

Development Status of the AfMS

IFMS is developing the Global Weather Enterprise (**GWE**) that consists of the Regional, and National Meteorological Societies connected to the WMO, World Bank, and specialized societies (e.g. AGU, IAUC, ISB, etc.) through IFMS. This effort has resulted in the creation of the African Meteorological Society (AfMS: www.africanmetsociety.org).

AfMS has been created to develop capacity in Africa by uniting all existing National Meteorological Societies (NMSoc) of Africa into a cohesive unit and creating new ones in the countries where they do not exist. The value of NMSocs in attracting active and retired professionals from the Public, Private, and Academic sectors is well-proven. AfMS can provide a forum for collaboration between African professionals, and through its membership in the International Forum of Meteorological Societies (www.ifms.org), it can become an important link for worldwide collaboration. Since WMO is also very interested in creating capacity in Africa, realizing the value of AfMS, it has signed an MOU with AfMS and both of them are conducting joint activities one of which is the forthcoming Conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia – the home of WMO RA1 Office and AfMS' Headquarters.

In addition, AfMS has attracted well-educated and highly-placed (in prestigious universities, and Research Labs) African Diaspora. We have also been able to attract a lot of non-Africans (we call Friends of Africa) who are helping us to create capacity in Africa through Education and Training (**E&T**) and Science and Technology (**S&T**) Collaboration.

The basic duty of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (**NMHSs**) is to create capacity in their country. They collaborate with other NMHSs through WMO and also on a one-to-one basis. Now we have given them AfMS which is conducting capacity-building programs through organizing Conferences, having an AfMS Scientific Journal, and a Newsletter in which Africans can publish and gain confidence. We have also created a website which has a lot of information on various aspects of capacity building, and is expected to be further enhanced.

Our Pilot on Teacher Training Program (**TTP**) is going quite strongly and we are now preparing the 11 courses we have decided to include in the TTP. It will include We are also

We believe that the following activities are some of the important ones to develop capacity in Africa through AfMS, WMO, and IFMS Collaboration:

1. The AfMS Website (www.africanmetsociety.org) is updated regularly. It should contain the capacity-building Programs of not only the AfMS but also WMO and NMHSs.
2. The quality Newsletter, the first was completed and is available on the following site: <https://africanmetsociety.org/news/first-newsletter-of-afms/>
The second one is under preparation and will be issued in August 2024.
3. The Scientific Journal of AfMS (**JAFMS**) is under preparation and will be issued as soon as we have sufficient high-quality material to publish it. The National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), and WMO are requested to help convince their Africa-based scientists to provide high-quality papers for publication. High-quality Opinion Papers can also come from other scientists and bureaucrats.
4. The first Conference of AfMS will be held in Addis Ababa on April 27-30, 2025 in partnership with WMO under the MOU the WMO and AfMS have signed. WMO is requested to confirm that these dates do not clash with other WMO activities.
5. The Education and Training (**E&T**) Program of AfMS – especially the Teacher Training Program, and the Learning Portal. Courses are also planned for educating the Politicians, and the Public at large about the required protection from disasters due to Climate Change caused by Global Warming.
6. Collaboration in Science and Technology (**S&T**) between societies, as well as, between individual scientists. This will be achieved at the national level through the National Meteorological Societies

(**NMSocs**), the Continental level through AfMS, and the global level through IFMS. This activity also involves the Global Partnership Program of the American Meteorological Society (**AMS**).

7. Creation of the National Meteorological Societies (**NMSocs**) in those nations where they do not exist. The collaboration mentioned above requires the existence of an NMSoc in each country.

As already stated, to leverage the existence of a strong African Diaspora worldwide and the desire of many non-African professionals (whom we call Friends of Africa (**FOA**)) to help Africa, we have created a committee called D-FOA which has a membership of almost 40 scientists and bureaucrats with a strong desire to build capacity in Africa. This Committee is expected to grow greatly as people see positive results from AfMS.

Conclusions

With a population of approximately 18% of the world, Africa has contributed only 3.8% to GHG generation. However, because of the lack of capacity and infrastructure, Africa will suffer much unless steps are taken to create a strong knowledge base and infrastructure. Thanks to the UN for promoting MHEWS in all countries.

AfMS, NMHSs, and WMO owe it to the African population to collaborate in all possible ways and create strong capacity in Africa to minimize the damage caused by Global Warming and Climate Change in Africa.