

WG #1 Western Africa – Led by RSMC Dakar

- RSMC Dakar Presentation
- Priority hazards and services for satellite-based nowcasting
- Current constraints (access, skills, infrastructure, etc.)
- Expectations for engagement with SEWA-AMSAF (training, pilots, co-development, etc.)

Presentation of RSMC Dakar within the context of SEWA-AMSAF

- RSMC Dakar has responsibility to issue orientation products for Africa
- In AMSAF to strengthen operation of West Africa country with the production of guidance products on nowcasting
- Partner of WMO in the SWFP
- Support transformation of meteorological data into information which supports decision making
- Anchor point for nowcasting operations in West Africa
- Making nowcasting operational and work with TAST and contribute to governance of the project
- Responsibility in organizing training and regional mentoring

Presentation of RSMC Dakar within the context of SEWA-AMSAF

- RSMC Dakar have some infrastructure in place
- Some guidance products already produced, like rainfall, heat (high-temp)
- PUMA 2025 is operational, they receive MTG products
- In AMSAF they will receive nowcasting software, installed both on cloud and HPC, and support in training, testbed and coaching and be part of the helpdesk, to make fluid the communication and smooth the operations
- As per the vision, the first important element is data for the development of warning to make decision at national level

Presentation of RSMC Dakar within the context of SEWA-AMSAF

- Co-production together with meteorological services in each country is very key and to bring in the sectorial views
- They will work with RTC to build capacity at national level

Challenges

- Internet connection is a problem: bandwidth

Countries in the breakout group

- Togo, Ivory Coast, Mali, Nigeria, Ghana, Tunis, Burkina Faso, Algeria, Cameroon, DRC, Sierra Leon, Morocco

Priority hazards and services for satellite-based nowcasting

Senegal

- floods during rainy season, so detection of convective precipitation is key
- Heat-wave
- Dust
- Strong wind, which affect mostly coastal regions
- Fog, which reduces visibility and affects traffic

Priority hazards and services for satellite-based nowcasting

Burkina Faso

- Strong wind, which affect mostly coastal regions
 - Archive of the string-wind events, important at later time to evaluate the impact to the population, in general for all hazards.

Ghana Met

- Lightning, due to impact on the energy sector

Togo

- Drought -> impact to agriculture

Chad

- Storm, early detection of storms -> strong winds
- Hazards with impacts on vector-borne diseases

Priority hazards and services for satellite-based nowcasting

Nigeria

- Similar to other countries
- Wind shear, especially for aeronautical applications
- Forest fires

Tunis

- Snowfall in mountaneous regions

Current constraints and challenges regarding use of nowcasting saf (access, skills, infrastructure, etc.)

- Internet connection: stability and bandwidth
- Power supply
- Hardware
- Capacity/competency of staff to utilize nowcasting products
- Number of trained staff -> skills transfer at national level
- Limited/inadequate observation network (radar, surface stations and ICT) – can satellite provide information/data that compensate? Integration of such data with satellite data for nowcasting
- Poor collaboration between met services
- Adaptation of nowcasting products to specific regions (for instance coverage, etc.) -> sustainability of the services
- Lack of access to satellite data

Expectations for engagement with SEWA-AMSAF (training, pilots, co-development, etc.)

- Training on the saf nowcasting products, so that forecasters able to predict hazard weather
- Integrate the outcome of AMSAF in the national mandate; it has to support the national mandate of the institutions
- Support to forecasts hazard weather and mitigate potential damages
- Knowledge sharing and transfer from more advanced countries