

Developing weather and climate services for the Nigerian offshore oil and gas industry

Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet)

Challenge

Following the Nigerian Federal Government's 2011 'Transformation Agenda', NiMet, as Nigeria's appointed provider of weather and climate services, has been mandated to develop services for Nigerian industry, and to ensure that forecaster skills and competencies meet international standards. NiMet has been encouraged by Government to develop additional sustainable revenue streams by delivering services to various commercial sectors operating in Nigeria, starting with the offshore oil and gas industry. NiMet's new commercial team needed to develop a customer-focussed approach to meet international requirements, and their meteorologists needed to gain expertise in service delivery to the offshore industry.

Solution

Following initial discussions in 2012, NiMet and the Met Office entered into a formal agreement in 2014 with the aim of collaborating to provide services to the offshore oil and gas sector. This large industry is well established and metocean weather services are essential to ensuring safe, efficient and cost effective operations at sea. NiMet has been able to draw on the Met Office's 40-year experience in providing services to international oil companies operating both in the UK and around the globe. Combining NiMet's local knowledge, observations and national meteorological archives with Met Office science expertise and our well established range of offshore oil and gas products and services, is ensuring that the best possible range of services are available for the Nigerian offshore industry.

Benefits

This collaboration sees the sharing of expertise and technology that supports NiMet to build capacity for the delivery of commercial services. This helps to provide a sustainable revenue stream separate from government funding, a model which stimulates economic activity and has the wider benefit of improving NiMet's weather and climate services across Nigeria. Met Office 'train the trainer' workshops will enable NiMet to become a regional centre of excellence. We are mentoring NiMet and encouraging them to collaborate and share their knowledge with other national meteorological and hydrological services across the region.



"The alliance with the Met Office has enabled us to improve service delivery and improve our internally-generated revenue. NiMet's visibility in the marketplace has improved considerably and we are now looking forward to sharing our expertise with other met services in the region."

Kayode Ogunsola
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Supporting



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