

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

SHORT TERM POSITIONS AT ACMAD ON CLIMATE SERVICES

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. Reliable information on climate change and variability can build resilience to climate impacts; saving lives, stopping and reversing desertification and improving livelihoods. Science-based climate information is critical for ACP countries to increase their resilience for adapting to climate change by addressing timely and effectively climate risks.

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 recognizes that the adverse effects of climate change have a range of direct and indirect implications for the effective enjoyment of human rights and that the effects of climate change will be felt most acutely by those segments of the population that are already vulnerable. It calls for a gender-sensitive, participatory and fully transparent approach.

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 to reduce desertification and promote the conservation of biological diversity.

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), Full Value Chain Optimized Climate User centric Services for Southern Africa (FOCUS), the Urban Climate Information Platform (Uclip) and other emerging projects with partners (AUC, UNDRR...) are contributing to better Weather, Water and climate services in Africa. These initiatives and projects are supporting sustainable development by combating climate change through strengthening weather, water and climate service value chains. To strengthen service value chain, these projects will provide **technical assistance, financial assistance, infrastructure and capacity building**.

ACMAD actions builds capacity of national and regional centres to provide weather, water and climate services meeting regional and country needs, supports the African Union and Regional Economic Communities as major players in climate, disaster and sustainable development policy dialogue through weather, water and climate information and statements for policy making.

These projects are 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 projects contribute 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 actions will also support the services pillar of the AMCOMET 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 undertaking research and innovation on weather, water and climate, 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.

ACMAD is now recruiting short term experts to support implementation of these projects.

SHORT TERM THEMATIC EXPERTS: CLIMATE DATA SERVICE, CLIMATE MONITORING AND FORECASTING

Duties and Responsibilities

Under the supervision of the Senior Forecaster, the Short-Term Thematic Experts on climate data, climate monitoring and forecasting will be responsible for rescuing, managing exchanging weather and climate data, preparing and delivering climate monitoring/forecasting products and services.

They will perform the following duties:

- Collect input data, methods and processing tools for monitoring/forecasting climate events with emphasis on drought, heavy rains, hot days and other significant or severe weather and climate events;
- Regularly collect, archive and analyse extreme events and impact data in quarterly and annual state of climate reports;
- Access, collect and process data disseminated through receiving stations and online for climate monitoring and forecasting;
- Prepare and disseminate climate diagnostics and outlook products, technical notes and bulletins, reports, outlook statements;
- Contribute with climate events summaries for the state of climate report for policy, decision makers and planners;
- Contribute to capacity building for national and regional climate monitoring and forecasting experts;
- Provide inputs data or products for climate monitoring and forecasting capacity building;
- Liaise with relevant working groups on climate monitoring or forecasting with emphasis on state of climate reporting;
- Assist in planning, organizing and servicing seminars, internships, on the job training, secondment, fellowships and training workshops.
- Carry out other relevant duties as required.

Qualification

Education

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

Experience

At least 10 years of progressively responsible experience as a meteorologist or climatologist. At least 5 years of international work in the area of climate monitoring, forecasting and/or

assessment Evidences of work as data scientists for candidate for data service position will be an advantage

Other requirements

The expert should have worked on data collection, rescue, management and exchange or production of weather and/or climate diagnostics, analysis, forecasting reports and climate watches Good knowledge of global and regional data and/or meteorological centres, weather and climate monitoring and prediction tools 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. Knowledge of one or more of the following WMO programmes would also be an advantage (weather, climate, information system programmes)

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.

Date of duty : August 25, 2021 or as soon as possible thereafter

Nature of appointments : Six months renewable

How to Apply

Interested candidates who meet the above criteria should submit:

- An application letter
- An updated CV with 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 and experts from underrepresented regions of Africa are explicitly encouraged to apply. Dateline for Applications: August 24, 2021

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



The application can be addressed to:

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

- dgacmad@acmad.org, lambert@acmad.org; grh@acmad.org

Or

- Fax number: + 227 20723627.