

# 10<sup>th</sup> SOFF Advisory Board meeting

## Decisions

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10<sup>th</sup> SOFF ADVISORY BOARD MEETING, 12 MAY 2025

# Decision 10.1: ECMWF SOFF Impact Experiments

## The Advisory Board

**Welcomes** the SOFF impact experiments, which underpin the value of GBON observations to reduce uncertainty in weather forecasts.

**Notes** the importance of the experiment findings and their relevance to the climate action work of the Advisory Board members.

### **Recommends**

- that SOFF prominently and widely communicates the results of the study
- that SOFF Steering Committee supports further strengthening of the scientific basis for SOFF investments, and consider funding the next phase of experiments, including expanding the impact study to the medium range
- to make the case that SOFF investments in developing countries create significant benefits for the Global North.

**Requests** the SOFF Secretariat to:

- keep Advisory Board members involved in the preparation of a proposal for a potential third phase of SOFF impact work
- present such a proposal at the 11th Advisory Board meeting.

# Decision 10.2: Extending SOFF First Implementation Period and Preparation Expansion and Sustaining Period

## The Advisory Board

**Welcomes** the initial progress of SOFF implementation and building a closely knit SOFF operations community of practice.

**Notes** that SOFF has been operating at speed and scale in response to strong country demand, but that the operational targets set for the First Implementation Period have not yet been fully met and that additional time is needed to mobilize the resources required to achieve these operational targets.

### **Recommends**

- that the SOFF Steering Committee extend the First Implementation Period by two years.
- that SOFF explores 'bulk' procurement options to lower costs, in collaboration with HMEI, taking into consideration country specificities and equipment.

**Requests** the SOFF Secretariat to keep the Advisory Board engaged in the preparation of the Expansion and Sustaining Period.

# Decision 10.3: SOFF Impact Bond

## The Advisory Board

**Notes** with concern the rapidly changing and increasingly challenging global fundraising environment, and the need for SOFF to mobilize additional resources to meet high country demand.

**Welcomes** the initial steps taken to develop the SOFF Impact Bond as an innovative fundraising vehicle, the interest and support expressed by the World Bank in issuing the bond, and the support by the Nordic Development Fund in providing a booster grant.

**Recommends** that the Steering Committee pursues the development of the bond.

**Requests** the SOFF Secretariat to present updates on the bond's progress to the Advisory Board at the 11th meeting, ahead of COP30.

# Decision 10.4: Approach to Managing Country Funding Requests

## The Advisory Board

**Acknowledges** the commitment of countries to deliver on GBON with SOFF support, the efforts by SOFF to respond to country demand, and the current financial constraints affecting the SOFF UN Fund.

**Recommends** that the SOFF Steering Committee endorses the proposed approach to managing funding requests for the remainder of the First Implementation Period.

**Requests** the SOFF Secretariat to facilitate a consultation with the SOFF Implementing Entities and peer advisors to capture lessons learned on pipeline management to be shared with the SOFF Steering Committee, including on phased approach.