

STRENGTHENING CLIMATE AND DISASTER RESILIENCE IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

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ROOM 2, AFRICA PAVILION

HIGH LEVEL PANEL DISCUSSION



PARIS2015
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE
COP21·CMP11

With introductory remarks by Annick Girardin, Minister for Development and the Francophonie, France; Laura Tuck, World Bank; Jeremiah Lengoasa, WMO and Aly Abou Sabaa, AfDB

Africa's climate and development agendas are closely intertwined. Floods and droughts cause heavy loss of livelihood and lives, and derail economic development. If left unaddressed, climate variability will jeopardize Africa's development gains, and its aspirations for growth. Improving National Hydrological and Meteorological Services (NMHSs) is integral to strengthening resilience and development across Africa. Key sectors benefitting from this include agriculture, energy, water, public works, disaster risk management, health and transport.

Most NMHSs in Africa are unable to meet citizens' needs. Less than 20 percent of Sub-Saharan countries have reliable hydromet services. According to the WMO, 48 percent of surface and 40 percent of upper-air stations do not produce data.

To address this, The World Meteorological Organization, African Development Bank, and the World Bank Group launched a collaborative open framework program in June 2015 for the modernization of African Hydromet Services at national and regional levels. The Africa HydroMet Program is an open collaborative framework program covering 15 NHMSs and 4 regional centers seeking to mobilize \$600 million to meet the investment, technical, and capacity needs of hydromet services in Africa.

This event will provide a platform to present this initiative and position hydromet services' improvement as an essential ingredient of sustainable development and climate resilience for regions, countries and communities.

Moderator: Maarten van Aalst, DFID

- Welcome Address by **Mr. Jeremiah Lengoasa**, Deputy Secretary General, WMO
- Opening Remarks by **Mr. Aly Abou-Sabaa**, Vice President, African Development Bank
- Keynote Address by **Ms. Laura Tuck**, Vice President, World Bank Group
- Inaugural Address by **Ms. Annick Girardin**, Minister of Development and Francophonie, France

Panel discussion

- **Dr. Fatimata Dia Sow**, Commissioner, Economic Community of West African States
- **Ms. Aida Diongue Niang**, Director, National Agency for Civil Aviation & Meteorology, Senegal
- **Ms. Tawonga Mbale**, Director, Environmental Affairs Department, Malawi
- **Mr. Djibrilla Maiga**, Director General, Mali Meteo, Mali (requested)
- **Dr. Richard Jones**, Science Fellow, UK Met Office, UK

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