

ACMAD Preliminary Responses to the ClimSA Survey

Completed 7 April 2022

Updated 2 August 2022

Wassila M. Thiaw

Wassila's comments in green

DG's comments in red

1. The profile of RCC products and services as a part of other organizational outputs (4)

Discussion questions to assist in informing answers:

- The RCC hosting organization will have a range of outputs, some in fulfillment of RCC functions, some fulfilling other mandates and some fulfilling both. How well defined is the body of products and services that fulfill the organization's RCC mandatory functions and elected highly recommended functions?
- How readily can the organization measure its performance in meeting RCC mandatory functions and elected highly recommended functions?

ACMAD Answer:

- *There is a separate, specific catalogue of RCC products and services (covering mandatory and implemented highly recommended functions).*
http://sqbd.acmad.org:8080/thredds/fileServer/ACMAD/CDD/Response_RCC_ClimSA_Survey/1-ACMAD_RCC_Products_Catalogue.xls
- *There is a range of products and services for NMHSs with production cycle and time of delivery. Performance is measured with product delivery monitoring table template visible at*
http://sqbd.acmad.org:8080/thredds/fileServer/ACMAD/CDD/Response_RCC_ClimSA_Survey/2-RCC_Activities_M-E.xlsx
http://sqbd.acmad.org:8080/thredds/fileServer/ACMAD/CDD/Response_RCC_ClimSA_Survey/RCCproductsandfunctionsperformancetemplate.xlsx
- *RCC products and services are served (including to NMHSs) under a dedicated delivery channel (e.g. web portal, bulletins distributed by email). Performance in meeting RCC functions is measured with survey questionnaires on generation of reference products for each function ;(http://sqbd.acmad.org:8080/thredds/fileServer/ACMAD/CDD/Response_RCC_ClimSA_Survey/ACP-RCC_Capacity_Assessment%20survey_part1_V2.docx and http://sqbd.acmad.org:8080/thredds/catalog/ACMAD/CDD/Response_RCC_ClimSA_Survey/catalog.html?dataset=ACMAD/CDD/Response_RCC_ClimSA_Survey/ACP-RCC_Capacity_Assessment%20survey_part2_V2.docx) and for users and feedback emails from NMHSs and sub regional RCCs*

- RCC questionnaire administered pre-UIP workshop:
 - Link to RCC questionnaire: - <https://forms.gle/RGj1LnsujvLeiW3b9>
 - Results presentation during UIP workshop: <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1RgUu0bnop2dH1wn-Y4clulxY3RqJn8aK/edit?usp=sharing&oid=110187104420124126074&rtpof=true&sd=true>
- Sample report for National questionnaires administered in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria and Senegal as part of GCRF African SWIFT project:
 - Country questionnaire: - <https://forms.gle/EtwfAVCx7BRaMnud9>
 - Report - [Reports - Google Drive](#)
- GCRF African SWIFT project baseline survey for ICPAC
 - Results: - [ICPAC-SWIFT-Survey.docx - Google Docs](#)

RCC email feedback example:

Re: ACCOF-04 on 29 April 2022

Hussen Seid <Hussen.Seid@igad.int>

to Sadiki Bouchra, LABBE Laurent, sramessur@sadc.int, Seydou Tinni, seydoutinni@gmail.com, Hubert Kabengela, Moudi Pascal, Mathias Rabemananjara, gamedze@acmad.org, André Kamga, Direction Generale ACMAD, n.godefroid@acmad.org, pierre.kamsu@acmad.org, Serge BAYALA, Leon Guy Razafindrakoto, Dr Kamoru Abiodun Lawal, Ali AHMED ABANI, sosnku2002, Ibrahim Dan Dije, Mduduzi Gamedze

Apr 29 12:59

Please find attached my powerpoint presentation.

Best regards,

Hussen Seid Endris (PhD)
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NMHS email feedback example:

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Gaps:

Provision of user relevant forecast verification/evaluation products, provision of GPCs and ACMAD's products interpretive guidance for NMHSs and sub-regional RCCs, access to detailed technical documents on the performance of GPCs products beyond standard verification products, provision of regular updates on performance of statistical forecasting tools , detailed analysis, interpretation and summary statements in technical note products, intercomparison and comparison with observations of available precipitation analyses, reanalyses or estimates with documentation of uncertainties to guide applications, training through ad hoc joint briefings with sub regional RCCs and NMHSs, web content development, web portal update with modern tools

2. Monitoring and evaluation of RCC products and services (3)

Discussion questions to assist in informing answers:

- How does the organization measure the degree to which it is meeting its RCC mandatory functions and implementing highly recommended functions?
- Are there some aspects where compliance is robust and others where compliance is marginal? (please consider: product/service content, timeliness, frequency of issue etc).
- Are there mechanisms in place to note and correct any potential slippages in compliance?

ACMAD Answer:

- *Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) is in place for some mandatory and implemented highly recommended functions. A table with reference products from WMO RCC technical regulations and an additional column on the actual products available (timeliness, frequency and products content) with related urls is available at the following <https://rcc.acmad.org/recomandation.php>. The additional column table is completed with the questionnaire (http://sgbd.acmad.org:8080/thredds/fileServer/ACMAD/CDD/Response_RCC_ClimSA_Survey/ACP-RCC_Capacity_Assessment%20survey_part1_V2.docx and http://sgbd.acmad.org:8080/thredds/catalog/ACMAD/CDD/Response_RCC_ClimSA_Survey/catalog.html?dataset=ACMAD/CDD/Response_RCC_ClimSA_Survey/ACP-RCC_Capacity_Assessment%20survey_part2_V2.docx) responses. The questionnaire is administered to ACMAD experts responsible for the operation of RCC functions.*
- *The product content and frequency of issue compliance is robust but timeliness needs improvements by accelerating the automation of processes for product generation and exchanges.*
- *Some products are available but not put on the web for use by the RCC target*

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Gaps:

Automatic products generation, man power on geoportal and web content development and update. Twinning between GPCs and the RCC to share experience on generation of tailored products and interpretation. Twinning between RCC/ACMAD and NMHSs and sub regional RCCs to share experience on downscaling, interpretation and use of RCC products.

3. Procedural aspects related to delivery of products and services

3.1 Operational procedures for RCC products and services (3)

Discussion questions to assist in informing answers:

- In the production/delivery chain for RCC products and services are there any “single points of failure” where absence of a single individual would threaten the quality/timeliness of services?
- Are there mechanisms in place to cover for such absences – such that operational continuity is maintained?
- Does the organization structure include an Operations section, dealing with service production and delivery, that is distinct from sections focusing on research and development?

ACMAD Answer:

The main point of failure is usually unavailability of input data from global sources due to unstable internet or lack of timely update by the global Centre. Only US based Global or international data providers have a data policy and practice required for optimal operations. Seconded staff are often used for operation for 6 months up to a year and disturbances of operations may occur during a transition period following their replacement.

Efforts are being carried out to better plan secondment programme reducing disturbance of regular operations due to length of inception phase for new seconded staff. The Copernicus programme is under implementation in Europe supporting better access to data and products and providing processing tools on open platforms.

Internet solutions are improving.

The operations staff is available and distinct from research and development support staff. Operational section have 5 staff and 3 support research and development work.

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Gaps:

The main gap is on operating procedures developed which need regular upgrades with change in GPCs and international Centres providing input data and remote data processing and visualization platforms. Training is also needed on use of remote data discovery, access and processing facilities. Sharing experience of interpretation and use of products is to be strengthened through Climate Fora.

3.2 Robustness of operational data, systems and software (3)

Discussion questions to assist in informing answers:

- If there is a disk failure affecting data or scripts used in generation and delivery of RCC products and services, can the data be readily recovered?
- If a newly updated version of “in-house” software (e.g. for observation or forecast processing) gives unexpected results can a previous version be readily accessed for testing?

ACMAD Answer:

Observations received from NMHSs are stored primarily using Climate Data Management Systems (If there is a disk failure on the affecting the ClimSoft database, We recuperate the archived data sources and import (restore) them back into ClimSoft.

http://sgbd.acmad.org:8080/thredds/catalog/ACMAD/CDD/climatedataservice/gts_for_climsoft/catalog.html).

<https://rcc.acmad.org/dataclimsoft.php>

<https://rcc.acmad.org/climsoftdoc.php>

ACMAD also operates a THREDDS data server for gridded data and products (<https://rcc.acmad.org/dataacces.php>)

synopticdaily CPC unified Data:

[http://sgbd.acmad.org:8080/thredds/catalog/ACMAD/CDD/climatedataservice/Synoptic Daily CPC Unified Data/catalog.html](http://sgbd.acmad.org:8080/thredds/catalog/ACMAD/CDD/climatedataservice/Synoptic%20Daily%20CPC%20Unified%20Data/catalog.html)

ARC2 daily precipitation Data:

[http://sgbd.acmad.org:8080/thredds/catalog/ACMAD/CDD/climatedataservice/Synoptic Daily ARC2 Data/catalog.html](http://sgbd.acmad.org:8080/thredds/catalog/ACMAD/CDD/climatedataservice/Synoptic%20Daily%20ARC2%20Data/catalog.html)

Some but not all sections of the organization operate a data security policy such that some but not all data held as part of and/or required for fulfillment of RCC functions are securely backed-up routinely.

Some but not all sections of the organization operate a policy on code management, development and version control such that some computer codes and scripts used in generation of RCC products are managed with proprietary tools (e.g. FCM, Github).

Write a short 2 to 3 pages on *data and codes policy* document, put it on RCC website and provide and Url to it here)

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Gaps:

Data management, cloud technology, backup and archiving systems as well as internet access and power stabilization systems are weak. Support expertise to improve on these aspects would be helpful

4. Management of RCC functions

4.1 Visibility of management chain, job descriptions (4)

Discussion questions to assist in informing answers:

- How are your organization's RCC operations organized? For example, is there a dedicated unit mandated to produce RCC products and services, or are the necessary tasks distributed over several units/sections?
- If RCC operations are distributed over several units/sections (e.g. monitoring and forecasting operations, communications, IT, administration). How clearly are the different but linking roles documented?
- How well defined are the responsibilities of managers and staff in the generation and delivery of RCC products and services?

ACMAD Answer:

The management chain directing RCC activities is clearly visible in an up-to-date organizational structure.

(http://sgbd.acmad.org:8080/thredds/fileServer/ACMAD/CDD/Response_RCC_ClimSA_Survey/RCC_ORG_CHART.pdf).

http://sgbd.acmad.org:8080/thredds/fileServer/ACMAD/CDD/Response_RCC_ClimSA_Survey/4.1-ACMAD_ORG_CHART_RCC.pdf

Operations are distributed over Climate and development, weather watch and prediction, IT departments as well as Administration and finance Services.

Tasks for operating RCC functions are included in the Job description of all relevant staff.

- - The Coordinator (Lead) of RCC responsible for planning, organizing, staffing, directing, overseeing and reviewing.
- - Forecasting Team Lead (01): supervision, development of methods, tools, and products, reports drafting. He also in charge of direct supervision of all operations as well as research and development.
- - Climate Monitoring Experts (02): Responsible for Products generation for climate diagnostics and assessment, generate technical notes, compiling bulletins and short statement
- - Long Range Forecasting Experts (04): Responsible for Generation of Verification Products, Analysis of Current climate status, Interpretation and assesment of Products from GPCs, Generation of Tailored Products and Consensus Outlook, generate Technical Notes, compiling Bulletin and Statement/Policy Brief.
- - Data Service Expert (03): Responsible for Weather and Climate Management, Data rescue, Quality Control and development and deployment of data management systems such as Climsoft, THREDDS, ...
- - Training Service Experts (06): Provide training to in-service and seconded officers from NMHSs on Climate Monitoring, Data management, Long Range Forecasting and Climate Projections.
- - Research and Development Experts (02): Development of new methods, tools and products for Climate monitoring, Long Range Forecasting and Climate Projections

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Gaps:

IT with specialization on web and geoportal development, data management, communication and visibility support staffs, dedicated trainers would be useful to fill gaps in specific competencies in need

4.2 Monitoring of internal staff costs of maintaining RCC functions (3)

Discussion questions to assist in informing answers:

- Are mechanisms in place to monitor/evaluate the human resource cost of maintaining RCC functions (e.g. in person-months per year)?

ACMAD Answer:

Human resource spent on maintaining, operating and developing some specific aspects of RCC functions is well known.

Some staff make a separate log of time spent on RCC functions (e.g. staff in some but not all sections). Long range (sub-seasonal and seasonal) forecasting function needs 4 persons.year, Climate monitoring needs 2 persons.year, data services requires 2 persons.year, training service requires 3 persons.year on monitoring, data and Long range forecasting, 1 person. year for coordination and management. A total of 12 persons.year.

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Mechanisms for monitoring or evaluating the human resource cost of maintaining RCC functions exist. At ACMAD, dedicated RCC experts are divided according to the core functions. This distribution makes it possible to determine the level of each expert in the various functions. Working time calculation sheets are established daily for each expert. Based on the hourly rate of each expert, the calculation of remuneration is done monthly. This mechanism is applied in all projects implemented at ACMAD

4.3 Succession planning (2)

Discussion questions to assist in informing answers:

- To what degree is generation and delivery of RCC products and services dependent on a few leading experts?
- Are deputies for leading experts defined and being coached to move into leading roles as current leaders leave or retire?

ACMAD Answer:

The RCC activity has:

High dependence on its current leadership

The ClimSA and other projects helped to recruit more staff, develop operating procedures and scripts for automation. Training on the job for young managers and operations staff is being carried out.

No written succession plan for a leadership transition

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

**As presented in the organization chart, there are 6 experts, 4 of whom work full time on the mandatory functions and 2 on the recommended functions to ensure the generation and supply of RCC products and services. The generation of certain products and services such as drought monitoring or the bulletin on the state of the climate in Africa are assigned to other experts deployed by NRC or seconded from NMHSs in the event of their unavailability. of 6 experts will take the role of leading expert to generate and deliver these products and services
The succession mechanism is done in such a way that all the second-level experts are trained to play the role of the interim in order to ensure the generation and supply of RCC products and services.**

4.4 RCC planning, vision and leadership (3)

Discussion questions to assist in informing answers:

- How will RCC functions be developed over the next 5 years? Is this well understood?
- Are other climate related services offered by the organization well aligned with and supported by the RCC functions? For example, is there consistency in that the same underlying forecasts and regional observational datasets are used?

ACMAD Answer:

Next 5 years development includes:

- *Upgrade of the climate station generating all RCC mandatory and selected recommended products*
- *Undertake research on predictability and understanding of drivers of African climate variability*
- *Update methodologies and tools for downscaling, tailoring of monitoring and forecasting products*
- *Remote data access, processing and products visualization facilities*
- *Upgrade internet, software and systems for RCC operations and research*
- *Downscaled climate projections to a few kilometers and support impact studies*
- *Develop and use training materials on data, climate monitoring and long range forecasting*

Understanding by staff of the plan is weak.

Climate services for health, agriculture, DRR, and water are provided using RCC data. For example, SPI, advisories, outlook statements use the same precipitation input data.

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

The RCC operates under the organizational structure of ACMAD, whose rules provide for the appointment of an interim in the event of absence for continuity. As an example in the execution of the mandatory function of RCC there are permanent positions and support positions often are the experts of NMHS or in deployment who are responsible for drawing up maps, drafting bulletins sometimes their unavailability allows those who are in permanent positions are obliged to do the tasks related to support positions

Gap:

Alignment of the plan with upcoming developments in technology including institutions outside the WMO is weak.

5. Stakeholder engagement and outreach (3)

Discussion questions to assist in informing answers:

- Is the goodness of fit between NMHS and other stakeholder needs and products and services supplied well known?
- What mechanisms are in place to continually improve the services supplied to NMHSs and other stakeholders? Are these mechanisms working?

ACMAD Answer:

Structured engagement with NMHS and sub regional RCCs is being done with MISVA, ACCOF, on the job training and secondment.

A survey questionnaire for NMHSs and sub regional RCCs is administered and reported from analysis of this questionnaire used to improve the service.

Analysis of NMHSs, sub regional RCCs and end users questionnaires helps derive gaps and plan of action to better satisfy needs.

RCC questionnaire administered pre-UIP workshop:

- Link to RCC questionnaire: - <https://forms.gle/RGj1LnsujvLeiW3b9>
- Results presentation during UIP workshop:
<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1RgUu0bnop2dH1wn-Y4clulxY3RqJn8aK/edit?usp=sharing&oid=110187104420124126074&rtpof=true&sd=true>

The mechanism started in 2022 and will be evaluated in 2023.

Gap:

Communication and visibility actions to further engagement and outreach is weak.

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

6. Funding sources for RCC activities (1)

Discussion questions to assist in informing answers:

- How effective is funding from short-lived (e.g. less than 5-years duration) projects and support from expert placements in furthering specific work on maintaining and developing RCC functions? Does such funding typically have other priorities?
- Is funding from the regional economic body and/or NMHS subscription sufficient to maintain and develop RCC functions?

ACMAD Answer:

ACMAD execution rates for less than 5 year grants is above 70%. Yes, the funding usually prioritizes services development and delivery which are levels of products above the mandatory or recommended products.

Less than 10% of the finance for maintenance of RCC functions is derived from year-on-year negotiated support from the regional economic body and/or NMHS or other stakeholders' subscription

[Other support may include gearing with short-lived projects or expert placements (i.e less than 5 years duration) that are funded by regional or international donors and not necessarily primarily concerned with maintaining/developing RCC functions]

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Gap: instability of core funding of about ½ million US \$ to effectively operate the RCC per year. Awareness raising and advocacy are limited to facilitate assessed contributions payments by members.

6a Sustainability of RCCs through contribution to planning and implementation of RECs Agenda

Discussion questions to assist in informing answers:

- How RCC role is articulated in agenda /implementation plans of RECs?
- Are formal relationship/collaborative agreements available between RCCs and RECs?

ACMAD Answer:

ACMAD role is well articulated in AU agenda and strategies including the Climate Change and resilient Development strategy ([https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/41959-doc-CC Strategy and Action Plan 2022-2032 23 06 22 ENGLISH-compressed.pdf](https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/41959-doc-CC%20Strategy%20and%20Action%20Plan%202022-2032%2023%2006%2022%20ENGLISH-compressed.pdf)), the Africa DRR strategy and programme of action for implementation of Sendai Framework of DRR in Africa (https://www.droughtmanagement.info/literature/UNISDR_africa_regional_strategy_disaster_risk_reduction_2011.pdf and [https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/33005-doc-sendai framework for drr 2015-2030-en.pdf](https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/33005-doc-sendai_framework_for_drr_2015-2030-en.pdf)) , the African strategy on meteorology (weather and climate services).

An MoU is available between ACMAD and AUC

([Link to MoU to be provided](#))

Grant agreement is available between ACMAD and AUC Department of Agriculture and rural economy

<http://sqbd.acmad.org:8080/thredds/catalog/ACMAD/PROJECTS/CLIMSA/Grant/catalog.html>

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Gap:

ACMAD's formal relationship with AUC departments are limited to agriculture, environment, rural economy and water. An agreement at a higher level would be better covering Peace and security, social affairs and Health, economy. planning and finance. Being an organization established by UNECA, and given a joint planning framework between AUC and the UN agencies lead by UNECA, a tripartite agreement between ACMAD, AUC and UNECA would be helpful to anchor ACMAD's programme of work to the joint AUC-UNECA framework.

7. Scientific and technical expertise

7.1 Overview (2)

Discussion questions to assist in informing answers:

- How secure is the pool of scientific and technical experts the organisation can bring to the tasks of operating, maintaining and developing RCC functions? (please consider all experts involved in RCC activities: e.g. scientists and researchers, technicians and IT specialists, trainers, engagement and communications experts, website developers)

- Are these individuals largely supported by annual funding from the regional economic body and/or subscription or by transient donor programmes?
- What are the organisation's research needs to help strengthen/improve its RCC operations? Does the organisation have capacity to lead or significantly contribute to such research?

ACMAD Answer:

Maintenance of RCC functions has a high dependence on fixed term, donor supported expertise (e.g. seconded staff, deployed staff, staff recruited for project duration). Without external expertise RCC mandatory functions could be maintained with loss of content and timeliness. Some highly recommended RCC functions would likely cease.

The expertise is highly supported by donor funding.

Research needs include verification/evaluation of climate monitoring and forecasting products, Evaluation of monitoring tools, forecasting and projection models, assessment of predictability in dynamical and statistical models, understanding of processes and phenomena driving for climate variability and change as well as related extreme events, develop better methods and tools for monitoring, forecasting, scenario development and impact assessment as well as preparation, response and adaptation options selection to reduce climate change impacts.

Gap

Limited research leadership is available but substantial contribution to the research is not yet guaranteed.

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

7.2 Staff levels and expertise available for the RCC mandatory and highly recommended functions (3)

Discussion questions to assist in informing answers:

- How well matched is the organisation's current staffing levels and expertise to the demands of each of the various RCC mandatory and implemented highly recommended functions? (please consider both internally and externally supported staff)
- Where are the strengths and gaps in staff levels and expertise? (e.g. scientists, technicians and IT specialists, engagement and communications experts, web site developers, RCOF coordinators)

Climate Monitoring (3)

ACMAD Answer:

Staff levels and expertise for climate monitoring is adequate.

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Generation of climate monitoring products is beyond the reference set by WMO with regional tailored products like streamfunction, velocity potential , multi level wind fields....

Data Services (3)

ACMAD Answer:

Staff levels and expertise are sub optimal for current mandatory activities and outputs as well as some highly recommended outputs. Website update is adequate as moderate system administration capacity but needs for content development, data base management using modern tools are not systematic relying on short term and seconded expertise.

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Operational Long Range Forecasting (3)

ACMAD Answer:

Staff levels and expertise are moderately adequate for current mandatory activities and outputs as well as some highly recommended outputs. User relevant parameters like start of the agriculture season requires forecasting experience at sub seasonal timescales yet to be well developed. Quantitative and objective verification of Long Range forecasting capacity also needs upgrade. More scientists are needed.

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Training in the use of RCC products and services (3)

ACMAD Answer:

Staff levels and expertise are adequate for most of current mandatory activities and outputs as well as some highly recommended outputs. Trainers on data services are limited in number (1 person. year instead of 3)

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Coordination Function (3)

ACMAD Answer:

Staff levels and expertise are adequate for current mandatory activities and outputs as well as some highly recommended outputs. The recently established ACCOF provides an operational mechanism for coordination. (<https://rcc.acmad.org/accof.php>)

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Research and Development (2)

ACMAD Answer:

Staff levels and expertise are low enough to occasionally put the quality and timely delivery of mandatory functions at risk and are sufficient for only limited highly recommended functions.

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Seconded and short-term experts support some activities and disruptions may occur during transition from one expert to the next when the need for an inception period for more than a few weeks is required.

8. Technical and Infrastructural Capacity

Discussion aspects/questions to assist in informing answers:

- How well matched is the organisation's infrastructural and technical capacity to the demands of each of the various RCC mandatory and highly recommended functions?
- Where are the strengths and gaps in technical capacity?
- Aspects to consider will vary with RCC function and may include, e.g.: ease of access to required data; IT hardware and software functionality and reliability, ease of access to required software; internet bandwidth, speed and reliability; communications facilities; premises (office space, training and conference facilities).

8.1 Overview (2)

ACMAD Answer:

Technical and/or infrastructural capacity is low enough to occasionally put the quality and timely delivery of mandatory functions at risk and are sufficient for only limited highly recommended functions.

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Internet bandwidth, stability and reliability as well as energy supply have occasional failure. Some delays are observed on some Global and international centres data access facilities,

8.2 Technical capacity for the RCC mandatory and highly recommended functions

Climate Monitoring (2)

ACMAD Answer:

Technical capacity is good enough and is sufficient for only limited highly recommended functions.

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Climate monitoring function is operating optimally. But research and development is required on new and tailored monitoring products on spells, precipitation season cessation, multi-hazards monitoring.....

Data Services (3)

ACMAD Answer:

Technical capacity is adequate for current mandatory activities and outputs as well as some highly recommended outputs.

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Strengths:

Global centres are providing remote access to data facilities in Europe and north America therefore strengthening access to data. In ClimSA, a climate station is being configured to further facilitate access to data.

Long Range Forecasting (3)

ACMAD Answer:

Technical capacity is adequate for current mandatory activities and outputs as well as some highly recommended outputs.

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Strengths:

Global and international centre as well as lead coordinating centres are set up at global level providing substantial facilities with data and tools for Long Range forecasting. ACMAD through WMO led cooperation programme have reasonable access to data, methods, tools and products

Training (3)

ACMAD Answer:

Technical capacity is adequate for current mandatory activities and outputs as well as some highly recommended outputs.

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Gaps:

Even though technical capacity is available, manpower to ensure regular training for sub regional RCCs and NMHSs is sub optimal. A substantial list of training requests are therefore yet to be processed.

Coordination (3)

ACMAD Answer:

Technical capacity is adequate for current mandatory activities and outputs as well as some highly recommended outputs.

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Strength:

The ACCOF concept is a conducive mechanism ensuring establishment of relationships, sharing of methods, tools, products and information, facilitating joint action and common position and decision making preparation.

Research & Development (3)

ACMAD Answer:

Technical capacity is adequate for current mandatory activities and outputs as well as some highly recommended outputs.

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Strength:

With the recent development of climate research capacity in more African universities, ACMAD have two fixed term scientists and a pool of a dozen scientists mobilizable to undertake research on axis presented in the plan above

Supplemental

Question

by

ACMAD

Sustainability of RCCs through contribution to planning and implementation of RECs Agenda

Discussion questions to assist in informing answers:

- How RCC role is articulated in agenda /implementation plans of RECs?
- Are formal relationship/collaborative agreements available between RCCs and RECs ?

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|--|--|---|
| Collaboration is informal with no agreement | A framework agreement is available between RCC and REC | A framework and specific agreement (eg grant agreement) are available | Long term relationship is being discussed or available with annual budgetary support for operations at RC |
| Please indicate below the column that best describes your RCC (i.e. mark one column only "Y"). If there is no exact match, please select the most appropriate. | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| <i>In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.</i> | | | |

ACMAD Answer:

A framework and specific agreement (eg grant agreement) are available

In a few words, please justify/explain your selection giving reference URLs where appropriate. Please also add comments to highlight key capacity gaps as well as strengths.

Strength

In this question completed above is is requested to link the MoU with AUC/DREA and the ClimSA grant with AUC