



Weather
and climate
data for
resilience

7 September 2022

First SOFF Advisory Board Meeting

Decisions



Decision 1.1: Adoption of the SOFF Advisory Board Work Arrangements

- The Advisory Board adopts the Advisory Board Work Arrangements as submitted by the SOFF Secretariat the 23rd August, with the following amendment:
 - *The size of the SOFF Advisory Board will be limited to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of its functioning. The number of SOFF Advisory Board members is initially set to 16.*
- The Advisory Board requests the SOFF Secretariat to finalize the work arrangements accordingly, and to circulate it with all members and to share it with the Steering Committee for their information.

Decision 1.2: Adoption of the recommendations on the draft Operational Manual

- The Advisory Board recommends the following refinements to the draft SOFF Operational Manual for consideration by the second Steering Committee :
 - *4.1 Concessionality and country allocations: The Operational Manual should specify that all eligible countries should have equal access to SOFF resources according to SOFF programming criteria.*
 - *4.4.1 Beneficiary countries: The Operational Manual should strengthen the language on the importance of NHMS as the SOFF focal point to coordinate the countries' SOFF engagement with other national institutions and their focal points for other climate and environment funds and mechanisms;*
 - *4.4.3 Peer advisors: The Operational Manual should strengthen the language on peer advisors being able to partner with others for the delivery of the advisory services, including sub-contracting arrangements to deliver at the pace and with the quality that SOFF requires;*
 - *4.5.3 Compliance phase: The Operational Manual should define ways to provide "post-investment phase" rapid support for special situations, including in case of a natural catastrophe;*
 - *4.5.3 Compliance phase: The Operational Manual should specify that peer advisory support should ideally be provided at the initial stage of the Compliance phase. This will ensure that beneficiary countries are fully equipped and supported in the initial stage in their transition to operating and maintaining the GBON stations on their own;*
 - *6.1 Monitoring: The Operational Manual should specify that SOFF will make available a public SOFF country dashboard with updated information on SOFF programming. This will help Advisory Board members and other stakeholders to be able to align investments and efforts;*
 - *6.1 Monitoring - Results Framework: The SOFF Results Framework should include the SOFF goal on strengthening climate adaption and resilient development through improved weather forecasts, early warning systems and climate information services;*
 - *8. Complaints mechanism: The Operational Manual should include ways to address complaints on SOFF-related funding beyond the Implementing Entities complaints mechanism based on the experience and mechanisms of other UNMPTFs.*
- The Advisory Board requests the SOFF Secretariat:
 - To share these recommendations with the Steering Committee two weeks ahead of its meeting
 - To publicly disclosure these recommendations after the Steering Committee meeting on the SOFF website

Decision 1.3: Adoption of the recommendations on the draft Resource Mobilization and Outreach Strategy

- The Advisory Board recommends the following refinements to the draft SOFF Resource Mobilization and Outreach Strategy for consideration by the second Steering Committee :
 - *The strategy should strengthen the language on the role of SOFF within the whole meteorological and climate services value chain*
 - *The strategy should include a link to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction*
 - *The strategy should include more details on the country needs behind the assumptions used for the definition of the targets*
 - *The strategy should include an area of work on developing an overview of the hydromet and observations-related investments landscape*
 - *The strategy should consider, as a short-term action, SOFF joining the InsuResilience Global Partnership to strengthen links with climate and disaster-risk finance*
 - *The strategy should consider, as a short-term action, the preparation of a collaboration note between SOFF and the climate funds represented in the Advisory Board*
 - *The strategy should consider the development of a SOFF website that includes up-to-date information on SOFF operations*
- The Advisory Board requests the SOFF Secretariat:
 - *To share these recommendations with the Steering Committee two weeks ahead of its meeting*
 - *To publicly disclosure these recommendations after the Steering Committee meeting on the SOFF website*

Decision 1.4: Date and format of the second Advisory Board meeting

- The Advisory Board decides to hold its second meeting on the 19th of October 2022 from 2 to 4 PM CET in virtual format.
- The Advisory Board requests the SOFF Secretariat to circulate the documentation for the meeting, on an exceptional basis, one week ahead of the meeting.