



Terms of Reference for the Baseline Study for Liberia National Framework for Climate Service (NFCS)

1. General Information

- **Object:** Climate Services Capacities baseline assessment
- **Total Duration:** 3 months
- **Starting date:** September 3, 2018
- **Ending date:** November 27, 2018
- **Funding of the activity:** EWOWAS / WMO
- **Key contacts:**
 - Arthur Gar-Glahn, Permanent Representative with WMO
 - Bernard Gomez, WMO Representative for North, Central and West Africa
 - Filipe Lucio, GFCS Director
 - Dr Pascal Yaka, GFCS Regional Coordinator
 - Galine Yanon, GFCS Regional expert

2. Background and Justification

Climate services involve the provision of climate information in a way that assists decision making by individuals and organizations through appropriate engagement, an effective access mechanism and by being responsive to user needs (WMO, 2011). The Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) was established by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in collaboration with other relevant United Nations organizations and partners, with a vision 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 (WMO, 2011).

The objective is, through this initiative, to allow producers, researchers and different users to join their forces in order to increase the volume and improve the quality of climate services worldwide, especially in developing countries. The countries adhering to the GFCS are committed to putting in place and operationalizing national components of the framework with the support of different partners (mainly UN agencies and other partners).

Hence the Liberia Meteorological Services Department working with UN agencies, other Government Departments, academic institutions and partners has initiated the process of developing the National Framework for Climate Services (NFCS). The Liberia NFCS will focus on agriculture and food security, disaster risk reduction, water, energy and health as priority areas. The Framework will be developed by using the GFCS guidelines and benefiting from WMO/GFCS support.

The NFCS development will start with a baseline survey, to be carried out September to November 2018 to identify the current status of the climate services for the selected sectors in terms of:

1. Identifying the stakeholders in the climate services value chain (stakeholder matrix).
2. Establishing the range of climate services available and in use.
3. How the climate information is collected, analysed, developed and shared (packaging, dissemination).
4. Identifying the gaps in the current climate services value chain
 - a. Observation network
 - b. products (accuracy/ adequacy, completeness/ comprehensiveness/usability),
 - c. communication channels (relevance/appropriateness)

- d. feedback mechanisms (relevance/appropriateness)
 - e. financial and human capacity (funding opportunities, staffing including competencies, equipment and linkages with other like institutions locally, regionally and abroad)
5. Identifying the already existing user interface platforms and sustainability issues
 - a. Establishing overall sector needs and gaps in climate services provision for the different sectors.
 - b. Possible sector specific weather and climate products.
 6. Identifying the status climate indigenous knowledge status
 - a. What are they using in term of weather forecasting and climate prediction
 - b. How reliable they are?
 - c. How it is disseminate in the communities?
 - d. How it is used and disseminate?
 - e. How to mix it/to build complementary actions (a bridge) with climate applied sciences?
 7. Identifying the status on climate policy (climates services governance)
 - a. At national level, what are the policies that driving climate services development?
 - b. What are the gaps? How to fill them
 8. Identifying the gender matters link to climate services
 - a. climate services and rural women organization
 - b. climate services and most vulnerable people
 9. Identifying Climate services related initiatives in the country
 - a. What are the current or future initiatives related to climates services in the country?
 - b. In which priority area, GFCS component these initiatives are focusing on?

3. Activities to be covered under the Baseline Study

1. Design and develop data collection templates in consultation with the Technical Committee.
2. Conduct interviews with key institutions in the five (5) priority areas at national, provincial, district and ward levels including Academia, Rural District Councils, municipalities, private sector, women organisation, civil society organization, gender organisation

3. Carry out interviews with relevant sectorial committees of the five priority sectors such as the Disaster Committees and Food and Nutrition Security Committees, water supplying committees, health promotion committee, renewable energy organizations, disasters recovering associations, at national, provincial, district and ward levels.
4. Carry out focus group discussions in selected wards.
5. Review other relevant data sources
6. Data collection to be carried out in three months (September to November 2018) with data analysis and report writing assigned two to three weeks
7. Produce draft baseline report
8. Present draft report to Technical Committee
9. Hold a national validation workshop on the draft baseline report
10. Incorporate input from national consultation for finalization of report

4. Methodology

With respect to the methodological approach, it is expected that the successful consultant will propose to the study order how he intends to proceed to achieve the expected results. As such, he will submit, at the beginning of the consultation, a detailed methodological approach that will be amended and validated by the Liberia Met service. However, it is important to take into account that the following elements and orientations will be considered in the methodology to be adopted:

- Alignment, concordance with GFCS guidelines in conducting a capacity assessment (tools developed by GFCS)
- Participatory, inclusive approach, promoting the involvement of all key stakeholders
- Flexible, consensual, learning approach
- Provide progress reports, periodical situation points to ensure effective follow-up and allow possible adjustments
- Combine interviews and focus group discussions
- Organization of a validation workshop

5. Outputs

1. Baseline report
2. Reports on the sectorial and national consultation workshops
3. Data collection tools
4. Presentation

6. Consultant Profile

The consultant will report directly to the Director of the Liberia National Met service and will serve and work in full collaboration with the GFCS coordination office.

✓ **Qualifications of the Consultant**

⇒ ***Technical Qualifications***

- A Bachelors' degree or a Masters' degree in climate science, meteorology, environmental sciences, development and climate adaptation or a discipline relevant to one of the five areas of GFCS (disaster risk reduction, water management, health, energy, agriculture and food security)
- Strong project management and coordination skills
- Strong leadership skills, able to coordinate multiple stakeholders and guide a process at national level
- A good network, and effective experience working with climate information and services in Liberia
- Strong track-record of achievements organizing national level multi-stakeholder processes
- Good Diplomacy skills
- An effective communicator, both oral and written
- Experienced with Reporting, Monitoring & Evaluation

⇒ ***Experience and Expertise***

- Proven record of achievement and demonstrated professional experience in conducting research in the field;
- At least 3 years of professional work/field work in the sector;
- Extensive field experience in at least one of the areas of GFCS. Ability to assess country's climate service needs, climate change adaptation information, vulnerabilities and risks. Experience building a bridge between the national meteorological service and users a strong asset.
- Knowledge of the country, and a good network of contacts from various and diverse national organizations.
- Proven analytical and writing skills.
- Ability to anticipate and understand different actor's needs, formulate clear strategic plans, prioritize interventions, and determine resources needs according to priorities.

7. Application Procedure

Application letters with copies of CVs, degrees and other professional certificates attached, should be addressed and delivered to:

Mr. Arthur Gar-Glahn

Director

Liberia Meteorological Service

& Permanent Representative with WMO

Ministry of Transport

Carey & Warren Streets

Monrovia, Liberia

Upon preliminary screening of applications, CVs of three (3) selected candidates will be sent to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) for final screening and selection of the best candidate. The deadline for submission of applications is Thursday, August 23, 2018 at 4:00 P.M. For inquiries, please contact Mr. Gar-Glahn at: 0886 565 245/0770 565 245.