

VACANCIES

SHORT TERM CONSULTANTS

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A. BACKGROUND

The adverse impact of climate change is a major challenge to socio-economic development globally. The African countries are particularly vulnerable to the consequences of climate change, including water stress and scarcity, food insecurity, diminished hydropower generation potential, loss of biodiversity and ecosystem degradation, increased incidence of disease burden, destruction of infrastructure and high costs of disaster management as a result of increased frequency and intensity of droughts, floods, hot days and landslides.

The vulnerability is due to multiple existing stresses, from low adaptive capacity to intrinsic exposure to climate change, due to geographical conditions, debt crisis, war, COVID-19 and other socio-economic disruptions. Reliable climate information and early warning systems can support resilience and reduction of climate impacts; saving lives, stopping and reversing desertification and improving livelihoods. Science-based climate information and early warnings are critical for ACP countries to implement Nationally Determined Contributions to the Paris Agreement, sustainable development goals and the AU Agenda 2063.

The Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) was established in 2009 at the World Climate Conference-3 organized by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to **strengthen production, availability, delivery and application of science based climate prediction and services.**

The Paris Agreement makes specific reference to climate services by calling on parties to strengthen "*scientific knowledge on climate, including early warning systems, in a manner that informs climate services and supports decision-making*". The action supports partner countries with credible and reliable information for decision makers to ensure the implementation of their NDCs as well as their National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Paris Agreements also recognizes that the effects of climate change will be felt most acutely by those segments of the population that are already vulnerable.

Enabling access to climate information and providing user-friendly climate services will help decision makers at all levels, including end users, in a wide range of sectors including agriculture and food security, disaster risk reduction, sustainable water and health, development and implementation of climate change adaptation strategies.

While the use of climate information and forecasts is growing rapidly worldwide, many countries in Africa still lack the infrastructural, technical, human and institutional capacities to provide high quality climate services.

The GFCS Intra ACP Climate Services and related Application (ClimSA) "is a programme in the framework of the 11th European Development Fund contributing to the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS). Its overall objective is to foster sustainable development by combating climate change through strengthening climate service value chain. To strengthen climate service value chain, CLIMSA will provide **technical and financial assistance, infrastructure and capacity building.**

In line with CLIMSA, ACMAD action focuses on climate services delivery to agriculture, health and disaster risk reduction sectors. ACMAD action builds capacity of national and regional centres to provide climate services meeting regional and country needs, supports the African Union and Regional Economic Communities as a global player in climate, disaster and sustainable development policy dialogue through climate information and statements for policy making.

This action is in line with ACMAD's mission to provide continental weather and climate watch information and act as the centre for excellence on the applications of meteorology for sustainable development in Africa.

The project contributes to building resilient prosperity and peace shared by the African Union agenda 2063 and the European Consensus on Development through climate resilient agriculture, disaster risk management, health, resilient economies and society.

ACMAD action will also support the services pillar of the AMCOMET revised integrated African strategy on meteorology with emphasis on building African multi hazards early warning system for resilience.

It will support integration aspiration of agenda 2063 in the field of meteorology by coordinating climate outlook fora, frameworks for climate services built on strong user interfaces.

Security and stability aspiration of agenda 2063 will benefit from climate services for preparation and early response to disasters which are driving migration, conflicts, socio-economic, environmental instability and poverty.

The project is funded by the 11th European Development fund of the European Union and implemented by ACMAD with the African Union Commission as contracting authority.

Tools and platforms on climate services for resilient agriculture (CLIMTAG), climate services for disaster risk reduction (MyDEWETRA), Climate services for urban resilience (UCLIP), climate services for drought management (MUKAU) have been developed as a contribution to digital transformation of African meteorological services required to accelerate contribution to addressing climate change challenges.

ACMAD is now recruiting short term Consultants to support configuration and validation of tools for national use, generation of climate change information to support impact studies implementation with emphasis on impacts on the infrastructure, agriculture and disaster risk reduction sectors.

B. VACANCIES

1. CLIMATE CHANGE CONSULTANT

Duties and Responsibilities

Under the supervision of the team lead, the Climate Change Consultant will support the validation of tools and methods as well as generation and delivery of climate change indices for awareness raising of policy, decision makers, planners and the general public. He/She will also support training of regional centres and National Meteorological and Hydrological Services on climate change detection and indices analysis.

He/She will perform the following duties:

- Based on WMO manuals and guides, identify datasets, methods and tools for climate change assessments;
- Support national and regional experts for access to COPERNICUS and other climate change assessment relevant data sets;
- Assist the production of assessment reports over countries of Africa;
- Contribute to tailoring climate change information into actionable indicators for impact studies or adaptation action and policy planning;
- Contribute to capacity building for providers and users of climate change information;
- Contribute to training material on climate change assessment for regional centers and National Meteorological Services;
- Support drafting reports related to the climate change assessments;
- Support organization of conferences, seminars and trainings;
- Carry out other relevant duties as required

The Climate Change Consultant will furthermore provide support upon request to:

- Production of state of Africa climate reports;
- Production or update of national communications, adaptation and Nationally Determined Contributions plans;

The support scientist will participate to specific technical meetings, fora, workshops and conferences.

Education

Master degree or equivalent in meteorology, climatology or a closely related scientific field. A PhD would be preferable.

Experience

At least 2 years of progressively responsible experience as climate scientist or climatologist.

Other requirements

The Consultant should have worked in scientific or operational contexts of climate change, in particular on climate change modelling and/or scenarios development. Good knowledge of climate change experiments datasets, Linux, statistical packages like R, python, GIS tools as well as knowledge of a programming or scripting languages for climate studies would be an advantage. Proven ability to draft documents. Publications in peer reviewed journals would be an advantage.

Languages

Excellent knowledge of English or French and a good working knowledge of the other language. Knowledge of other official languages of African countries would be an advantage.

Salary

Salaries will depend on skills and former experience of the candidate. Per diems will be allocated for international travel and other staff benefits will be applicable.

Duty station: Niamey - Niger

Date of duty: November 1, 2023 or as soon as possible thereafter

Nature of appointments: One to six months renewable

How to apply

Interested candidates who meet the above criteria should submit:

- An application letter,
- An updated CV,
- Notarized true copies of Degrees and Certificates
- Contacts of three referees.
- A brief methodology of one or two pages which describes how the applicant intends to address the assignment.

Women are explicitly encouraged to apply.

Deadline for Applications: September 29, 2023 at 16:00GMT

Review of applications will start immediately after. Vacancy can be extended until suitable candidates are found.

Applications can be addressed to:

- ACMAD, 55 Avenue des Ministères, PL 6, BP 13184, Niamey-Plateau, Niger :

Email : contact@acmad.org; a.gilles@acmad.org; grh@acmad.org

2. CLIMATE SERVICE AND APPLICATION CONSULTANT

Duties and Responsibilities

Under the supervision of the team lead, the Consultant on climate services and applications will be responsible for assisting the validation and configuration of climate services for application tools and platforms developed by ACMAD and partners to accelerate digitalization of meteorological services in Africa. They will be responsible for interactions with sector application experts including agriculture, disaster risk reduction and urban development planning.

He/She will perform the following duties:

- Review and configure tools/platforms available (CLIMTAG, MYDEWETRA, MUKAU, UCLIP...)
- Collect available country data for tool calibration and validation;
- Support configuration for country use;
- Interact with user interfaces to identify the needs;
- Support preparation of user manuals;
- Contribute to trainings and training material development for country experts;
- Attain trainings organized by partners for use and further development of the tools;
- Support fora and events on platforms/tools visibility and application;
- Assist in developing visibility materials and planning, organizing and servicing seminars, internships, on the job training, secondment, fellowships and training workshops on the tools/platforms;
- Carry out other relevant duties as required.

The Consultant will furthermore contribute to:

- The development of specific algorithms and codes or software to upgrade the platforms/tools for specific countries;
- National and regional climate institution trainings;

Education

Master degree or equivalent in meteorology, climatology or a closely related scientific field.

Experience

At least 2 years of experience in meteorological applications. Exposure to applied climate services in at least one of the sectors including urban planning, agriculture, water, disaster risk reduction, health or infrastructure development at national or regional level would be an advantage.

Other requirements

The Consultant should have worked in weather and/or climate forecasting or applications, in particular on development or production of climate services applicable in sectors mentioned above. Good knowledge of weather and climate monitoring and prediction tools/platforms and web based products. Statistical packages like R, GIS tools as well as knowledge of a programming or scripting languages for climate analysis would be an advantage. Good communication skills and ability to work at the interface of climate products and users would be an advantage.

Languages

Excellent knowledge of English or French and a knowledge of the other language. Knowledge of other official languages of African countries would be an advantage.

Salary

Salaries will depend on skills and former experience of the candidate. Per diems will be allocated for international travel. Additional staff benefits will be applicable.

Duty station: Niamey - Niger

Date of duty: November 1, 2023 or as soon as possible thereafter

Nature of appointments: One to six months' renewable

How to Apply

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3. WEATHER AND CLIMATE FORECASTING CONSULTANT

Duties and Responsibilities

Under the supervision of the team lead, the forecasting Consultant will assist thematic experts for preparing products for technical notes on severe weather, sub-seasonal, seasonal climate forecasts including verification of forecasts products and training.

He/She will perform the following duties:

- Assist identification of significant or severe weather and climate events for which forecasting is of high value due to their impacts in Africa;
- Collect data and support diagnostics for these events;
- Analyse the diagnostics supporting understanding of drivers of severe or extreme events;
- Support products generation for technical notes and bulletins;
- Participate in trainings on monitoring and forecasting organized with global and other international centres;
- Support practical trainings for national forecasters;
- Assist in planning, organizing and servicing seminars, internships, on the job training, secondment, fellowships and training workshops;
- Carry out other relevant duties as required.

Education

Master degree or equivalent in meteorology, climatology or a closely related scientific field.

Experience

At least 4 years of experience as a meteorologist or climatologist. Exposure to advanced operational weather/climate forecasting with emphasis on severe weather or climate forecasting is highly desirable.

Other requirements

The Consultant should have worked on production of weather and/or climate forecasts, advisories and watches. Good knowledge of WMO global data processing and forecasting system and related prediction tools and products. Statistical packages like R, GIS tools as well as knowledge of a programming or scripting languages for forecast products analysis and visualization would be an advantage. Good communication skills and ability to work at the interface of weather/climate products and users would be an advantage.

Languages

Excellent knowledge of English or French and a knowledge of the other language. Knowledge of other official languages of African countries would be an advantage.

Salary

Salaries will depend on skills and former experience of the candidate. Per diems will be allocated for international travel. Additional staff benefits will be applicable.

Duty station: Niamey - Niger

Date of duty: November 2, 2023 or as soon as possible thereafter

Nature of appointments: One to six months' renewable

How to Apply

Interested candidates who meet the above criteria should submit:

- An application letter
- An updated CV
- Notarized true copies of Degrees and Certificates
- Contacts of three referees
- A brief methodology of one or two pages which describes how the applicant intends to address the assignment

Women are explicitly encouraged to apply.

Deadline for Applications: September 29, 2023 at 16:00GMT

Review of applications will start immediately after. Vacancy can be extended until a suitable candidate is found.

Applications can be addressed to:

- ACMAD, 55 Avenue des Ministères, PL 6, BP 13184, 1^{er} Arrondissement, Niamey-Plateau, Niger :

Email : contact@acmad.org ; a.gilles@acmad.org ; grh@acmad.org

4. WEB DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT

Under the supervision of the team lead, the web development Consultant will support development, installation and maintenance of web servers. He/She will assume the functions of analysis of web page, identifying gaps and weaknesses, developing advanced solutions, installing and maintaining web pages and servers. He/She will support preparation of technical specifications and procurement of infrastructure for ACMAD's demonstration phase to become WMO Data Collection and Production Centre of the WMO Information System.

He/She will perform the following duties:

- Support review of ACMAD's web platforms and infrastructure;
- Assess gaps and propose solutions for advanced web presence of the Centre;
- Assist for procurements and support implementation solutions improving Web servers or platforms;
- Support installation, administration and maintenance of web platforms
- Install necessary hardware, system and application software
- Write and facilitate the use of scripts, codes, packages or other applications for automatic update of web portals;
- Liaise with ACMAD IT team members to support countries web presence;
- Liaise with Morocco Met-Office during WIS/DCPC demonstration phase;
- Assist for administration and evaluation of web-based Data Base and platforms;
- Support training of country IT experts;
- Carry out other relevant duties as required.

Education

- A University Degree in Computer Science, IT or related field, Minimum requirement is a Master degree and certificates for qualification on web based data servers and/or applications would be an advantage.

Experience

- A minimum of 7 years' professional experience in administration, maintenance of web platforms;
- A minimum of 5 years of professional experience on developing advanced web portals;
- Experience with Web portal for Meteorological information dissemination and exchange would be an advantage

Other requirements

- Prior experience in meteorological data collection is highly desirable;
- Knowledge of WMO standards and protocols for data collection, management and exchanges, would be an advantage.

Languages

Excellent knowledge of English or French and a good working knowledge of the other language. Knowledge of other official languages of African countries would be an advantage.

Salary

Salaries and benefits will depend on skills and former experience of the candidate. Per diems will be allocated for international travel.

Duty station: Niamey - Niger

Date of duty: November 02, 2023 or as soon as possible thereafter

Nature of appointments: One to six months' renewable

How to Apply

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