



Sub-regional EAR Watch workshop

5 & 6 October 2021

Time: 9.00 (Melbourne Time)

Training objectives:

- Provide participants with new tools and techniques for the producing national EAR Watch Bulletins.
- Provide NMSs with guidance on the interpretation of this new information.
- Outline goals and requirements for sub-national (stage 2) EAR Watch workshops
- Introduce a new database for archiving stakeholder contact details and requests for assistance. Present reports in this database that can be used to determine information and data usage patterns and trends.

Day 1

Time	Session	Content	Presenter
8.30-9.00	Registration		Azarel
9.00-9.20	Welcome and Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome to Country and Prayer • Review agenda and objectives of workshop • Introductions • Workshop context 	Simon/Olivia
9.20-10.00	Drought monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic drought monitoring concepts, a quick reminder • Existing drought monitoring methods • Recent changes to Watch, Warning and Drought onset and cancellation criteria • Limitations and uncertainties with station-based drought monitoring 	Simon/Phil
Morning tea			
10.10 - 11.10	Monitoring maps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do we need satellite, reanalysis or blended datasets? • What is and why have we selected MSWEP? • How are the categories calculated? • Where can I download the new maps? • Comparing MSWEP to station observations for selected locations • Contributing observations to dataset • Limitations with this method to keep in mind • Interpreting the new monitoring maps 	Zhi/Steph
11.10-11.45	ACCESS-S EAR Watch maps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose and calculations • Map interpretation • Limitations with this method to keep in mind • Where can I download the new maps? 	Elise/Steph
11.45-12.30	Discuss overnight homework activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colour scale of EAR Watch maps • Create a sample EAR Watch for your country with the new monitoring maps and ACCESS-S outlooks using the Cook Islands September 2021 version as an example • Answering questions from stakeholders about the EAR Watch. 	Azarel/Olivia

Day 2

Time	Session	Content	Presenter
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8.30-9.00	Registration and questions from the previous day		Azarel
9.00-10.00	EAR Watch homework review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity in breakout groups: Going through homework tasks with training team, NMSs can ask questions about the new maps Activity in group: Answering questions from stakeholders 	Steph/Phil
10.00-11.00	EAR Watch communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity: Creating meaningful messaging for stakeholders (at which locations is meteorological drought likely to continue? Which locations are likely to proceed to drought in the coming months? Where is drought likely to ease?) Group discussion: Linkages to other NMS products 	Simon/Olivia
Morning tea			
11.15-11.50	Introducing a prototype Customer/Stakeholder database	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants will be shown a new database prototype designed to assist NMSs record details of customer requests for information. The database will produce reports which can be used to obtain statistics around data services. 	Martin
11.50-12.10	Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to qualify for sub-national stakeholder workshop funding 	Olivia/Simon
12.10-12.30	Workshop close	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recap of workshop information Questions and discussion 	Simon