



SAHF – Sustainability, Resources and Funding

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Since its inception, the South Asia Hydromet Forum (SAHF) has received financial support from the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) through several programmes implemented by the UK Met Office and the World Bank (including WISER AP and RAP), the European Union, and the World Bank's Climate Adaptation and Resilience for South Asia (CARE) project. In April 2025, the approval of a Climate Risks and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) project for South Asia is expected, focusing on supporting SAHF priorities.
- 1.2 Some of the SAHF member countries have been providing in-kind contributions such as real time sharing of data, digital forecast products, sparing experts in various training & capacity development activities, guidance in formulating service delivery enhancements, sharing of computing and storage infrastructure etc.
- 1.3 Furthermore, some of the SAHF member countries have been receiving bi-lateral financial and technical support from the World Bank, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Met Norway, the Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI), etc.
- 1.4 With the ambitious programme that the SAHF Executive Council (EC) set out in its resolution of November 2023, and which will be discussed during the upcoming SAHF EC meeting on May 6th, 2025, it is critical to comprehensively evaluate the current resource and funding situation, identify potential funding opportunities and take decisions.

2 DISCUSSION

- 2.1 With changing geopolitical situations and priorities, it is critical for SAHF to ensure financial sustainability so as to continue with the diversified service delivery

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support at the regional scale and also plan to establish representative revenue generating opportunities..

2.2 Possible explorable options include:

- Strengthen ties with current supporters of SAHF and ensure their visibility and satisfaction.
- Continue integration of SAHF into the targeted WMOs regional initiatives, including exploring engagement with the global hydrological and meteorological community to help scale up and close gaps in the capacity of NMHSs.
- Leverage national-level bi-lateral or sub-regional collaborations to achieve regional benefit for all SAHF members through broadening of the participation in trainings and other relevant activities.
- Identify new and additional organizations that can be approached for providing financial and technical support to SAHF.
- Explore co-financing mechanisms in support of identified national scale activities implemented under SAHF umbrella with potential donors.
- Explore organizing resources to host needed workshops, trainings including skill development staff training through secondment.
- Commit staff time and computational resources to SAHF activities, including but not limited to numerical weather prediction, mountain meteorology and marine meteorological services.

3 ACTIONS REQUIRED BY SAHF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

3.1 The SAHF EC is invited to:

- a) Decide on actions that could be taken to ensure the sustainability of SAHF based on options presented in paragraph 2.2 and others that may be identified.

3.2 The SAHF EC is invited to consider, and revise the following resolution for adoption:

- Endorses that SAHF provides the umbrella framework support for enhancing regional cooperation between the NMHSs of South Asia by integrating user sector sustainability needs, which is critical to ensure sustainability of national investments, noting possible reductions in staff and budgets at national level.
- Requests RIMES, in its capacity as the SAHF Secretariat, in coordination with SAHF Member Countries and external partners, to develop a long-term financial plan to ensure the sustainable implementation of SAHF activities and submit it to the SAHF EC by September 2025 for consideration.