Session 3: Fostering collaboration with communities (13-11-2023, 12:00 – 13:30 UTC)

This session contained two main parts: I) Presentations by authors and II) discussions. In the following, the most important messages will be outlined. For details please listen to the recordings and consider the material that has been uploaded by the authors.

Presentations

1. Ivan: (3T Forum) CoP (Community of Practise): Meetings and E-Mails and Workshops about MTG. Especially, this topic has been discussed more in detail in the second part.
2. Heleen: EUMETCAL-Training / Hackathon. One outstanding example of a very helpful cooperation is the first Hackathon that took place at SMHI in April 2023: Within only one week several learning modules were drafted and completed within a short time afterwards. For example, a module “Mountain Wave Turbulence for Aviation” is now published at EUMETCAL and can be used by the community.
3. Berny: Reflection of Training Impact – Regional focus groups. This happens before and after formal training and participants from almost all countries (America) joined. This is an example how to keep people connected to each other in an informal way. Weather briefings in relation to synoptic and climate are being arranged. 204 sessions took place so far. By doing so, improving training impacts has been realized by connecting trainees, trainers, training managers, training leaders, Senior Executives and Managers.

.

1. Luciane & Pat: WMO Global Campus (GC) Innovations, 2024 Edition: The first edition of WMO-GC with four volumes (details can be found on the web page) has been published 2020. In four volumes publications and results from workshops have been collected from around the world. Now, a new edition is needed with more cases about Education and Training (E&T)). A set of questions has been presented, e.g., consequences of COVID, how to consider new challenges (e.g., climate change, role of forecaster in the future, how to handle AI, how to bridge increasing gaps in capacity development needs). According contributions are requested. For more details please click upon <https://etrp.wmo.int/mod/page/view.php?id=24201>. A further aspect: Envisioning E&T in 2030: What will be your work live 2030? Which impacts to your training do you expect, e.g., in relation to digital formats, Artificial Intelligence (AI), training contents, socio-economic challenges? On the web page, you will find the forum for telling your visions: <https://etrp.wmo.int/mod/forum/discuss.php?d=19514>.
2. Mick: Connect 2023 – 120 (46 countries) connected in Geneva: A critical mass has been built in order to ensure according technical frame conditions, fulfilling the request by stakeholders, keeping the strategic direction of E&T, minimizing double work, performing cost-effective management and sharing training material and experiences. According working groups and a management group already exist. A remaining challenge is that a lot of material already exists that is not visible for the community, however, very helpful also for others. The following two questions were mentioned: Who has training material that is not included in WMO-Global Campus? Whose organization is not represented, however, interested to be?

Discussion

A longer discussion happened about the topic Community of Practise (CoP). The most important results are: This kind of cooperation is very helpful for getting ideas and to cooperate informally according to the motto “Too much management kills activities”. CALMet is an example for that because people act flexibly, come together, share material and experiences. And all this is done voluntary. The people join because they are interested and open. They will find their role without stress.

CoP can be even more important than formal groups (FG). However, FG are needed for getting means by the upper management (e.g., time for working in the CoP, money for travelling). Good arguments should be delivered to the management in form of numbers like cost-benefit ratio, benefits for the public, improving competencies of personal, synergy effects by joining WGs. Details about scientific background do not help for convincing a manager in a high level. The manager should know what someone is doing and for what. Thus, bureaucracy cannot be avoided: Reports and coordination by steering groups, assembly, etc. are necessary. As a first step, interested and enthusiastic people can be put together in order to work about a special topic like MTG. However, one person is needed for keeping the entire process in motion.

A further aspect from this discussion was to consider different views, e.g., from scientists and trainers. Centres of Excellent may also help people to come in and to join sessions to consider how to share people. However, people play often different roles because they are members of different bodies, e.g., COMET and CALMet.

A further challenge is to encourage people to contribute to libraries and to prepare corresponding meta data.

Different formats of weather briefing have been discussed briefly. Whereas EUMeTrain uses a shorter format (up to 45 minutes) with less interactivity the American countries arrange a longer format of about 1.5 hours by diagnosing satellite products, discussing climate phenomena like El Niñjo or La Niñja. A forecast of up to three weeks will be considered.