

Evolution of SAHF – 2023 and beyond



Challenges for hydromet services

- Keep up with demands for new or improved services
- Keep pace with technical innovation
- Cope with realities of ongoing human and financial constraints

SAHF aims to

- Increase quality and access to hydromet services
- Ensure sustainability
- Strengthen technical, institutional and human capacity for service delivery
- Enhance partnerships
- Position this work at the centre of climate resilient development

SAHF priorities

- Regional approach to cooperation
- Improve
 - NWP
 - Impact-based Forecasting
 - Multi-hazard Early Warning
- Provide operational support to forecasters
- Adopt common standards
- Optimize Observing Systems
- Build Skills
- Develop policies
- Enhance communication among all stakeholders

World Bank priorities for SAHF

- Deepen regional engagement
- Create technical activities focused on knowledge and innovation
- Strengthen collaboration and cooperation among NMHSs, beneficiaries, the private sector and academia
- Create a data and product exchange portal
- Build capacity through systematic training
- Be a bridge between regional and national investments in hydromet services

SAHF has

- Leveraged commitments from institutions and partners in South Asia
- Reinforced the need for integrating efforts to enhance actionable weather and climate services
- Demonstrated its importance as a vital and ongoing process to strengthen hydromet services in the region
- Focused on application of ensemble prediction, impact-based forecasting techniques and building advisory services
- Provided access to education and training for staff and
- Recognized that new skills are needed to match changes in the way services are provided and used

But SAHF must go further to achieve its aims by

- Engaging countries more actively in leading the work of SAHF
- More extensive use of the expertise of universities and other institutions within South Asia
- Leveraging other development projects and support
- Justifying investment based on the impact of hazards on economic performance
- Enhancing dialogue between SAHF institutions, governments and development partners
- Using existing diagnostic tools better to build an accurate picture of ongoing requirements
- Exploring new ways to support and sustain observational networks

Discussion

1. Enable more institutions to take responsibility for SAHF including actively engaging in and leading activities
2. Involve a wider network of experts, especially from academia in the region
3. Leverage the large number of past and present development projects to sustain capabilities and capacity through regional cooperation and coproduction
4. Put more emphasis on quantifying the economic benefit of services
5. Ensure continuous engagement of development partners
6. Better use of existing diagnostic tools
7. Sustain observational networks
8. *Other activities?*