



World Meteorological Organization

Weather • Climate • Water

Need for Connectivity in Africa WMO Perspective

Dr Amos Makarau

*Director General of Meteorological Services Department of Zimbabwe,
President of WMO Regional Association for Africa*

Mr Peiliang Shi

Director , WMO Information System Branch

1. What is WIGOS



Annual Global Monitoring 1-15/10/2008

SYNOP reports made at 00, 06, 12 and 18 UTC at RBSN stations



Percentage of reports received

- 80 to 100 per cent (2012 stations)
- 45 to 80 per cent (5927 stations)
- Less than 45 per cent (3235 stations)
- Silent stations (300 stations)

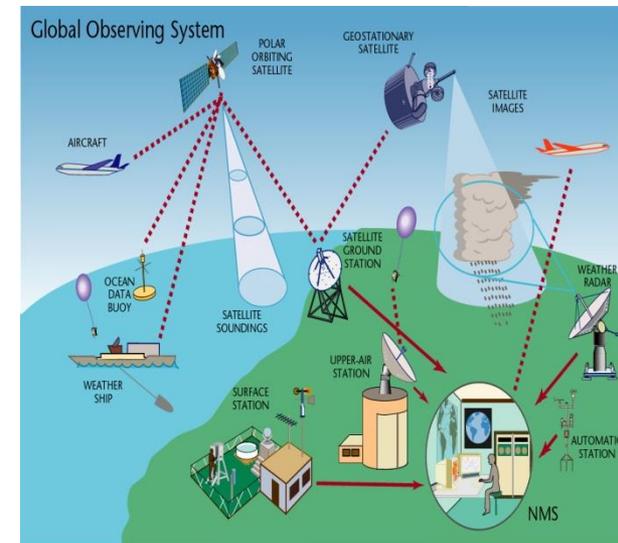
WMO Secretariat

The designation employed and the presentation of material in this publication do not imply the expression whatsoever on the part of the WMO Secretariat concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city



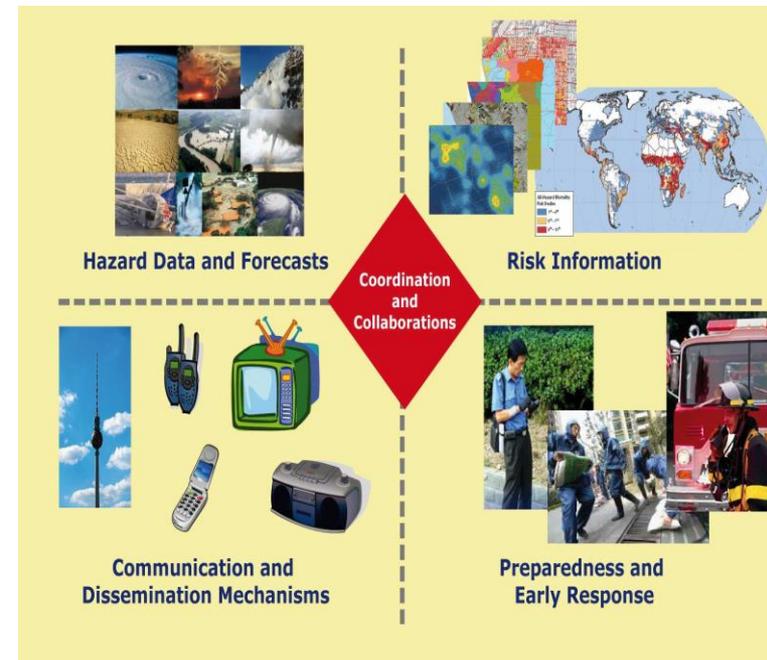
Africa's Vision on Weather and Climate Service provision

- Meteorological products and services, including weather forecasts, warnings and advisories are timely, affordable to, accessible and easily understood by, all anywhere and anytime.
- Africa has mainstreamed climate in its socio-economic development agenda
- Bottom line: climate resilient society, communications, speed, early warning



Roles of WMO and National Meteorological and Hydrological Services

- Protection of lives and property on land, water and in the air;
- Contributions to sustainable development;
- Enhancing quality of life



Challenges Africa is facing in provision of weather, water and climate information

- Erratic and slow transmission of data from meteorological observing sites within the countries;
- Varied modes of transmission of this data (mostly SSB, land line, radio, TV, postal):
- Mobile and satellite technology is in its infancy and is costly;
- Exchange of meteorological data and products regionally and globally still unsatisfactorily low; to many silent stations;
- Accessibility of weather forecasts, alerts/ warnings and early warning to all is highly problematic, particularly in remote areas;



Challenges ... (Cntd)

- **Extreme weather events** are becoming more severe, frequent and prolonged;
- **34** countries in Africa are Least Developed Countries (UN) and are having difficulties in coping with these extremes;
- **Over 60%** of populations are in rural and remote areas where development is lagging behind;



Why we need to invest in connectivity urgently in Africa ?

- Africa is the **most vulnerable** continent with respect to impacts of extreme weather and climate change;
- Disasters, most of which are **weather** related, are increasing and are projected to becoming more extreme;
- Africa's population is rapidly increasing and economic growth is promising, yet still threatened by Weather and Climate Extremes and Climate Change impacts;



Final word...

- Connectivity will **empower** Africa nations and protect its people and economic assets and develop **new opportunities** for social and economic growth.
- ICT connectivity for weather and climate services is **a must** for building Africa climate resilience and sustain its growth
- Together ITU, WMO, and private sector we can achieve it today





World Meteorological Organization

Weather • Climate • Water

Thank You