El Niño Readiness: A focused initiative to enhance national disaster risk reduction in parts
Introduction & Greet & Meet

9:00-9:45am [Mickey]

a) Overview/Purpose of the meeting
   • Discussing the value of a Lessons Learned about Lessons Learned Portal for Hydromet Disaster Risk Reduction in a Changing Climate
   • Building on NOAA’s Weather Ready Nation (WRN): stimulus for the ENRNs concept
   • Seeking the modernization of NMHSs in parts
   • Discussion of the value of the El Niño Ready Nations concept as a first contribution to the Portal
   • Testing the concept of “readiness” in the context of El Niño first and, later, La Niña

b) “Round-the-Table Introduction”
DRR + Lessons Learned about Lessons Learned: Review of Highlights

9:45-10:30am (Marie-Ange and Mickey)

- Antalya’s Report 2014
- Antalya Conference Summary
- Antalya Statement 2015
- The Portal Project

How El Niño Ready Nations (ENRNs) contributes to the Portal for Lessons Learned about Lessons Learned about Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), El Niño and a Changing Climate (taking advantage of the occurrence of a major El Niño event 2015-16)
NOTE: Each word in the word cloud below is the tip of a proverbial iceberg with each having its own story to tell.
A DRR-related Knowledge Portal SWOC

11:00-11:45am [Arielle]

- *The Strengths and Weaknesses (SWOC) literature review of a “Lessons Learned about Lessons Learned” Knowledge Portal*

- Discussion of SWOC and considerations for the portal moving forward.

**QQ. do we need a SWOC on “ENSO” Ready Nations?**
Portal SWOC Draft (Arielle de la Poterie)

See Attached Figure 1
“ENSO 101” and the need for “ENSO Ready Nations”

11:45-12:15pm [Lino & Mickey]

• **The problem:** calling the project what it really is --- ENSO Ready Nations. Few people recognize the acronym ENSO and it takes time and effort to explain it. But people are aware of the El Niño warm event (to a lesser extent the La Niña cold event). So we continue to talks about ENRN (and LNRN) to lead people to the overarching concept of ENSO Ready Nations.

• The ENSO “cycle” explained in 12 slides

• **Why ENSO extremes-only focus of media attention?** There is a higher probability of occurrence of adverse or positive impacts in various countries around the globe (e.g. enhanced forecast potential) during El Niño and La Niña years.

• ENSO is not familiar to people
• Requires lengthy explanation
• Acronym not memorable
• It is always in progress: El Niño, La Niña, normal
• **QQ**: Is El Niño an unseasonal anomaly? Is La Niña a seasonal anomaly?

• **QQ**: El Niño, as a naturally occurring aperiodic phenomenon, peaked in December 2015, according to physical scientists...BUT ... It is not ended.

• As it decays, it impacts will continue for months AND... It ecological and societal consequences can in several situations linger for years, ending around the time the next El Niño reappears.

• This is like the myth of Sisyphus.

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Who was Sisyphus?

- He was legendary king of Corinth in ancient Greece, who was condemned eternally to repeatedly and ceaselessly roll a heavy rock up to the top of a mountain only to have it roll down again as it nears the top.
Global Setting for El Niño 2015-16

1:30-2:00pm [Ilan]

- Precursor: 2014 forecast of Gargantuan El Niño
- Forecast of the 2015-16 El Niño onset
- Media coverage: The Godzilla of El Niño's
- How it is playing out.
- Any El Niño-related surprises?
Global Disasters Setting 2014-2016: the “squirrel problem”

- Economic
- Political
- Environmental Impacts
  - Six of the worst natural disasters of 2015:
    - Earthquake — Nepal
    - Flood — Chennai, India
    - Heat wave — southern India
    - Typhoon and monsoon rains — Myanmar, Bangladesh, and India
    - Flood — Malawi and Mozambique
    - Drought — Ethiopia
- Climate
- Food insecurity

Defining Readiness: Characterization of El Niño Readiness... in a perfect world

2:00-2:30pm [open discussion]

- ENR without consideration of obstacles or constraints on implementation
- Can ENR be quantified?
- And ... even if it can be quantified, should it?

- This is based on my “What is vs. what ought to be” approach that I developed for my long-range forecast study for the West African Sahel in 1974.
- This is a qualitative way to solicit ideas with respondents precluding ideas that they think cannot work.
- Once identified the constraints on achieving those ideas can be identified along with suggestions to overcome them.
Satisfice - decide on and pursue a course of action satisfying the minimum requirements to achieve a goal; "optimization requires processes that are more complex than those needed to merely satisfice."


www.thefreedictionary.com/satisfice
El Niño Readiness (ENR): “What ought to be,” “What is,” “What could be”

Separate sessions of general discussion about the notions about ENR Nations, Cities and communities and NMHSs

- If we discuss El Niño Readiness in a perfect world, where money is no constraint and the government wants to make the country as ready as it could be, then that would be “what ought to be.” But the reality is that funds are scarce, policy makers are divided about the importance of preparing for disasters that might not occur.

- Governments can “kick the can down the road,” letting the next government deal with the problem.

- There is a 3rd option, “What could be,” that is, it involves satisficing, sacrificing a demand for the best while accepting the least required to develop an acceptable level of readiness.
The Fork in the Road for Countries

• There are *really* only two action-oriented pathways: (1) Accepting “what is” (“business as usual”) or, (2) pursuing “what could be”

• We must assure that El Niño-related strategies and tactics are not just identified but actually implemented and supported by adequate resources and are implemented and monitored.

“When you come to a fork in the road, take it!”
-A quote by American baseball player Yogi Berra
Defining Readiness in the context of El Niño (ENR)

- What does readiness mean?
- Whose perspective of readiness prevails?

(See “El Niño Readiness Definitions”)

El Niño Ready Nations Presentations

2:30-3:15pm

El Niño Ready Nations Cases
El Niño Ready Cities Presentations

3:45-4:15pm [Alicia, Tracy & Fernando; Qian]

El Niño Ready Cities

• San Diego (USA) & Tijuana (MEX)
• China Cities
Panel and discussion: El Niño Ready NMHSs (National Meteorological and Hydrological Services)

4:15-4:45pm [Peter, Tony, Lino]

• Panel and discussion:
  • El Niño Ready NMHSs
    • Philippines
    • Cuba
    • Kenya
    • Other
El Niño Readiness Communities Presentations

4:45-5:15pm [Atiq, Fernando, Bapon, Tsegay]

- Panel and discussion:
  - El Niño Ready local communities
    - Myanmar
    - Fiji
    - US
    - Mexico
    - China
    - Other
March 22\textsuperscript{nd} Tuesday

Comparative Analysis

9:00-10:00am [Asim]

Case Studies
Delivering actionable insights

http://www.ziondia.com/content-marketing/case-study-compilation/
Case Study SWOC

10:00-11:00am [Arielle and Mickey]

Review of a SWOC on use and value of case studies

“Just the facts mam, just the facts”

-Jack Webb
SWOC on the Use and Value of Case Studies in DRR-Decision Making

See Attached Figure 2
Improvisations by Zero (ZORs) and First order responders coping in the face of uncertainties?

11:30-12:15pm [Mickey]

• How are governments, communities and hazard victims coping during this event?
• Improvising is a real-time response to hydromet threats and disastrous situations. Can these survival tactics be identified, collected and shared?
• Can people be taught to “improvise”? If so, is it possible to set up a virtual “improvisatory?”
im•pro•vise (Verb), improvising:

- To create and perform spontaneously or without preparation.
- Produce or make (something) from whatever is available.

QQ: Can individuals and communities be taught to improvise?
QQ: Can an “improvisatory” be developed as a learning lab for improvising?
Can Gaps be Closed?

Evening session
7:00-9:00pm [Mickey kicks off the session]

a) Can the Gap Between “human nature and mother nature” be closed?
   - There is a *glaring* mismatch between El Niño’s 2-7 year recurrence and the public’s short attention span
     - Once an El Niño has been forecast to decline, the attention of civil society dissipates rapidly.
     - How then can we create “continuity of awareness of, concern about and preparedness” for El Niño and La Niña? (e.g. through a focus on the broader ENSO cycle.)
     - “Satisficing” or closing the gap between “what could be” and “what is”
     - Using ENR as a bridge between DRR and Climate Change Adaptation

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Trenberth: “El Niño is essentially a mini global warming event.” -2/10/16

Question: Does coping with EN help to prepare society for a climate change world?
A Plethora of Gaps: Gaps, gaps and more gaps

• Synergy among disciplines
• Synergy among sectors
• Synergy among bureaucratic units
• Synergy among political leaders

Synergy Defined: Increased effectiveness, achievement, etc., produced as a result of combined action or co-operation (OED)
March 23rd Wednesday

The Media and El Niño coverage

9:00-9:45am [Jaime]

a) A Panel ... and then Open Discussion of Media Coverage of El Niño
   • El Niño Cases from Different Countries Comparison

b) How have the Media “behaved” in their reporting about El Niño in 2014-16?
   • How Informed? How Accurate? How Dedicated? Hype or Fact?
   • Descriptive or Prescriptive? Who is responsible for article content and headlines?

“El Niño's Peak Has Weather Forecaster Warning of La Niña.”
   -Bloomberg Business
   January 4, 2016

“El Niño Heat Peaks, But Impacts Still to Come.”
   -ClimateCentral.org
   January 11, 2016
Can the ENRN concept contribute to Modernizing the NMHSs? If yes, then How?

9:45-10:30am [Lino & Tony]

Can ENR be a Stepping Stone to NMHS Modernization: First a panel then open discussion

Can a focus on ENSO warm & cold extremes in order to identify the minimum institutional, technological and human capacity needs of the NMHSs to effectively fulfill their tasks of forecasting, monitoring and warning both government and civil society for the purpose of DRR?
DRR Challenges for NMHS  
(Para. 4.1.4)

- 70% of countries need amendments or restructuring of their national policies and legislation
  - Reflection of the role of NMHS in policies, legislation, plans

- 65% NMHS need strengthening or full modernization of infrastructure
  - Observations, forecasting systems, communication, data management, etc

- 80% NMHS need technical and management training:
  - Hazard data bases, mapping and analysis and (meteorological, hydrological and climate) forecasting tools,

- 80% of NMHS need strengthening or building multi-sectoral institutional partnerships, coordination and service delivery
  - e.g., emergency services, infrastructure and planning, etc)
When El Niño Ends, Can La Niña be far behind?

La Niña 101: The Process

11:00-11:45am [Lino]

LNRNs*, LNRCs* and LNR NMHSs*. Myths, Facts, Speculations and Unknowns.

- **QQ**: Do we separate the LNRN website from the ENRN website?
- **QQ**: Do we start to plan for the La Niña aspect of “ENSO Ready Nations?”
La Niña conditions (A)

Trade winds are stronger than normal during a La Niña.

The stronger trade winds push the warm waters farther to the west in the tropical Pacific.

And the cold tongue in the east extends farther to the west, too.

La Niña events are basically an exaggerated ENSO-neutral state.

But they are important.

http://wattsupwiththat.com/2014/01/10/an-illustrated-introduction-to-the-basic-processes-that-drive-el-nino-and-la-nina-events/
La Niña 102: The Impacts

11:45-12:30pm [GROUP DISCUSSION]

- La Niña’s Impacts, our concern!
- Are La Niña’s impacts in different countries symmetrically the opposite of those that occur during an El Niño?
- Are La Niña events extremes cases of “normal?”
TYPICAL RAINFALL IMPACTS FROM LA NIÑA
(BASED ON STATISTICAL CORRELATIONS)

Prepared by the Joint Agricultural Weather Facility
Team Leader Discussion

2:00-4:30pm [Team Leaders]

Team Leaders individually or collectively take this time to consider comments from the discussions to rethink or modify drafts of their country reports.
On structuring the final country synthesis report

4:30-5:00pm [Fernando and Marie-Ange]
March 24th Thursday

Toward a Final Draft Report: Next Steps

9:00-10:00am [Mickey et al]

This discussion is about the process for completing the country studies, submitting them to CCB to compile a draft of a final report. It will be sent to the team leaders for correction and comment and then re-drafted and submitted to OFDA and to NOAA.

We must identify a segue to LNRNs because EN is said to have peaked in Dec. 2015 and the media already is talking about a La Niña event. Interest in El Niño will precipitously decline. We are essentially straddling 2 horses, El Niño and La Niña.
Where We Have Been. Where Are We?

*post-Workshop “to do” list*

10:00-11:00am [everyone]

Final OK by group for:

- The EN Readiness working statements and definitions
- Identify other *potential* ENR focal points, e.g. ENR islands, school systems, industries, socio-economic sectors [agriculture, energy, industry, health systems, etc.]
- Linking current portal study findings to the the other 5 Antalya Calls to Action
- Final country study reports
“Marketing” ENRN and LNRN

11:30-12:15pm [Fernando facilitates general discussion]

Websites, Facebook, Twitter, printed and electronic newsletter, other?

www.accountsresource.co.uk/blog/businesstips/best-marketing-ideas-for-small-business/
Word Cloud
*Noun*
“an image composed of words used in a particular text or subject, in which the size of each word indicates its frequency or importance.”

Word clouds are pretty, eye-catching images but can they be more than that, e.g. can they be interactive learning devices? Each concept in the cloud is clickable and takes you to that topical issue.
Revisiting the “Portal Idea” on Lessons Learned about Lessons Learned about DRR and Changing Climate and glimpsing the future

12:15-1:00pm [Mickey]

• Mapping activities for La Niña
• La Niña Ready website development
• Mapping activities for El Niño
• Improved understanding of Normal years from an hydromet impacts standpoint
2:30-4:30pm

• Afternoon writing session for participants

• Networkshop Report summary draft preparation

http://yourwordselectric.com/pump-yourself-up/