

30 June 2022

Decision item 1.4

Adoption of SOFF programming criteria

First Steering Committee meeting

Systematic Observations
Financing Facility

**Weather
and climate
data for
resilience**



SOFF Steering Committee Meeting, 30 June 2022

Decision item 1.4: Adoption of SOFF programming criteria (Operational Manual chapter 4.3, Programming)

The Steering Committee adopts the SOFF programming criteria, as presented in the Chapter 4.3 of the SOFF Operational Manual submitted to the Steering Committee on 15th June. The SOFF Secretariat will inform the Steering Committee on how the programming criteria are applied to each funding request. The Steering Committee will closely monitor how the programming criteria are applied and provide recommendations for the fine tuning as needed.

4.3 Programming criteria

SOFF defines its programming based on technical and operational criteria. Based on the criteria presented below and on information provided by beneficiary countries, WMO Technical Authority, peer advisors and IEs, the SOFF Secretariat prepares a proposal for prioritization of beneficiary countries' requests for Steering Committee consideration and decision (see 4.5.1).

- **Close the most significant data gaps:** Emphasis on those geographic areas that currently have the poorest observational coverage, where strengthening the observing network would yield the largest results regarding the quality of the numerical weather prediction products
- **Target "easy fixes":** Countries where through relatively small interventions, stations and related infrastructure could be fixed to start quickly delivering the data into the global system per GBON regulations
- **Maximize delivery capacity:** Countries where IEs and peer advisors can operate and deliver SOFF support efficiently and effectively
- **Create leverage:** Opportunities for complementarity of SOFF with larger operations under implementation or preparation by the IEs and other funds, including by the Advisory Board Members
- **Sub-regional gains:** Opportunities to create economies of scale and optimize the design of the observing networks through multi-country/sub-regional implementation
- **Ensure country balance:** Balanced support among SIDS and LDCs and across regions, including Fragile and Conflict-affected States (FCS).

The SOFF Secretariat will inform the Steering Committee on how the programming criteria are applied to each funding request. The Steering Committee will closely monitor how the programming criteria are applied and provide recommendations for the fine tuning as needed.