



## Welcome to the September 2022 issue of our WISER newsletter

### WISER Programme Management



Since our last update in July, the Programme Management team have been focused on progressing the scoping phase of WISER Africa and WISER MENA. This has included releasing a Calls for Concepts for WISER Africa in Southern and East Africa which closes on 30th September and planning for activities in West Africa which will be announced in due course.

The WISER Africa Regional Coordinators have been engaging in events locally to connect with organisations that could be a part of the WISER community and share the impacts and learnings from WISER to date. This has included eliciting feedback on WISER Africa's [Theory of Change](#) to ensure it reflects regional needs. The Theory of Change for WISER MENA is also currently under development and will be validated by regional stakeholders in the upcoming period. Complimentary tools and approaches for Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning across both WISER Africa and MENA are likewise being designed, with ways to support partners in using these tools a key focus.

The programme has contracted a Gender, Equity & Social Inclusion (GESI) consultant to assist with GESI support and analysis across the programme and to support project scoping and design. They will be providing GESI expertise including creating tailored tools and resources and reviewing documentation, processes and plans to ensure GESI is considered and measured throughout the programme as well as support implementing partners as they undertake project GESI analysis during scoping phase.

We have also contracted a Knowledge Management & Applied Learning consultant who will be creating a WISER knowledge management and applied learning purpose statement, strategy and implementation plan as well as reviewing existing documentation and developing tailored resources for implementing partners to support their engagement with knowledge management and applied learning. We plan to translate as many resources as possible into the working languages of WISER Africa and MENA, to support partners accessibly of tools.

## Open Now: Call for consultants - WISER Consultant Roster Framework

To support the WISER Programme, provide easy access to qualified and experienced international and national consultants (individuals/organisations), particularly those located in West, East and Southern Africa and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) regions, and to supplement existing activities and resources, the Met Office intends to establish a Consultant Roster Framework.

The Framework, it is intended, will provide the Met Office with a mechanism by which to access and request external technical support from consultants covering one or more out of the four distinct areas of expertise and those where supplementary support is often required; said areas are:

- **Science Services Support** (e.g. Operational and applied meteorology, Data Management, Observations, ICT, Modelling, Product and Service delivery)
- **Thematic Project Support** (e.g. GESI, MEL, VfM, Knowledge Management and Applied Learning, Community engagement)
- **Institutional, Policy and Organisational Management Support** (e.g. Funding and Financing, Policy, Institutional and Economic Analysis, Marketing)
- **Communication and Auditing Support** (e.g. Conferencing, Videography, Copywriting, Printing, Auditing)

Further information regarding the process, including how to express an interest and participate, can be obtained by emailing [grant.defrayment@metoffice.gov.uk](mailto:grant.defrayment@metoffice.gov.uk) no later than Friday 7th October 2022.

## WISER Africa

Recently, you may have met some of our WISER Africa Regional Coordinators at local events such as the Greater Horn of Africa Conference (GHACOF) in Mombasa, Africa Climate Week in Gabon, and Southern Africa Ministerial Meeting in Maputo.

As part of launching WISER Africa, colleagues attended GHACOF to host a marketplace stand to meet and discuss the programme with attendees. We also held a side event celebrating the programme's achievements to date and discussing how WISER Africa will build on successes and incorporate lessons learnt into its design moving forward. Participants were also part of an interactive session on the WISER Theory of Change to gain further feedback and insights into how best to work with organisations and individuals to co-produce and co-design the programme as the scoping phase progresses. We would still welcome and feedback and comments on the [Theory of Change](#), please do [get in touch](#) with any thoughts!



The Met Office also hosted a side event at Africa Climate Week in Gabon with a focus on WISER, where insights were shared, such as the needs and opportunities for weather and climate services in Africa, and how working collaboratively across the weather and climate system is needed to improve the resilience of the most vulnerable. Integrating co-production, gender, equity and social inclusion in project and programme design was explored as areas of focus. The UNFCCC have made sections of Africa Climate Week available [on their website](#).

## WISER Africa begins Kenya Capex Project

This month, WISER Africa has commenced its first project, the Kenya Capex Project, which continues its long history of supporting National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) to improve weather observations to enhance availability, access and use of Weather and Climate Information Services.

Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD) is leading the Kenya Capex Project, which aims to procure one tidal gauge for the port of Mombasa and one automatic weather station (AWS) to be installed at Kilifi. These two pieces of equipment will improve observations and weather forecasts for the coast of Kenya, thereby improving the safety of shipping, transport and fishing.

The AWS also brings added benefits by helping support studies into meteorological phenomena. Pwani University, which collaborates with KMD, is looking forward to the AWS to enhance their outreach activities with local schools.

In addition to improving observations and weather forecasting, data from the tidal gauge will provide support to coastal development sectors such as coastal engineering by providing signals of variations in water levels linked to extreme events, input into storm surge and tsunami alert systems and encourage environmental studies through the calibration and validation of coastal hydrodynamic models.

[Find out more about WISER Africa](#)

## Open now: Call for concepts - East and Southern Africa

WISER Africa currently has [open calls for project concepts](#) in East and Southern Africa. Submissions required by Friday 30th September at 11AM British Summer Time (BST).

This Call for Concepts seeks to identify organisations and consortiums to deliver grant activities in Southern or East Africa that clearly demonstrate how they contribute towards one or more of WISER's five [Theory of Change Output Areas](#).

Delivering against the five output areas is anticipated to support changes leading to greater access to services and awareness of the value of using weather and climate information in decision making, contributing to the improved use of weather and climate services in a range of decisions different users make. WISER Africa expects to work with a variety of stakeholders in partnership to form a coordinated, diverse and complimentary set of projects that feed into and across WISER's five outputs.

**Available Funding - Southern Africa:** Concepts can be submitted with estimated costs in the range of £500,000 to £2,000,000

**Available Funding - East Africa:** Concepts can be submitted with estimated costs in the range of £300,000 to £1,500,000

This Call for Concepts is the first stage in a two-stage application process.

[Find out more](#)

[Read our FAQs](#)

## Looking for inspiration?

To give a sense of the types of projects WISER has selected in the past, you can find details of completed WISER projects on our webpages, including infographics and project summaries which give a brief overview of each.

Further insights into WISER can be found through our brochure, including aims, objectives, and achievements of the programme from 2015-2021, as well as learnings to take forward into the next phases of WISER.



[Explore WISER's completed projects](#)

[Read our brochure](#)

## WISER Middle East and North Africa (MENA)



The Met Office has recently published the [MENA Scoping Report](#) (including a [Summary](#) report) which highlights key needs and opportunities related to weather and climate information within the MENA Region. It is based on insights from regional stakeholders and an analysis by the Red Cross Climate Centre, and has been central in informing WISER MENA's Theory of Change.

Most project activities under WISER MENA are expected to start from April 2023, and we will be sharing details of calls and opportunities related to this in due course.

A number of activities are already underway:

- WISER MENA is currently providing a weekly rainfall forecast to UNCHR Yemen to support their work with internally displacement people (IDP) to protect them from hazardous weather.
- We are also developing training materials on how the use of weather and climate information can build resilience and support adaptation, aimed for example at embassy staff and other relevant stakeholders. It is hoped that this will contribute to an improved understanding of weather and climate information in the MENA Region.
- We continue to participate in the MENA Regional Community of Practice on Anticipatory Action, and engage with stakeholder who might like to be involved in or leverage the programmes activities in region.

[Find out more about WISER MENA](#)

## WISER Programme Team



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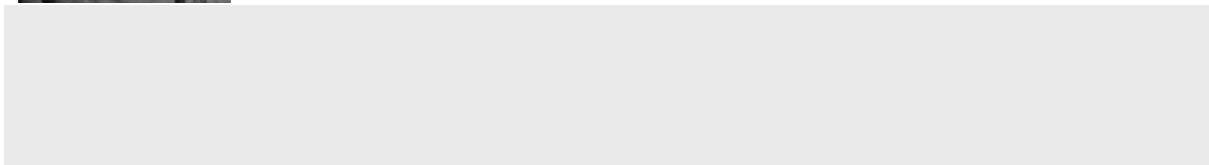
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## Contact us

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