

VACANCIES
SHORT TERM EXPERTS
(1 to 6 months renewable)

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A. BACKGROUND

Climate change is among the most important societal challenges of our time. Following the findings in the IPCC special report “Global Warming of 1.5 °C” (IPCC 2018), even a warming of 1.5°C compared to pre-industrial levels will have a significant impact on a wide range of sectors of economy and society (Agriculture and food security, infrastructure, Disaster risk Reduction, water, health...). Climate change-related risks and impacts are increasing demonstrating the urgent needs for climate action for adaptation and resilience. Climate variables and related actionable indices per sector are first line of information to address key issues including rising temperatures and sea levels leading to floods and heat stress, longer dry periods and rising water stress, heavy rains and flooding.

The most vulnerable countries in Africa including their Meteorological Services and other climate action stakeholders need **capacity building** for *generating and delivering* local scale fit for purpose and actionable climate indices and *establishing/operationalizing* effective User Interfaces platforms. World population living in cities is increasing and expected to reach 80% by 2050. The same percentage of Gross Domestic Products are generated in these cities. This density of people and assets increases the concentration of risk from climate change impacts in cities highlighting urgent requirements for local city scale actionable climate information and operationalization of relevant sectors UIPs.

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 provides **technical and financial assistance, infrastructure and capacity building**.

Given the urgent need for quick action covering a high number of countries and regions in Africa known to be among the most vulnerable worldwide, ACMAD/ClimSA project is recruiting Experts to accelerate generation and delivery of innovative, actionable, high resolution information for sectors, establishment and/or operationalization of User Interface Platforms.

These experts will support capacity building of national and regional centres to lead the operationalization of national and regional User Interface Platforms.

This action is in line with ACMAD’s mission as a centre of Excellence for innovative methods, tools, processes and systems, mechanisms and data for climate information applications for sustainable development. Continental and regional climate Fora and User Interface platforms established for agriculture, water, health and DRR are key mechanisms to be strengthened.

The effort 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. This action contributes to the AU’s strategy on Meteorology and its Climate Change and resilient development strategy.

B. VACANCIES

In 2024, ACMAD aims at expanding the Regional Climate Centre for Africa and the Continental Multi Hazards Advisory Centre products and accelerating the operationalization of User Interface Platforms established. The positions presented below will support this purpose.

1. CLIMATE SERVICES APPLICATIONS EXPERT

Duties and Responsibilities

Under the supervision of the team lead, the Climate services applications expert will support strong and effective climate services providers and users' engagement. He/she will also support training of regional centres, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and their stakeholders on establishing and effectively operating User interface Platforms.

He/she will perform the following duties:

- Based on WMO manuals and guides on climate services User Engagement and Interface platform, plan and organize User engagement and Interface platform establishment events;
- Support organization of UIP session in conferences, fora, seminars and trainings;
- Document sectoral needs, user services requirements and feedbacks on services use;
- Review and update web pages and other web-based tools contents used for user engagement in ACMAD/ClimSA selected sectors;
- Organize interactive online activities (i.e., seminars, workshops) to operationalize interactions between people or organizations constituting each UIP;
- Promote one provider and one user focused relationship for specific climate services tailoring and valuation;
- Contribute to capacity building for users of climate information;
- Contribute to training material on establishing and operation UIPs;
- Contribute with documented good examples on effective user interface delivering anticipatory action including related benefits for selected sectors;
- Carry out other relevant duties as required.

The Climate Service Applications Expert will furthermore provide support upon request to produce the state of Africa climate and climate services reports with emphasis on the state of UIPs.

The expert will participate to specific meetings, consultations, fora, workshops and conferences to update communication channels and contents, include social media links for feedbacks collection and more active user engagement, collect and share good examples of anticipatory action and implementation for building case studies to improve visibility of NMHSs and RCCs as strategic actors for sustainable development.

Qualification

a) Education

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

b) Experience

At least 10 years of progressively responsible experience in climate services or climate science organizations with up to 5 years in coordination/management of multidisciplinary teams/projects responding to the climate crisis. Proven ability to draft documents, case studies reports and publications in peer reviewed journals on climate impacts, climate information applications. At least 5 years in establishing and/or operating User Interface Platforms with RCOFS, NCOFS, DRR platforms and other mechanisms or events.

Other requirements

The Expert should have worked in scientific or/and operational contexts of climate services, in particular on climate information needs assessments, climate services requirements identification, definition, development, quality assessment, delivery and feedback collection for update and improvement. Good knowledge of climate datasets and products, stakeholders of the climate service value chain, mechanisms for climate service user engagement 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: February 12, 2024 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;
- Certified 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: February 02, 2024 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. WEATHER AND CLIMATE FORECASTING EXPERT

Duties and Responsibilities

Under the supervision of the team lead, the expert will be responsible for supporting bespoke service development and training of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and regional weather and climate centres experts on services delivery including nowcasting, detection and monitoring, hazards and impact-based outlooks for assisting the User Interface Platforms for providing advisories, watches, warnings and anticipatory actions.

He/she will be responsible for interactions with application experts (i.e agriculture, disaster risk reduction, water, health...) to develop and provide better sector specific bespoke services.

He/she will perform the following duties:

- Review and configure as a user applications tools/platforms available (PUMA station, SAF NOWCASTING, CLIMTAG, MYDEWETRA, MUKAU, UCLIP, ClimSA station WEB and GEO portals...)
- Collect available country/regional data for tools/platforms calibration and validation;
- Support tools/platforms configuration for country/regional use;
- Interact with user interfaces to identify the needs and products requirements;
- Identify, define, develop, test, generate and deliver products required on the platforms;
- Support preparation/update of platforms user manuals;
- Contribute to trainings and training material development on the products, tools and platforms for country/regional experts;
- Attain trainings of trainers organized by international partners for use and further development of the tools/platforms;
- Support fora and events on platforms/tools application;
- Assist with products and services development supporting seminars, internships, on the job training, secondment, fellowships and training workshops;
- Assist identification of significant or severe weather and climate events for which forecasting is of high value due to their potential impacts;
- Collect data and support diagnostics for detection and monitoring of these events;
- Analyse the diagnostics supporting understanding of drivers of these events;
- Support products generation for technical notes and bulletins;
- Participate in trainings on monitoring and forecasting organized with global and other international centres (i.e EU/JRC, EUMETSAT,..);
- Support briefings with national/regional forecasters;
- Carry out other relevant duties as required.

The Expert will furthermore contribute to:

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

Qualification

a) Education

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

b) Experience

At least 3 years of experience in meteorological products development/delivery. Exposure to applications sectors including agriculture, water, disaster risk reduction, health or infrastructure development at national or regional level would be an advantage.

Other requirements

The Expert should have worked in weather and/or climate forecasting or applications, in particular on delivery based on needs. 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 (i.e. python, CDO...) 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: February 12, 2024 or as soon as possible thereafter

Nature of appointments: One to six months' renewable

How to Apply

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3 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EXPERT

Under the supervision of the Head of IT Department, the IT expert or consultant will support situation analysis, technical specification, installation and training for maintenance of IT systems and security infrastructure. He/she will assume the functions of analysis of hard/software and supporting infrastructure security needs, develop or propose solutions to improve ACMAD systems security He/she will support procurement of IT solutions for secure ACMAD and selected NMHS's data, voice and video visualization, collection, access, storage, , processing and exchange supporting the digital transformation of ACMAD, NMHSs and their stakeholders.

He/she will perform the following duties:

- Review of ACMAD's IT system and supporting infrastructure security;
- Document security gaps and propose transformative solutions for an advanced information system strongly and securely connected to NMHSs, Regional and Global centres and their stakeholders;
- Assist with technical specifications for procurements and support installation of IT solutions;
- Support training for ACMAD and NMHSs staff for installation, administration and maintenance of IT systems and security infrastructure;
- Carry out other relevant duties as required.

Qualification

a) Education

- A University Degree in Computer Science, IT or related field. Minimum requirement is a Master degree and/or certificates for qualification on IT systems and/or supporting infrastructure used in a National or Regional data Centre would be an advantage.

b) Experience

- A minimum of 7 years professional experience in installation, administration or maintenance of IT systems and/or related security facilities;

Other requirements

- Prior experience in meteorological data and information management is desirable;
- Knowledge of WMO Information System 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 or consultancy fees 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: February 12, 2024 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:

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- An updated CV;
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