



REPORT OF THE EXPERT TEAM ON CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH RESOURCE MOBILISATION, PARTNERSHIPS, AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE (CDP-ET-RMPDA)

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1. Meetings and wider input

Since the first CDP virtual meeting in August 2020, the CDP-ET-RMPDA has held two virtual meetings. In addition, the facilitator, Karen McCourt, has had several discussions with members of the WMO Secretariat around the proposed outputs outlined below, alongside discussions by mail with those in the ET.

2. ET-RMPDA TORS (Note: very slight adjustments to wording were made based on input from the ET)

Monitor and make recommendations on the following:

- i. Provide guidance and oversight regarding WMO efforts to strengthen assistance to the NMHSs of Developing and Least Developed Countries
- ii. The facilitation of twinning arrangements and other innovative modes of bilateral cooperation.
- iii. Strategies to leverage initiatives in the UN system and other development partner initiatives.
- iv. Oversee and guide the implementation of the tasks of the Executive Council according to Resolution 8.3/1 (Cg-18). In particular, ensure that WMO activities that support capacity development, including the Country Support Initiative and VCP, as well as WMO-related CREWS activities, are complementary and take into consideration the unique national context of Members.
- v. Strategies for identifying opportunities; how to best apply extra-budgetary resources to maximise impacts; develop guidance for NMHSs on resource mobilization strategy.
- vi. Approaches to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate projects.
- vii. Partnerships, promotion of multilateral and bi-lateral collaboration, Public-Private Engagement (PPE), interagency collaboration including WMO-IOC JCB.

3. Drivers for proposed outputs

The focus of current and future activities under the ET are focussed on linking in with TORs outlined above, and making sure any activities:

- a) Add value to the work of WMO – with a focus on providing feedback/guidance as opposed to practical implementation of specific capacity development activities (much of which is being done elsewhere across WMO, and by Members);
- b) Assist with the effective coordination of capacity development across WMO, which is believed to be central to the TORs of the wider Panel;
- c) In line with b), feed into work on the revised Capacity Development Strategy;
- d) Complement, rather than duplicate, any other work in the CDP-ETs and across WMO;
- e) Recognises the busy schedules of all team members and contributors to the ET, so ensuring that we are prioritising those activities that will add most value as per a); and
- f) Consider feedback from relevant WMO bodies, including from Cg-18 in 2019, and EC-72 & 73 held virtually in September 2020/June 2021.

4. Update on ET-RMPDA Activities and Outputs

i) Assessment of key development needs/gaps in each Region (including consideration of significant upcoming initiatives under the Technical Commissions and Research Board which may require capacity development support) to feed into the revised Capacity Development Strategy (2022)

TOR link: All

Update: This links with the EC72 feedback: "To identify opportunities and complementarity between all WMO initiatives to strengthen capacity of developing Members when reviewing the WMO Capacity Development Strategy" and was recommended to EC73. It is proposed that this would not be looking in absolute detail, but reviewing what are the KEY needs and assessing if these are being tackled effectively – and, if not, how/where might this be done across WMO and Members.

The ET-RMPDA has made contact with Dr Michael Smith who will be working on the CDS and requested that this activity (with input from the RAs, TCs and RB), and previous ET-RMPDA discussion around this, will be taken into consideration for the development of the CDS.

ii) Review of current data collection platforms and methodologies and providing recommendations on how best to manage/streamline.

TOR link: (i),(v),(vi)

Update: In initial ET-RMPDA discussions it was recognised that there are already numerous data sources available/methodologies for collection of data within WMO, and the potential need for these to be rationalised. However, with the development of the new Country Hydromet Diagnostics (CHD) tool - being developed as a tool and approach to help provide NMHS peer-reviewed assessments of capacity, and to help inform and guide investments related to development projects – and which links to some of the existing collection platforms e.g. Climate Services Checklist; it was decided to adjust this activity to assist with the peer review of the CHD. The facilitator has been in contact with those leading on the CHD, and plans for the ET to assist with this peer review during September.

iii) Review of/guidance on, initiatives (as discussed at EC72) and feedback to EC e.g. Country Hydromet Diagnostics tool, SOFF, others TBD in discussion with relevant WMO departments/programmes.

TOR link: All

Update: Discussion during CDP-2 in February 2021 emphasised the benefit of input from the CDP in major development initiatives including SOFF. Following this meeting it was discussed regarding ET-RMPDA being involved in peer review of SOFF but was decided at this time – and as SOFF development was mature – that input was not applicable at this stage. Instead it was agreed that the ET-RMPDA could best provide feedback into the CHD peer review, as above.

The ET-RMPDA would welcome ongoing input and guidance from EC and the WMO Secretariat as to significant initiatives that it would be helpful for the CDP, and ET-RMPDA, to provide review and guidance on, and provide value in this way (in line with section 3.a)).

iv) Support of the independent evaluation of WMO projects as requested by EC-72

TOR link: (i)

Update: In Decides 11 (EC-72), EC decided "To base the decision on scope and scale of future development projects implemented by the WMO Secretariat on a strategy that needs to be informed by an independent evaluation of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and fiduciary risks of the current approach." And the CDP to: "To support the independent evaluation of the WMO Secretariat implemented projects".

The ET-RMPDA has fed into the initial scoping for the recruitment exercise for this consultant, and the details of the assignment are currently being finalised by WMO. The consultancy announcement is due to be issued in the first quarter of 2022 with the initiative commencing in the second quarter of 2022. At this point the ET-RMPDA will provide further input as appropriate.

It is anticipated, as part of this work, the consultant may include a review of materials/outputs related to the meeting mentioned in v.), as an introduction to the portfolio, how it is being implemented, and the perspectives of key stakeholders.

v.) Input into guidance/recommendations on the facilitation of twinning arrangements and other innovative modes of bilateral cooperation, and best practise for taking forward.

TOR link: (ii),(vi)

Update: During the period since the last CDP meeting, input was made into the meeting "Strengthening collaboration among NMHSs and WMO Centers for effective support to Members through extra-budgetary projects" facilitated by WMO 10th-12th March 2021.

There was a significant amount of useful feedback gathered from this meeting, particularly to guide future project implementation, and associated cooperation. The final approved version of the meeting report has been posted on the meeting website. It was further highlighted to WMO, and in discussion with the ET-TD, the importance of ensuring this valuable feedback could be further shared with and taken on board to be used practically, particularly by those technical departments involved in projects, and the TCs.

It should be noted that some of this feedback could also be helpful for the Capacity Development Strategy development and we would encourage the meeting output to be reviewed as part of this process.

We would also encourage that the other ET's review the meeting output to check re links into current/future activities. For example the ET-HRM/ET-PIM have noted some potential activity around leadership/management development. There was significant feeding during the meeting regarding the need for building capacity on project proposal writing/linking with strategic planning/working effectively with government and development partners on resource mobilisation. Under the ET-RMPDA we also have proposed some work looking at best practise in working with Government/development partners which could hopefully also link in with this work (see vi.).

In addition, ET-HRD are due to look lessons from COVID/post COVID training and things such as blended learning approaches which were also brought up numerous times at the meeting. It was also noted regarding the need to keep curricula up-to-date and ensuring that there is consideration of upcoming initiatives and priorities from TCs. So this may also be an area which the ET-HRD could keep a watch on (and similarly may also feed into the Capacity Development Strategy).

vi.) Review and document recommendations on best practise in terms of working with development partners/Government (to enhance knowledge sharing in this area).

TOR link: (iii),(v)

Update: This links to feedback from EC-72 requesting the CDP to "To develop appropriate guidelines supporting the implementation of the WMO initiatives to strengthen the capacity of developing country Members" Professor Karnawati and her team in Indonesia have been working hard to pull together questionnaires – both online and in-person – and have been conducting numerous interviews across the WMO Membership and Secretariat. This has included LDCs, middle-income countries, and developed countries working in partnership with other NMHSs on capacity development activities. The analysis from this activity should be available in the next couple of months.

vii.) As per tasks from Res 8.3/1(Cg-18), ensure that WMO activities that support capacity development, including the Country Support Initiative and VCP, as well as WMO-related CREWS activities, are complementary and take into consideration the unique national context of Members. Reviewing how these (and other similar) initiatives can fit together and complement/benefit each other.

TOR link: (iv)

Update: A watching brief is continuing on this with some discussions with those involved with CSI, CREWS, and we hope to discuss further with VCP Members at a proposed meet later this year.

It was noted that at EC73 there was an intervention (Doc 4.4): "To conduct an assessment of, and clarify the rules and responsibilities of, the different actors as well as the different funding mechanisms involved in WMO Capacity Development activities" (Decides 9) and we will look to incorporate this, in discussion with the Secretariat, in the work of the CDP and ET-RMPDA going forward.