguese Association of Meteorology and Geophysics (APMG) was represented by Lourdes Bugalho and Jorge Marques, APMG's vice-president and treasurer respectively, in the XXXV Scientific Conference of AME and the 19th Spanish-Portuguese Meeting of Meteorology, which were jointly held by the Spanish Meteorological Association in León, Spain, from March 5 to 7, 2018.

In addition to being at the opening ceremony table of these meetings, Lourdes Bugalho also participated in the discussion of the theme "Weather and Climate Prediction oriented to impacts". This conference was very participative and reached a high scientific level, having had a very active participation of professionals from the State Meteorological Agency (AEMET) and Spanish Universities.

## THE ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY (RMETS)

The Royal Meteorological Society (RMets) was founded in 1850 and is the UK's Learned and Professional Society for weather and climate. The Society's mission is to promote the understanding and application of meteorology for the benefit of all. Membership to RMets is open to anyone with an interest in weather and climate, as a science, profession or interest, or those at the interface with related disciplines. Our membership includes scientists, practitioners, students and weather enthusiasts, with a worldwide membership of 3,300 people from over 50 countries.

The RMets has just launched its 3-year strategic plan for 2018-2020, which recognises the achievements in recent years and builds on the momentum to create a modern and progressive Professional and Learned Society that makes an important contribution to meteorology.

### **RMets is responsible for:**

- the stewardship of both the profession and science of meteorology.
- supporting people's understanding, interest and enthusiasm in weather and climate.
- underpinning the development of high-quality science.
- raising the profile of the profession, the importance of professional accreditation in meteorology.
- encouraging the next generation of meteorologists.
- supporting learning in weather and climate through education and outreach activities.
- responding to the future challenges in delivering our programmes of work.
- facilitating collaboration with strategic partners.
- informing policy-makers.
- demonstrating its benefit to the wider community.
- recognising excellence in the community.



## MEMBERS' UPDATES (REGION VI)

To achieve these aims and objectives, the Society conducts a wide programme of activities throughout the year:

**Public engagement with weather and climate.** This includes the [WeatherClub.org.uk](http://WeatherClub.org.uk) (our public outreach website which is free to join), participating in outreach events, climate science communication activities, providing information booklets, running competitions, social media channels and working with the media.

**Education and schools programme.** RMetS supports the teaching of weather and climate in UK schools by continuously developing new teaching resources, training materials and subject knowledge information which can be accessed via our educational website, called MetLink ([www.MetLink.org](http://www.MetLink.org)). The Society also runs an online FutureLearn course in conjunction with the University of Reading called 'Come Rain or Shine', which is a free introduction to weather.

**Events.** The Society hosts around 75 events each year, many of which are run in partnership with other organisations. These include National Meetings, Local Centre Meetings and Special Interest Group Meetings for those who are interested in particular areas of meteorology, as well as three annual conferences for the meteorological community.

**Scientific Publishing.** Society's publishes seven international journals, three of which are fully open access. The journals can be accessed online via the [RMetSJournals.org](http://RMetSJournals.org) hub and via apps.

**Accreditation.** The Society runs two accreditation schemes, which are linked to the WMO BIP-M / BIP-MT's science and practice guidelines, and both are competency-based. The aim of both schemes is to maintain and improve professional standards in meteorology: the Registered Meteorologist (RMet) is an accreditation aimed at those who are within the early stages of pursuing a career in meteorology, or working in a role supporting meteorological services. The Chartered Meteorologist (CMet) is the highest professional qualification available in meteorology within the UK, and is well recognised by both employees and employers.

**Membership Benefits.** There are a number of additional benefits to becoming a member:

- **Funding and bursaries** are available for members to apply for to support research or travel expenses, including a new bursary for carers.
- **Mentoring:** A cross-sector mentoring scheme which was recently launched to support members in their careers.
- **Career support:** Access to the accreditation schemes, an online CPD tool and a jobs board.
- **Remote access** to meetings and access to audio and presentations after the event.
- **Journals:** Members also receive a copy of *Weather* journal each month and can access all our journals online for just £10 / year.
- **Discounts** on events, books and other reciprocal society membership fees.
- **Awards.** The annual Society awards scheme recognises individual excellence in a number of met-related fields, for which members nominate their peers.

To find out more about joining the RMetS and our programme of activities, visit [www.rmets.org](http://www.rmets.org)

## MEMBERS' UPDATES (REGION VI &amp; International)

**EMS NEWSLETTER: EMS-MESSAGE**

The EMS Liaison Committee publishes the *ems-message* every 6 – 8 weeks, collecting information about activities of EMS Member organisations. The recent *ems-messages* can be found at

<https://www.emetsoc.org/publications/ems-message/>

The last *ems-message* included results from the recent membership survey, a meteorology-themed cartoon exhibition in Croatia, the interview of the month with the President of the Spanish Met society, reports from an autumn school for teachers in Germany and from the Annual Table Quiz of the Irish Met society, ... and many more highlights from EMS members and collaborating organisations.

**EMS TV WEATHER FORECAST AWARD 2018**

The EMS TV Weather Forecast Award is presented to individuals to acknowledge best practice in communication of meteorology. The Award is presented annually in form of a trophy.

Broadcast meteorologists are invited each year to submit a video clip of a weather forecast for presentation at the EMS Annual Meeting. All broadcast meteorologists who submit video material produced during the period since July 2017 in mp4-format are eligible for the TV Weather Forecast Award 2018, no regional restriction applies for this award.



The tenth International Conference on Urban Climate (ICUC-10) will be held Aug 6-10 in New York City.

<https://www.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/meetings-events/ams-meetings/10th-international-conference-on-urban-climate-14th-symposium-on-the-urban-environment/>



A number of IAUC members participated in the recent CitiesIPCC conference in Edmonton, Canada. <https://citiesipcc.org/> This important event will help shape research related to cities and climate change and the incorporation of cities in future IPCC Assessment Reports.

IAUC members collaborated with the WMO on developing a new "Guide for Urban Integrated Hydro-meteorological, Climate and Environmental Services Part 1". The document will be considered at World Meteorological Organization Executive Council number 70 meeting in June 2018. This document is intended to help support the UN goal of sustainable cities and communities through provision of urban integrated services. Such integrated services require the participation of public, private and academic organizations and these roles and collaboration are described in the document.



THE IFMS NEWSLETTER  
The List of Publisher



**PUBLISHER: HARINDER P. S. AHLUWALIA**

**CHIEF EDITOR: KUNG-YUEH CAMYALE CHAO**

**EDITORIAL COMMITTEE: KEITH SEITTER, ZOLTAN DUNKEL, JOHN MUNGAI,**

**EDUARDO AGOSTA, AJIT TYAGI, JOHN (JACK) HAYES, TODD LANE, LIZ BENTLEY,**

**GABRIELA MÜLLER, GRACIELA SALABERRI, KATHY ALLEN**

**TECHNICAL EDITOR: HAN-WEI CHANG**

*Contact email address: IFMS.website@gmail.com*

*www.ifms.org*

*Published on June 30, 2018*