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# Multi-country Programme on Climate Information for Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change in Africa (CIRDA)

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Workshop for a Systems Approach to Designing, Implementing, and Utilizing  
Observing Networks:  
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# Background

## Access to Climate Information (CI)

- Essential for sustainable development, adaptation and poverty reduction
- Data must be accurate, comprehensive, timely, and consistently maintained

CI essential to address climate change risks -- lack of climate data (including baseline weather information) is a major contributor to low adaptive capacity

CI technologies in Africa are often not fully functional and not provided in a timely and user-friendly form for adaptation and DRR purposes

New technologies in commercial use can provide high quality climate information at relatively low first cost, are more easily maintained, and can be linked to automated, cellular communication

# CIRDA Objectives



General: Support national climate services in their efforts to collect, analyse and disseminate climate information for long term planning and adaptation.

## Specific Objectives:

- Meet the need to generate, process and disseminate high quality and timely weather and climate data that is comprehensive, reliable, accessible and in a form that end users can understand and apply
- Enable vulnerable communities, farmers and policymakers to access and use climate data to make informed decisions to respond to a changing climate
- Bring innovative, reliable, low cost, easily maintained technologies with national coverage and cellular links to hydromet agencies
- Engage private sector users of weather data as partners to ensure the sustainability of improved weather observation systems
- Impact human lives, food and global security

# WGIOS Framework and CIRDA

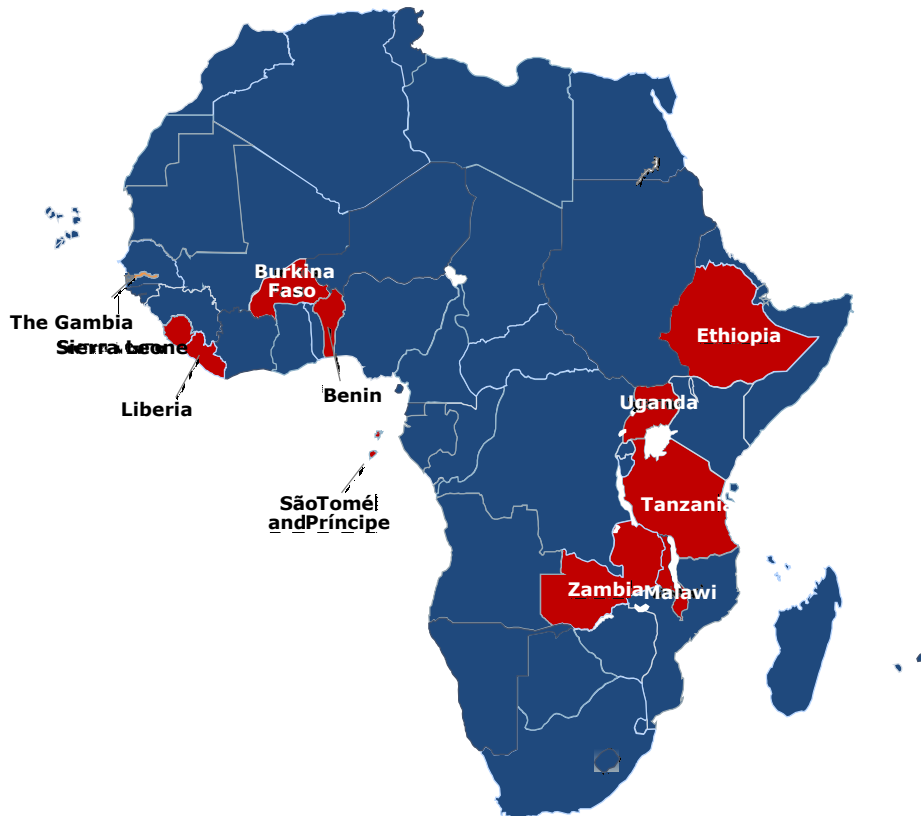


- WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WGIOS) is focused on providing demand-driven observations through the creation and integration of new and additional networks into the overall weather and climate monitoring network
- WGIOS views as complementary to existing synoptic and climate networks the creation of application-focused networks that deliver value to specific purposes and support a wide variety of uses.
- While WMO General Guidelines are appropriate and applicable for weather and climate observations entered on the Global Telecommunications System to characterize the global situation, WIGOS and CIRDA are focused on innovative observing systems intended to address needs for localized weather and climate information (agriculture, aviation, infrastructure, insurance, etc.).
- CIRDA's work is in accord with WMO's WGIOS vision through its focus on enhanced resilience and local planning.

*WIGOS will contribute to an enhanced understanding of our Earth system. This will require partnerships across borders, disciplines and organizations. Collaboration and cooperation will be key. By providing more timely and accurate information, NMHSs help decision-makers protect populations and prevent natural hazards from becoming disasters.*

# CIRDA Overview

Provides support to 11 countries



## Programme Cost (with GEF-LDCF support)

- USD 50 Million for National Projects
- **USD 4 Million for Multi Country Support**

## Support will focus on

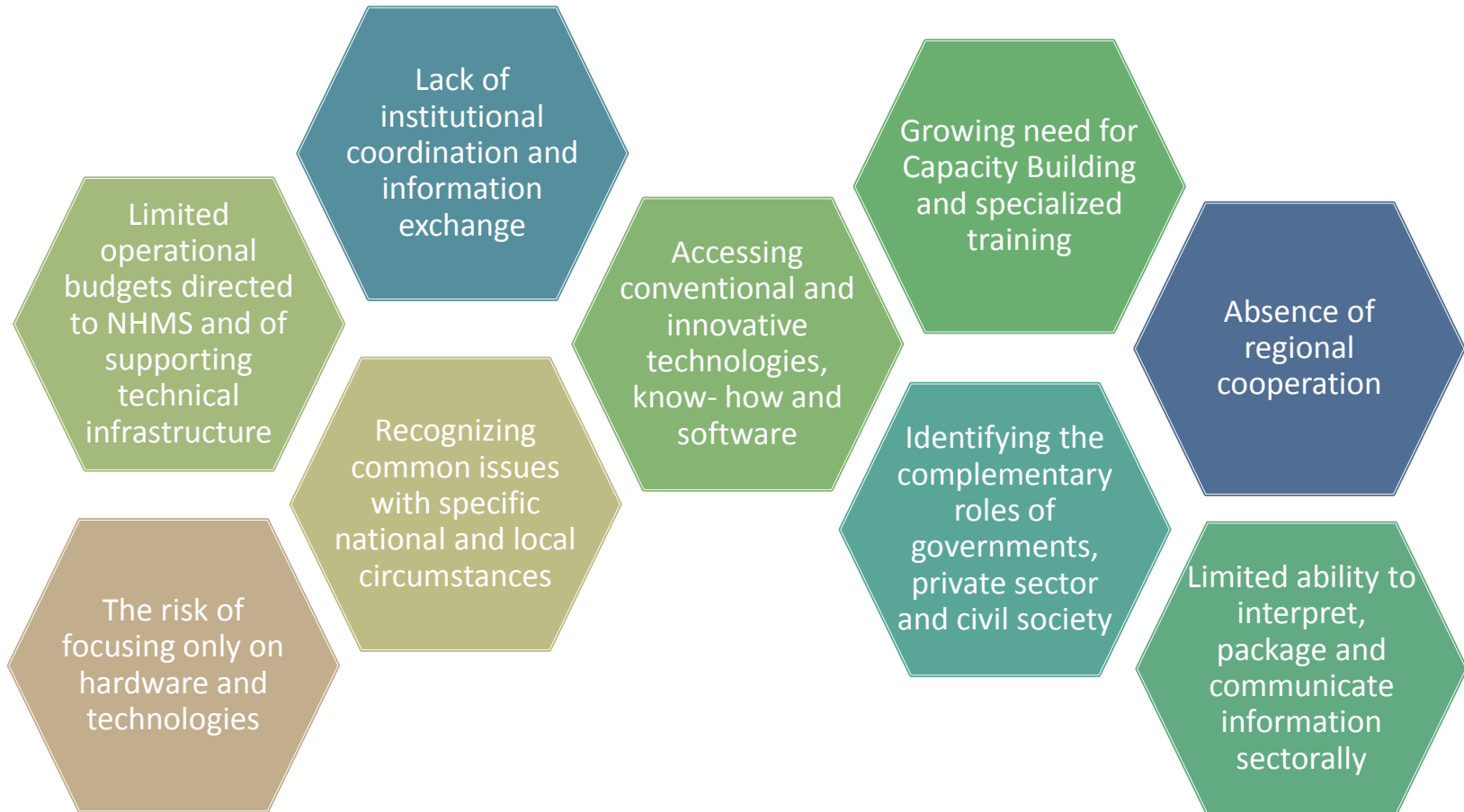
- Access to data and tech transfer
- Data interpretation
- Identify and reach end users
- Mainstream/integrate data into development planning (NAPs)
- Formally include a role for the private sector

# Outcomes and Outputs



- Develop sustainable observation networks that can provide information that communities and end users require
- Identify multiple steps to be taken – from the generation of data to its utilization by the end-users (including co-generation of information)
- Create a regional forum to share best practices, data and information to enhance country level capabilities
- Explore opportunities created by innovative technologies (soft and hard) and new means of communication (e.g. cell phones)
- Foster multi-stakeholders involvement – governments lead but they cannot do it alone
  - The private sector has technologies, expertise, and resources to respond to climate risks – PPPs generate revenue and make climate systems more sustainable
  - Civil society works at a community level and is key to adaptation

# Challenges



# Approach

By developing the **“Concept of Operations”** the Programme will be able to understand the real needs of end users to assure that data and the means of communicating alerts are appropriate and useful for planning purposes. It will also result in involving stakeholders (private sector and civil society) at the onset





# CIRDA Support: Technical Assistance



- Engaged with key experts in the field of climate information to provide ongoing specialized assistance to CIRDA partner countries.
  - Meteorology Climate Monitoring and Forecasting
  - Innovative Technologies
  - Private Sector Engagement
- Experts have been deployed to partner countries to advise and work with national partners.
- Analysis and support for identifying private sector linkages and end user needs
- Country support for data digitization (first step: survey to identify countries that need this service)
- First 2 workshops held to introduce the programme and provide regional training and serve as a forum to exchange views on the implementation of CI/EWS projects (planning 3rd workshop on private sector)

# CIRDA Support: Innovative Technologies



- Technology Exposition April 2014 in Ethiopia to introduce innovative technologies to partner countries
- Collaboration framework established with UNDP's Procurement Support Unit (BoM) to support the acquisition of weather, climate and hydrological monitoring infrastructure and innovative technologies
- Initial outreach to mobile phone companies as a partner for hosting equipment, communicating data/early warnings, and developing new products and revenue streams for weather data



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# Thank you for your active collaboration!

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