

 <p>European Commission European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)</p>	<h2>WP4 Final Report</h2> <h3>Reporting period:</h3> <h1>01/07/2018 – 31/05/2021</h1>
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1. INFORMATION ON THE ACTION	
Grant Agreement N°	INEA/CEF/TRAN/M2016/1352262
Action number	2016-EU-TMC-0075-S
Action title	eGAFOR

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2. INFORMATION ON THE PROGRESS OF THE ACTION

Overview of progress in the reporting period

The overview should include a description of the actual progress in the reporting period, referring to the main issues, milestones and events that affected progress.

Work package 4 - WP4: Training

The aim of this Activity was the organization of workshops for the operational staff within each METSP partner. The workshops were organized in a way that all the forecasters received the necessary training. Also, joint workshops of all METSPs were organized in order to coordinate eGAFOR issuance and improve mutual communication.

Deliverables:

D4.1 Programme and training materials for workshops drafted and approved by all partners.

D4.2 Report on organized workshops drafted and approved by all partners

Meetings:

WP4 WebEx meeting, 01/07/2019

WP4 workshop for trainers and lecturers, Belgrade, 16-17/10/2019

WP3 and WP4 F2F meeting, Bratislava, 26/02/2020

WP4 F2F meeting, Bratislava, 27/02/2020

WP4 WebEx meeting, 07/09/2020

WP4 WebEx meeting, 27/01/2021

WP4 WebEx meeting, 24/02/2021

WP4 WebEx meeting, 17/03/2021

WP4 WebEx meeting, 31/03/2021

Milestones:

M4.1 Conception of programme training materials for workshops.

M4.2 Training workshops

Date of reaching milestone:

M4.1 31/03/2020

M4.2 30/04/2021

Short overview of the progress:

This Activity included the following tasks, as defined in the grant agreement:

- Creating training materials for workshops
- Organising workshops on subjects necessary for eGAFOR implementation

Creating training materials for workshops

In order to improve the forecasting of MET elements included in eGAFOR, additional training for Aeronautical Meteorological Forecasters (AMFs) of all partners was needed. The goal of the workshops was to adjust the usual forecasting practice for creating a new type of forecast. The WP4 team created a Recommended practice booklet that should help AMFs to familiarize themselves with the new methods and techniques in forecasting five MET elements (e.g. the probabilistic forecasting). IBL created the eGAFOR editor manual to help the AMFs on how to use the application. Members of the WP4 team prepared forecasting material of case studies for each MET elements over local areas, to simulate the creation of the eGAFOR project during National level workshops. Members of the WP4 team prepared forecasting materials of case studies for each MET elements to simulate the creation of the eGAFOR project during the Joint level workshop. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the form of the Joint level workshop was altered in an online form and the programme was adjusted by the WP4 team. The joint level workshop was held each day during March 2021, while the training logbook was simultaneously created. Based on the experiences gathered during the Joint level workshop, additional eGAFOR tips and practices were developed and included into the eGAFOR Recommended practice booklet.

Organising workshops on subjects necessary for eGAFOR implementation

Forecaster's training in eGAFOR was planned and conducted, as it was defined in the project, in the following manner:

1. An initial set of trainers, consisting of at least one instructor from each METeological Service Providers (METSP) partner, was trained on the eGAFOR Editor workshop.
2. Each METSP partner organised a National Level Workshop (NLW). Aeronautical Meteorological Forecasters (AMFs) attended NLWs, where they learned the concepts of collaborative forecasting, the recommended practice for eGAFOR MET elements forecasting and usage of eGAFOR Editor.
3. After completion of all NLWs, Joint Level Workshop (JLW) took place. The JLW had two main objectives for the AMFs, training simultaneous collaborative forecasting and getting to know each other (experience in meteorological collaborative practice in Europe shows that it is much easier to work with familiar colleagues).

Ad1. The basics of eGAFOR editor and viewer were explained to the WP4 team. IBL organised a one-day workshop in Bratislava. Since both applications are very intuitive and user-friendly, instructors from all partners successfully learnt how to use the eGAFOR applications easily.

Ad2. Each partner organised a set of National level workshops (NLWs), depending how many AMFs there are in each organization. The eGAFOR project, product and prototype were presented to AMFs. Object forecasting and Recommended practice booklet were presented to all participants. While practising creation of eGAFOR product, using eGAFOR prototype, on case studies that were prepared for all five MET elements, AMFs got good practice in using the eGAFOR Editor and went through all parts of Recommended Practice Booklet.

Ad3. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Joint level workshop was organised in an online form. Since the main goals of the Joint level workshop were to meet colleagues from all partners in the project and to practice simultaneous collaborative forecasting and harmonization of the forecasts, it was decided that for one month

AMFs will join a daily teleconference and simultaneously practice and issue of one eGAFOR product.

The JLW was conducted from 1st until 31st March 2021. Every day, AMFs from all METSP partners attended the workshop. At the beginning of each session, a teleconference was held on which all AMFs introduced themselves and discussed the weather situation for the day. After the teleconference, forecasters simultaneously and collaboratively created an eGAFOR forecast. Harmonization issues were resolved via phone or built-in chat. On all the sessions at least one instructor from the WP4 team was monitoring the workshop and was available to the forecasters. Two wrap-up meetings of WP4 team were held during JLW in purpose of resolving issues and difficulties that turned out during JLW.

Harmonization skills of AMFs and successively, the collaboration itself, improved during the JLW. AMFs would have a better chance to meet colleagues in a classroom way of workshop, but even in the online form, names and faces of colleagues become more familiar.

Conclusion:

Due to the pandemic and the consequent project prolongation, the duration of the WP4 was extended to 31/05/2021 as well, and the deadlines for delivering the milestones were rescheduled accordingly.

The milestone 4.2 was reached one month ahead of the schedule, because it was required for the operationalization of the eGAFOR that took place on 20/05/2021.

All the partners actively participated in all activities and tasks scheduled in the WP4 of the Project. Thanks to that, all the goals in the WP4 are achieved.