



# ZAMBIA PUBLIC WEATHER AND WARNING SERVICES

BY

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# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- PWS and Warning System Production and dissemination;
- Coordination & warning services between Zambia Meteorological Dept (ZMD), Media, Disaster management and Mitigation unit (DMMU) and users;
- Challenges working with DMMU & Feedback
- Challenges working with the media
- What can be done



# PREPARATION OF WARNING

- A good PWS involves the production & early warning of the impending disaster.
- Severe weather in Zambia mainly occurs as floods and flash floods, Frost and drought
- Preparation of the warning is done by ZMD in the form of press releases and sent to all stakeholders
- In case of extreme weather events ZMD does not issue warnings but issue advisories to disaster management and mitigation Unit (DMMU)



# WARNING SERVICES

- Issuing of flood warnings is the mandate of the (DMMU),
- It is only effected after DMMU has gotten inputs & approval from all stake holders involved in flood forecasting before a warning can be issued



# DISSEMINATION OF FORECAST AND WARNINGS

- Telephone/Fax
- Community radio station
- Chart - beetle
- Small scale farmers association gatherings
- Internet: website and email
- Radio and TV presentations
- Press releases .
- Mobile-SMS
- Print media





# RANET ZAMBIA PROJECT

COMMUNITY RADIO STATION





# CHART \_ BEETLE



Only needs power supply and antenna  
Can receive message anywhere  
Remote areas can use solar pannels



# SMALL SCALE FARMERS ASSOCIATION





## CHALLENGES WORKING WITH DMMU

- Sometimes DMMU disseminate the impending weather phenomena and distort the information
- Concentrate more on response measures instead of early warning
- Sometimes they delay in responding to a warning



# FEEDBACK FROM DMMU

- When they use the information in their contingency planning
- By them involving Met staff at all levels their planning purposes



# CHALLENGES WORKING WITH MEDIA

- There is no good working relationship
- They like changing the information and misquoting
- Some of the Radio stations and some private print media get weather forecast from internet
- They are more active after an event
- At times they tend to omit important information when reporting

# WHAT CAN BE DONE AND HOW

- ◉ NMS pws to build good working relations with the media by involving in all the Met activities like production
- ◉ Create news point
- ◉ Media breakfast must be encouraged prior to any important occurrence e.g WMO day, press releases or briefing and warning, seasonal forecast launch





THANK YOU!!!!!!

ZIKOMO!!





**Zambia Meteorological Department**

