



World Meteorological Organization  
Working together in weather, climate and water

**Acronym:** SWFDP  
**Full Name:** Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project  
**Website:** [www.wmo.int](http://www.wmo.int)  
**Established:** 2007  
**Location:** Southeastern Africa

**Areas of expertise:** Check the usefulness of the products currently available from NWP centers or products that can be made available from current NWP systems.

**Main Partners and collaborations:** NMHSs: Botswana, Madagascar, Mozambique, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe; Regional Centres: Pretoria, La Reunion, ACMAD; Global Products Centers: Exeter (Met Office UK), Washington (NCEP USA), and ECMWF.

**Short Description:**

Dramatic developments in weather forecasting science over the past two decades – advances in monitoring and NWP and Ensemble Prediction Systems (EPS), in leading to improved alerting of weather hazards, at increased lead-times of warnings. Developing countries saw little progress due to limited budgets, failing infrastructure, inadequate guidance and expertise, increasing gap in application of advanced technology (NWP, EPS) in early warnings. To close this gap, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) designed and conducted the Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project (SWFDP).

The first SWFDP regional subproject demonstration was chosen to be in the geographical area of Southeast Africa and its principal focus was heavy rains and strong winds.

**Main activities:**

The Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project (SWFDP) checks the usefulness of the products currently available from numerical weather prediction (NWP) centers, or products that can be made available from current NWP systems to improve severe weather forecasting services in NMHSs, where sophisticated model outputs are not currently used.

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**Source:** - Coiffier J. and Chen P., SEVERE WEATHER FORECASTING DEMONSTRATION PROJECT - REGIONAL SUBPROJECT IN RA I – SOUTHEAST AFRICA, 2008.  
Website: [www.wmo.int/.../SWFDP%20FINAL%20REPORT\\_27feb08.pdf](http://www.wmo.int/.../SWFDP%20FINAL%20REPORT_27feb08.pdf) - Schweiz  
  
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Website: [www.wmo.int/pages/prog/arep/wwrp/new/.../ChenP\\_SERA\\_rev.ppt](http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/arep/wwrp/new/.../ChenP_SERA_rev.ppt) - Schweiz