



Met Office

Training

Severe Weather Events – Effective Planning
(SWEET)



The SWEET training programme develops different aspects of a state's disaster risk reduction strategy.

The programme aims to integrate disaster risk reduction into sustainable capacity development plans and help to enhance early warning systems.

SWEEP

The SWEEP programme is a flexible series of modules that is delivered through an interactive workshop. The training aims to develop a state's ability to respond and communicate effectively before, during and after severe weather events or other natural hazards, increasing resilience and reducing the risk of a disaster.

Working in partnership

Ideally the workshop will bring staff from national meteorology and hydrology services together with key responders and decision makers. In doing so, the training will help form partnerships and encourage joint understanding among all stakeholders. Equally however, SWEEP can also be delivered as a standalone workshop for single organisations.



Flexible delivery

The modules can be tailored to meet the needs of either:

- countries who are completely new to severe weather management (introductory level);

or

- countries with some experience that need to further develop their capability to manage severe weather events (intermediate level).

A SWEEP workshop can be delivered wherever is most convenient to you – on site at a location of your choice, or in our dedicated training facilities at the Met Office headquarters in Exeter.

After completing a two week SWEEP programme you will be able to:

- describe the impacts of severe weather on both the customer and the end user;
- develop a severe weather plan;
- design a method of attributing confidence to a warning;
- target warnings to the end user with an understanding of the decisions that will subsequently be made by the recipient;
- issue warnings with regular updates and amendments if necessary before, during and after an event;
- use a variety of methods such as web, email, telephone and social media to communicate effectively;
- broadcast directly to the media with confidence;
- organise regular discussions with stakeholders to practise their severe weather plans and to understand what actions they will take;
- develop a system to continually collect and maintain weather data and to securely archive warnings;
- create and implement a business continuity plan.

Module packages – introductory or intermediate levels

Aim: To form cross-government partnerships with national meteorology services and develop plans that will mitigate the worst impacts of a severe weather event.

The workshop will use a combination of group activities, case studies and presentations to:

- understand areas of responsibility and cooperation;
- examine different strategies from around the globe to deal with these events;
- generate ideas about what could be achieved with local capabilities;
- develop plans with timescales for the implementation of these ideas.



The length of the workshop can vary depending on the modules chosen. Please see the suggested one week or two week package options below.

One week package

The modules included are:

- Introduction to disaster risk reduction.
- Theory of the disaster risk reduction process.
- The importance of building partnerships.
- Defining what constitutes severe weather for your country.
- The development of a joined up early warning service.
- The importance of planning and exercising.
- The writing and implementation of a plan.

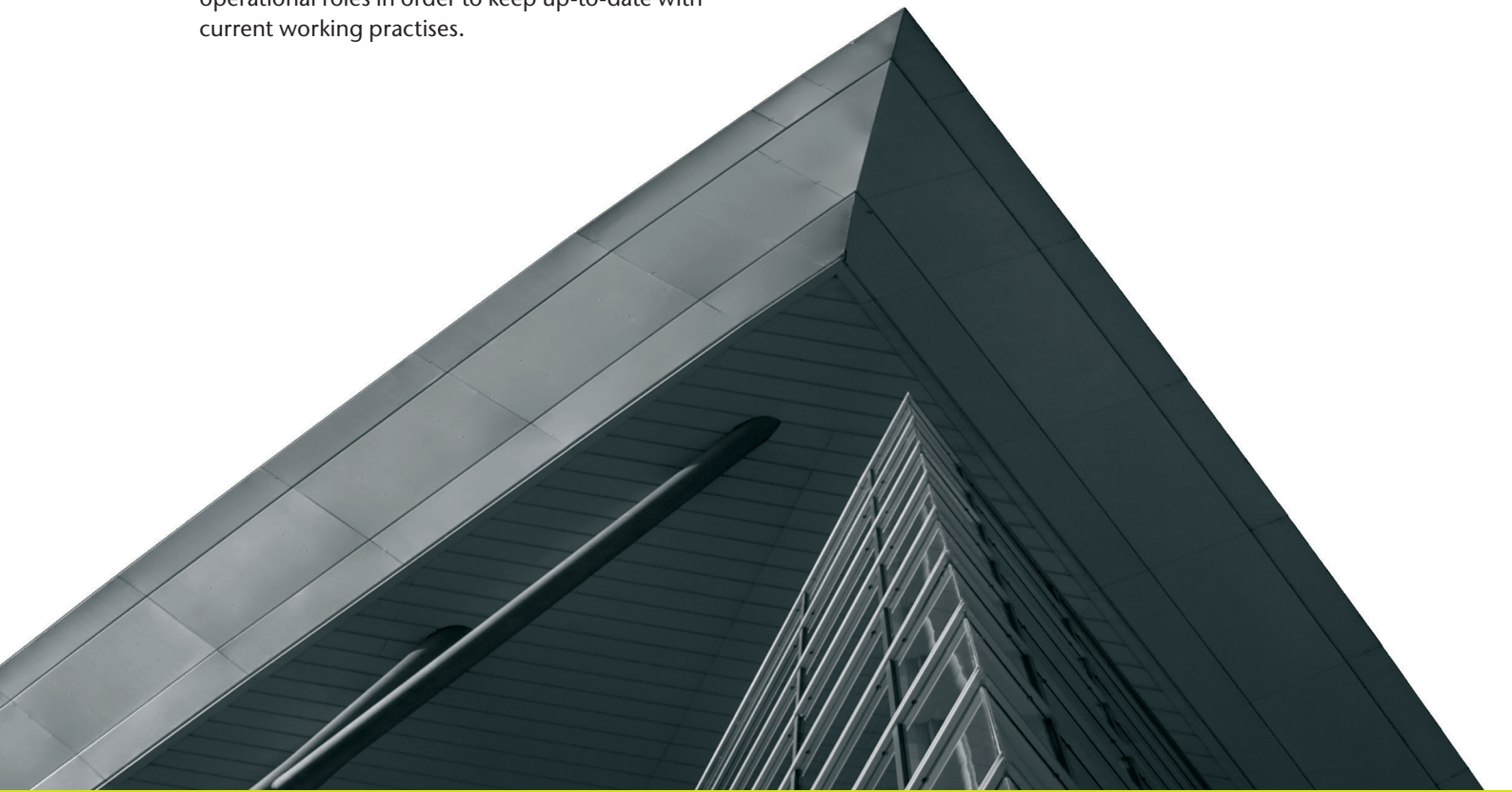
Two week package

As per one week package plus the following topics:

- How to interact with the media and best practice for broadcasting.
- The importance of business continuity and business continuity management.
- Verifying forecasts and record keeping.
- Other natural hazards that might have an effect on your country.
- The latest ideas on climate services.

Why choose the Met Office?

- We have been providing meteorological tuition for more than 70 years and have earned a reputation for being a world-leading provider of weather and climate training.
- Our professional weather forecaster and observer training conforms with the latest World Meteorological Organization (WMO) training and education guidelines.
- The Met Office College training team has experience in delivering training overseas in over 30 different countries. Locations have been varied and include Rwanda, Nigeria, Serbia, The Gambia, South Korea, Brunei, the Czech Republic and Sierra Leone.
- Our team of more than 20 trainers is experienced in many fields including aviation forecasting, climate science, road forecasting, observing and marine forecasting.
- The trainers have extensive operational experience, with several continuing to work part time in operational roles in order to keep up-to-date with current working practises.
- As well as forecasters and observers, our students include emergency responders, emergency service personnel (police, fire and ambulance), defence staff, broadcasters, road and rail decision makers and air traffic control staff.
- The trainers develop their teaching skills through in-house “train the trainer” processes and by completing a range of different courses in teaching in further education and the lifelong learning sector. They are committed to continual professional development (CPD) which involves secondments and attending conferences and other relevant training courses.
- While our courses are all delivered in English, the training team has experience of working with interpreters.
- Our in-house elearning development team creates easy to use, interactive online training modules that you can access whenever and wherever suits you best via <https://elearning.metoffice.gov.uk>



For more information about how SWEEP can help enhance your national resilience or to discuss your requirements with a member of the International Development team please email moc.enquiries@metoffice.gov.uk