

DECEMBER 2010 MONTHLY REPORT



INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL DATA RESCUE ORGANIZATION

2010 OPERATIONAL PLAN

1. Maintain the following countries' digitization efforts (IAO/National Climatic Data Center):

Africa

- Kenya
- Malawi
- Mozambique
- Niger
- Senegal
- Tanzania
- Zambia

Central and South America

- Dominican Republic
- El Salvador
- Chile
- Paraguay
- Uruguay

2. Start new digitization efforts (WMO):

- Namibia
- Uganda
- Bolivia

HIGHLIGHTS

- IEDRO received a grant from ESRI for the GIS ArcMap software and training courses.
- We are averaging over 60,000 unique visitors annually with almost 100,000 total visits annually.
- IEDRO was mentioned in 2 national newspapers: The Baltimore Sun and Chicago Tribune.

ACTIVITIES

Strategic:

Susan Callis

- No activities to report this month.

Site Management:

Teddy Allen

- No site management activities to report this month.
- For Value Added Project, Teddy
 - Performed data visualization of rescued PIBAL (pilot balloon) data from Malawi.
 - Converted digital wind speed and direction data at various elevations into a series of graphical wind barb images.
 - Produced an automated computer script that would quickly replicate wind barb plots for future PIBAL datasets.

To encourage free data exchange between IEDRO partners and IEDRO, the overall goal of the Valued Added Project is to visualize rescued digital data through graphical images. This will serve as a template to apply to other types of rescued data.

Operations:

Richard Crouthamel

- Communicated with Mr. Nkomoki of Zambia who is interested in a site visit to fix camera and air conditioning problems.

Martin Monkhondya

- Keeping in touch with Namibia to see whether they are really willing to let the data rescue exercise begin in their country.
- Mozambique is requesting cameras so that they may continue their DARE exercise.

- Once Martin has received a passport he will be able to set off for the DARE mission.
- He is attempting to finalize the Lake Chirwa Basin adaptation Programme and will send the final draft report to IEDRO.

Larry Nicodemus

- Finalized a PowerPoint presentation demonstrating IEDRO's capabilities; a slide show that could be offered to ACMAD in Niamey, Niger as an incentive for them to release their archive of microfiche records to IEDRO for conversion to digital images, digitization of data records and to make them available to researchers and planners for computer analysis and application. The proposed presentation introduces IEDRO's interactive station/element index system and demonstrates how a user can quickly and easily recall any image for review with one click of the mouse.
- Completed a station-data-availability search request for Rick Crouthamel for China. The search showed data availability for over 1300 stations in China (WMO blocks 50-59). Of these only 1023 had known station names and locations. The general periods of record varied considerably from 1943-2009.

Public Relations:

Penny Paugh

- **Foundation Proposal Writing:** Tommy Owens, Manager of Software Development will help sketch out a proposal for Google Foundation. Rick stated he will contact Sue Callis to see if she might lead the project.
- **Online Shop/Donation Page:** The Donation and Online Shops are under construction in Wordpress for production in early 2011.
- **eNewsletter:** The newsletter is being redesigned for 2011. The design has been a big project involving two HTML designers and Penny Paugh.
- **eNewsletter Management:** From our internship recruitment we have interviewed two persons. We have now hired a new managing editor – Kirk Klocke – who is highly experienced as a journalist. He plans to come to visit Deale, MD in mid-January.
- **Website Re-Structure Project:** Most of the website has been made in the re-designed site. The designer is finishing a few minor issues before handing the project over to foreign language developers. Two of the developers were given software to help them with the project.
- **Blog and other Network Sites:** Monthly articles and mailings via LinkedIn have been instituted. A training is planned for a new volunteer to oversee our Facebook site. And another training is planned for backing up the blog site.
- **News:** We have been mentioned in the Baltimore Sun and that article was again mentioned in the Chicago Tribune.
- **Foreign Language Translation of Website:** Assignments were given to all translation teams to reflect updates that have been made on the website. A long conference list is still being worked on which should be completed in early January. When the restructured site

is complete, each translation team will need to make sure translated materials reflect the current structure.

- **Internship Recruitment:** Marketing Team members will recruit persons from Maryland U to help us manage site communications.

FUTURE WORK

IEDRO's Annual Meeting is planned for Saturday, **February 26**. Reporting assignments are as follows:

Basics:

IEDRO's Strategic Plan - **Susan Callis**

IEDRO's Government Funding Possibilities - **Susan Callis** assisted by Penny Paugh and Rick Crouthamel

IEDRO's Operations (past, present and future) - **Rick Crouthamel**, Teddy Allen

IEDRO's Financials 2009/2010 - Comparison and assessment of assets - **Sarah Roy**

Communication Activities - Volunteer outreach, newsletter, website, blog and other network sites, donations - **Penny Paugh**

Major Programs:

Strip Chart Digitization - **Tommy Owens** assisted by Larry Nicodemus & Vin Stanton

Applications Software - **Tommy Owens** assisted by Teddy Allen, Tom Johnson, Larry Nicodemus, Vin Stanton

Weather Wizards - **Rick Crouthamel**

NCDC IEDRO Volunteers - **Rick Crouthamel**

Board of Directors - Changes, possibilities - **Janet Sansone**

Operations

- Trip to Namibia to get them started is being planned for the December-February timeframe.
- Trip to Bolivia to get them started is being planned for the February timeframe.
- IEDRO Headquarters is being constructed to accommodate data rescue efforts.

Strategic

- No activities to report.

Public Relations

- Penny Paugh, with direction from Max Mayer, plans to develop the online shop on our Wordpress site in early 2011.
- Facebook will be used in a more effective manner to develop networking opportunities once new volunteer, Jake, is trained by Max Mayer.

- The new website will be finished in English in January and foreign language editions will begin to be built soon thereafter. Translations for all five languages will be updated before the new builds begin.
- The Marketing Team will help to recruit interns who speak Spanish and French who will manage correspondence with project sites.
- Penny and Rick will work together to develop a list of companies we might approach for free equipment in exchange for website recognition.
- The Marketing Team will work with Tommy Owens and Susan Callis to polish and submit a proposal to Google Foundation.
- Regular Wordpress backups will be scheduled after training in early part of January by Max Mayer – Penny and Abdullah will be the engineers.

ISSUES

- NCDC inventory volunteers are up to six. However, Mary Cornielsen, who was the only volunteer actually working, was put on hold indefinitely.