

Uniting NMSocs of the world to make the whole much bigger than its parts!



Building Capacity around the world by strengthening National Meteorological Societies & Regional Meteorological Societies and creating Collaborations

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DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL HYDRO-MET SOCIETIES

The purpose of this document is to encourage all countries – no matter how big or how small – to have a National Meteorological Society (**NMSoc**) because of the benefits it can provide.

The International Forum of Meteorological Societies (**IFMS**) is an organization to foster and encourage communication and exchange of knowledge, ideas and resources among the world's more than sixty meteorological societies. We play a key role in supporting developed and developing 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 these societies and related organizations to collaborate, deliver shared outcomes and share best practices for the benefit of all.

Similarly, we are working on having a Regional Meteorological Society (**RMS**) in each continent to create collaboration between NMSocs in their region.

We believe that an **NMSoc** or a National Hydro-Meteorological Society (**NHMSoc**) has a unique role in developing the science and profession of meteorology in your country. Since NMSocs can have membership from Public, Private and Academic Sectors, there is valuable opportunity to exchange knowledge and information via various activities of NMSoc. With closer relationship come opportunities for stronger collaboration. A vibrant Private Sector in your country will also help you in creating strong infrastructure and will also create employment opportunities for your citizens.

Another important reason for having an NMSoc is to be able to benefit from the activities of not only your own NMSoc but also from the activities of your RMS, IFMS and other sister NMSocs. Only NMSocs can become members of RMSs and IFMS and collaborate with other NMSocs.

Therefore, one of our important missions is to assist those countries in creating NMSoc where none currently exists. Some of the advantages of having a NHMSoc are attached in Annex A.

Normally, the creation of NMSoc is encouraged by the local National Hydromet Service (NHMS - Government Department) and University Staff. Therefore, we would like to recommend the creation of such a Society in your country with all the assistance you can get. We will be happy to organize assistance for your service to create an NHMSoc.

Kindly let us know whether you are interested in creating an NMSoc in your country. Your NMSoc can be your best ally in creating capacity in your country. ***We will guide you to create one!***

Please complete the attached form and send to us.



Additional Rationale for Creating an NMSoc in your Country

In addition to all the advantages cited in Annex 1 of having an NMSoc in your country and the fact that only NMSoc can become a member of RMS and IFMS, we would like to illustrate why, today, it is possible to have an NMSoc in every country irrespective of its size. In the following Diagram we have illustrated the benefits Andorra and Iceland (two very small population countries) are reaping from the activities of the European Meteorological Society.

One time it was thought that only large countries can have an NMSoc. However, now because of the services provided by IFMS and RMSs, and the existence of convenient tools for remote participation and learning, it has become possible to participate in the activities of IFMS, RMS and your sister NMSocs. In summary:

1. Many common activities are conducted by IFMS and your RMS which can be shared. Just keeping track of these activities and keeping your members informed about them itself is a sufficient incentive to create an NMSoc in your country for the benefit of your professionals.
2. Today's means of communications, existence of tools like Zoom, WebEx, MS-Teams, Google-Meet, etc. make it possible to participate in the activities of RMS, IFMS and sister NMSocs.
3. Add to that an occasional get together for local presentations and lunches or dinners, recognitions, etc. That itself is a big incentive.



ANNEX A

ADVANTAGES OF NATIONAL HYDRO-METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE

1. **Broaden your knowledge** through Conferences, Webinars, Professional organizations sometimes offer courses, seminars and/or lectures to keep themselves and their 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!
2. **Take charge of your career:** Take advantage of career resources. 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.
3. **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.
4. **Enhance your network:** We all know that networking is key for the* movers and shakers of the community! Making connections is critical, and joining associations give countless opportunities to connect on a local and sometimes even 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.
5. **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.
6. **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.
7. **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.



8. Give back to the community: There are plenty of organizations that coordinate socially conscious initiatives to support community efforts. Whether it is a nearby animal shelter or a food drive for a local charity, there are sure to be plenty of options for you to choose for if you are looking to give back.

9. 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!

10. Stay Inspired and Stay Motivated: Learn to love what you do! You may not even know that you love something, but it's important to be proactive about things you discover on the journey. Join a professional organization and discover something new TODAY!

Existing National Meteorological Societies in Africa

1	Tanzania	2	Kenya	3	Uganda	4	Ethiopia
5	Sudan	6	South Africa	7	Nigeria	8	Egypt
9	Algeria	10	Mauritius				

Potential new National Meteorological Societies in Africa

1	Cameroon	2	Zimbabwe	3	Sierra Leone	4	Zambia

