Data Sharing Policy Between AGRHYMET and the NMHSs of CILSS member countries

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Outline

• Brief presentation of AGRHYMET

• Data sharing charter with member countries

• Next steps
The AGRHYMET Regional Center

• Specialized institution of CILSS created in 1974,

• **Mission**: to contribute to achieving sustainable food security and rational natural resource management through:
  
  – **Capacity building** of member states’ Meteorological and Hydrological Services (training, equipment and financial support)
  
  – **Production and dissemination of information** to various decision makers (national authorities, cooperation partners, NGOs and farmers)
  
  – **Implements projects in all ECOWAS member countries** (Food security, environmental management, climate change)
17 countries (15 ECOWAS members + Mauritania and Chad)
Justification

Fulfill the mandate given by the Heads of States

• Need in data for operational monitoring, historical analyses
• Reliability and timeliness of data transmission and derived information
• Development of tools and methods to be transferred to NMHSs

A Technical Support Department in AGRHYMET with the mandate to:

• Set up and run a database management system
• Develop and improve data management and processing tools in collaboration with other departments
• Train NMHS staff in the use of those tools
• Insure data reception from NMHSs, their quality control and appropriate storage
• Make data available to users in conformity with the regulations and agreements with NMHSs
Regional Database Management System

- Hydrology
- Climatology
- GIS / Remote Sensing
- Demography
- Markets
- Agriculture
- Livestock breeding
- Crop Pests
- Data bases
- Trainings
- Documentation
Issues related to data exchange

Current Constraints with NMHSs

- Limited resources for data collection and management
- Limited capacity of the staff due to high turnover rate
- Stringent data access regulations

Reasons for difficult access to data:

- Need to secure and archive the data as a national heritage
- WMO resolution 40 which lead to diverse interpretations and the adoption of policies to recover costs
  \[ \Rightarrow \text{multiplication of regulatory measures to charge fees for data} \]
Motivations for a Data Sharing Charter

**Technical:**

- Sustain and optimize the data collection network
- Enhance the data management capacity of NMHSs
- Enhance the local capacities in adding value to the data
- Improve the accuracy of analyses by including all ECOWAS member countries

**Strategic:**

- Avoid parallel data sources
- Serve as a backup for national databases: case of Guinea Bissau
Content of the Charter

Responsibilities of all the parties defined regarding:

- Data Collection and Transmission to AGRHYMET;
- Data Management at AGRHYMET;
- Data Access at AGRHYMET
- Optimizing the Use of Data at AGRHYMET
Content of the Charter

Data Collection and Transmission to AGRHYMET

- Responsibilities of countries for data collection
- Responsibilities of countries for data quality control
- Engagement of AGRHYMET to provide technical, financial and institutional support to member countries
- Responsibilities of AGRHYMET for data storage and harmonization
Content of the Charter

Data Access at AGRHYMET

• Property rights of countries on data
• Use right granted to technical services of CILSS and ECOWAS
• AGRHYMET must guarantee the non dissemination of the data
• Possibility for AGRHYMET to act on behalf of a country with prior consent of that country
• No commercial use of data by AGRHYMET
Content of the Charter

Optimizing the Use of Data at AGRHYMET

• Right of AGRHYMET to use the data for its operational and research activities in partnership with research institutions but with the condition of mentioning the source of the data

• Engagement of AGRHYMET to support member countries in:
  • Mobilizing funds for projects that make use of the data
  • Organizing on the job trainings of NMHS staff on topics of interest
  • Setting up a framework for scientists, students, interns and consultants to use the data without infringing on the property rights of the countries;
Another Sahel is possible!

Actions taken

- Idea of the charter discussed at the 8th meeting of ECOWAS Directors of Meteorology in May 2008 in Dakar
- Task team set up to come up with a first draft (recommendation 16)
  - Chair: ECOWAS Directorate of Environment
  - Members:
    - Representative of WMO Geneva
    - Representative of WMO regional office in Abuja
    - Representatives of 3 NMHs
    - Representatives of AGRHYMET
- Presentation of the draft charter at the 9th meeting of ECOWAS Directors of Meteorology in July 2010 in Abuja
Next steps

• Ratification of the Charter by the countries

• Setting up monitoring and evaluation instruments to follow its application
  – *Producing annual reports on countries and AGRHYMET fulfilling their engagements*
  – *Presenting those reports at the appropriate events*

• Signing of MoUs on the modalities of data transfer

• Adoption of a common data management software adapted to the needs of countries and training of the staff of all NMHs on its use

• In medium and long terms, design business models based on adding value to data through scientific publications, and service delivery to gradually replace the current practices of retaining and/or selling raw data
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Thank you