



Weather
and climate
data for
resilience

March 2023

Update on SOFF

Capacity Development Panel

SOFF Secretariat



SOFF - A new vertical UN climate fund

- Established in November 2021 by **WMO, UNDP, UNEP** as a **UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund** (UNMPTF), launched 1 July 2022
- Provides **long-term technical and grant-based financial assistance** to enable countries to acquire and internationally exchange GBON data
- Focused on supporting **Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs)**
- A **delivery vehicle for the UN Early Warnings for All initiative**

SOFF basic features and value proposition

Global approach and data exchange as measure of success

- Optimal, detailed and **agreed global design and metrics** –GBON

Innovative finance

- **Results-based, long-term finance**, incl. operations and maintenance
- **Grants-only**, recognizing a global public good

Technical competency

- **Peer-to-peer technical assistance** by advanced met offices

Phases of support

Three phases of SOFF support

- **Readiness**
 - GBON gap analysed and reviewed
 - GBON national contribution developed and verified
 - Country Hydromet Diagnostics undertaken
- **Investment**
 - GBON infrastructure in place
 - GBON human and institutional capacity developed
- **Compliance**
 - GBON data internationally shared and results-based finance provided
 - Annual GBON compliance report published

Which countries can access SOFF support?



SOFF Operations: Ambitious delivery in 2023

Targets

- **55 first implementation period countries** programmed by June
- **30 countries completed Readiness phase by COP28**, i.e., have in place a national assessment and developed a plan how to close the Global Basic Observing Network (GBON) data gap
- **10 countries moved to Investment phase by COP28**

Ease of access

- **SOFF to provide results-based support** for investment and long-term open-ended compliance
- **SOFF resources to be blended with resources from Implementing Entities** that will invest in the latter part of the value chain

SOFF 2023 programming overview

First 26 countries starting Readiness phase implementation in March

Regions	Sub-regions		
Africa	West Africa	Central and East Africa	Southern Africa
	Burkina Faso, Senegal, Cabo Verde, Liberia	Chad, Ethiopia, United Republic of Tanzania, Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, Rwanda	Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique
Asia	Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Timor-Leste		
Pacific	Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu		
Latin America and the Caribbean	Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Ecuador		

Initial capitalization of the Fund

In 2022 SOFF mobilized ~50M USD from 9 funders

Funders	Pledges 2022	Pledges 2023
Austria	4,149,590	
Nordic Development Fund	10,042,250	
Norway	2,551,802	5,103,604
Denmark	3,348,513	
Finland	2,991,026	
Iceland	500,000	
Ireland	3,988,035	
Spain	2,991,026	
United States of America	13,337,000	
Subtotal	43,899,242	5,103,604
Total		49,002,846
Funding target First Implementation Period 2022 - 2025		200,000,000
Funding target Early Warnings for All initiative 2022-2027		400,000,000

How to access SOFF resources?

1. **Expression of interest** to the SOFF Secretariat from the WMO PR
2. **SOFF assesses the list of interested countries** and proposes the sequencing of support based on the SOFF **programming criteria**
3. **Countries are informed**
4. **Implementing Entities and peers are informed about the prioritized countries** and requested to express their interest in supporting the country
5. **The country decides with what Implementing Entity and peer advisor** to work