



**Pilot-Country National Outlook Forum (NCOF)  
Yaoundé- Cameroon  
08-11 October 2024**

***Theme: “Climate Services for climate risk resilience of socio-economic sectors in Cameroon”***

**CONCEPT NOTE**

**1. Background**

To enable better management of the risks of climate variability and change and adaptation to climate change, through the development and incorporation of science-based climate information and prediction into planning, policy and practice on the global, regional and national scale. Climate services provide climate information in a way that assists decision-making by individuals and organizations. Such services require appropriate engagement along with an effective access mechanism and must respond to user needs.

Such services involve high-quality data from national and international databases on temperature, rainfall, wind, soil moisture and ocean conditions, as well as maps, risk and vulnerability analyses, assessments, and long-term projections and scenarios. Depending on the user’s needs, these data and information products may be combined with non-meteorological data, such as agricultural production, health trends, population distributions in high-risk areas, road and infrastructure maps for the delivery of goods, and other socioeconomic variables.

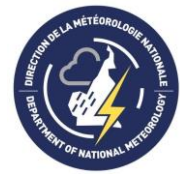
Cameroon is particularly exposed to vagaries of extreme weather and climate because of its territories in the Sahelian zone, which are hit hard by desertification, and its territories in coastal areas threatened by rising sea levels. Due to the great diversity in Cameroon, the nature of climate change and its impacts vary widely from one region to another. However, all agro-ecological zones will be affected in one way or another as well as all the sectors.

Within the framework of the ClimSA Program, ACMAD strengthened RCCs (ECOWAS, ECCAS) and pilot country (Cameroon) with guidelines and training for implementing RCOF and NCOF as well as the establishment of Interfaces for agriculture and DRR. This objective is encapsulated in Output 1 of the ClimSA project, which focuses on establishing and promoting User Interface Platforms (UIPs) at both regional and national levels to facilitate effective decision-making in climate-sensitive sectors, such as the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) nexus and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

As a focus country under the ClimSA program, Cameroon has made significant strides towards integrating climate services. In this context AUC is partnering with ACMAD to operationalize. Within the framework of the ClimSA project, ACMAD in collaboration with AUC, WMO, and the National Meteorological Centre of Cameroon organized a consultation workshop for the establishment and operationalization of user platforms for climate services in the sectors agriculture and disaster risk management. The main objective of the workshop was to establish and strengthen user interfaces for climate services for the agriculture and disaster risk management sectors.

This concept outlines objectives and preparations for hosting the First National Climate Outlook Forum (NCOF) in Cameroon, an initiative aimed at strengthening Cameroon's capacity to provide and utilize climate services effectively.





## 2. Objectives of the NCOF

The **First National Climate Outlook Forum (NCOF) in Cameroon** aims to initiate a structured dialogue and collaboration between climate information providers, researchers, and end-users in Cameroon. This forum will therefore serve as a platform to:

- (i). Strengthen National Climate Services: Build capacity among experts and national stakeholders to implement NCOF and
  - a. produce and disseminate tailored climate products focusing on Agriculture and DDR sectors
  - b. Application of climate services and user engagement in Agriculture and DDR sectors
- (ii). Operationalize the established the National UIP:
- (iii). Downscale the PRESAC-19 Outlook: Collaboratively work with national stakeholders to downscale the forecast issued at regional level to national scale.
- (iv). Produce national seasonal climate outlook for the three-month sub-seasons for OND 2024.
- (v). Facilitate Co-Production: Co-produce customized products (seasonal outlook) with input from stakeholders particularly from Agriculture and Disaster Risk Reduction sectors.
- (vi). Support National Climate Adaptation and Resilience Building: Use climate outlooks and advisories to inform national adaptation strategies and enhance resilience to climate variability and change in the country.

## 3. Expected outcomes

The expected outcomes of the First NCOF in Cameroon include

- (i). Strengthened Capacity: DMN climate experts and national stakeholders will be better equipped to generate and interpret seasonal climate forecasts and integrate climate information into national planning and policy frameworks.
- (ii). Operationalized National UIP: Sensitized the contents of ToRs for Agric and DRR sector for promoting, fostering sustained engagement between climate service providers and users.
- (iii). Downscaled PRESAC-19 Outlook: Climate experts from DMN with support from ACMAD and CAPC experts downscaled the forecast issued at regional level to national scale.
- (iv). Co-Produced seasonal bulletin/document: Co-produce customized products (seasonal outlook) with input from stakeholders particularly from Agric and DRR sectors.
- (v). Improved National Climate Resilience: Enhanced ability of national stakeholders to use climate information to anticipate and mitigate the impacts of climate-related risks.



#### 4. PARTICIPANTS

Participants for the First NCOF in Cameroon will include:

- (i). DMN Representatives: Experts and officials from the Department of National Meteorology and Ministry of Transportation and relevant Research Institutes.
- (ii). National Stakeholders: Representatives from key sectors: agriculture and disaster risk management.
- (iii). CAPC-AC Delegation: Climate experts and coordinators from the CAPC-AC Climate Services Centre.
- (iv). AU Delegation: Representatives from the AUC in Addis Ababa.
- (v). Other Development Partners: Representatives from regional and international organizations and NGOs involved in climate services and resilience building within the Country.

#### 5. Format of the NCOF

The First NCOF in Cameroon will be conducted as a physical event in Yaoundé, Cameroon. The forum will feature a series of sessions, including:

- (i). Technical Training Workshops: Capacity-building sessions for DMN experts and national stakeholders on climate forecasting, interpretation, and application.
- (ii). Stakeholder Engagement Sessions: Interactive sessions with stakeholders to discuss their needs, challenges, and opportunities in using climate information.
- (iii). Plenary Discussions: Open forums for sharing knowledge, best practices, and lessons learned from other countries and regions.
- (iv). National Public Presentation/Unveiling of the NCOF Bulletin/Document by the Honorable Minister of Transportation.

#### 6. Outputs

The following deliverables are expected at the end of the NCOF Program:

- i) One joint Press Release in collaboration with DMN Cameroon.
- ii) Bulletin for the OND Season with socio-economic implications and sectoral advisories.
- iii) Social media handles featuring the NCOF Event for both ACMAD, AUC, DMN & CAPC.
- iv) One detailed report of the NCOF Event focusing on enhancing user engagement, communication, and application of tailored products in the Agriculture and DRR sectors



## 7. Date and venue

The **First NCOF in Cameroon** is scheduled to be held on **08-11 October 2024** in **Yaoundé, Cameroon**. The event will be hosted by DMN in collaboration with the ACMAD.

## 8. Organizational arrangements

The organization of the first NCOF in Cameroon will be coordinated by the DMN in collaboration with ACMAD. Logistical arrangements, including participants' invitations and materials preparation, will be handled by the host country, Cameroon, with technical and financial support from the ClimSA programme.

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