



Climate Services Accelerator Programme

WFP is partnering with NORCAP, part of the Norwegian Refugee Council, to expand the pool of female climate-service experts in the humanitarian sector through the **Female Climate Services Accelerator Programme** - a five-year initiative launched by NORCAP in 2022. The goal of the programme is to equip women scientists with essential technical, field, and operational skills needed to ensure effective, innovative, and science-based climate service solutions are being implemented in emergency response.

This forward-looking initiative is designed to increase the participation of women in the traditionally male-dominated climate sector, fostering greater diversity, inclusivity, and impact in climate-related work, helping to

shape more representative and effective climate solutions worldwide.

At the heart of the Accelerator Programme lies its mission to **empower young female climate scientists to lead in climate action**. Each participant is paired with a seasoned climate expert for a one-year mentorship at the World Food Programme (WFP) global headquarters, followed by a second year in the field. During this field placement, participants apply the technical and programmatic skills gained during the first year of mentorship. By increasing the number of female climate experts, the programme seeks to provide new solutions for enhancing access to climate information services in vulnerable communities and mitigating the impacts of extreme weather events.



Climate Information Services refer to providing climate information and products that inform and assist in the decision-making process to manage climate-related risks, making this information and capacity available to individuals, policymakers, and various sectors.

While the climate services field is increasingly formalized across sectors, expertise remains limited, especially in humanitarian contexts.

Since 2014, WFP has consistently invested in climate services programming, leading to significant growth in its reach and impact. In 2022, WFP provided climate services and early warnings to 6.9 million people in 23 countries. This number rose to 7.6 million people in 32 countries in 2023. By 2024, WFP had implemented climate services in 37 countries, reaching 13.9 million people worldwide with last-mile early warning and climate services.

Initiatives such as the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) have provided impetus for further investment in climate services, aiming to ensure that everyone on Earth is covered by early warnings by 2027. However, investment

in improving early warning systems will only be meaningful if early warning communication and dissemination can reach the most vulnerable, helping them make informed decisions to protect their lives and livelihoods.

In response to this challenge, WFP - recognized as an operational agency capable of reaching the most vulnerable populations facing food insecurity – joined forces with NORCAP to cultivate expertise in climate services within the humanitarian space. Since 2022, WFP has welcomed one accelerator expert annually, with the third expert joining in January 2025. After 3 years of investment in climate service expertise, the impact of this partnership are evident in the increased number of individuals WFP has reached through early warnings and climate services in recent years.



Mentees & mentors

Since 2022, WFP has received 3 accelerator experts from NORCAP who have been paired with a seasoned climate services expert in WFP's Headquarters (HQ) in Rome for a year. Below is an excerpt of each of the experts' vision and contribution to Climate Services (CS) work at WFP:



Jacqueline Tesha

*Regional Climate Services
Expert, WFP southern Africa*

Jacqueline, an environmentalist from Tanzania, was the first expert in the Accelerator Programme. With prior experience leading the GFCS-APA II in Tanzania, she joined WFP HQ to expand her international and humanitarian expertise. At HQ, she supported countries in scaling climate services and led a study on Indigenous Knowledge in Zimbabwe. In the field, she strengthened national meteorological services in southern African countries, implemented the PICSA approach, and advanced Indigenous Knowledge Systems in Lesotho. Her work bridges the gap between forecasts and vulnerable communities, enhancing resilience and preparedness. More info [here](#).



Ingrid Ronglan

*Climate Services Expert,
WFP Tanzania Country Office*

Ingrid joined WFP in 2023, bringing experience from the Red Cross and a background in climate adaptation research. At HQ, she promoted gender and social inclusion in climate services. Now in Tanzania, she co-develops inclusive climate services with local communities, maps stakeholders, and leads a national Community of Practice. Her work emphasizes accessibility and responsiveness, aiming to embed climate services into national systems and develop a strategic roadmap for long-term resilience.



Melissa Ouya

*Mentee, WFP HQ
(2024–2025)*

Melissa joined WFP from IGAD Climate Prediction & Applications Center, where she served as a gender expert. With academic and practical expertise in gender and development, she focuses on ensuring climate services and early warnings are gender- and socially inclusive. She will begin her field deployment in December 2025.



Tasiana Mzozo

*Climate Services Adviser,
WFP HQ*

Seconded by NORCAP since 2021, Tasiana brings over a decade of experience in climate services. She supports WFP's regional and country offices with technical guidance, integrates climate services into risk management programmes, and mentors female accelerator experts. Her work strengthens early warning systems and enhances gender representation in humanitarian climate services.

Looking ahead, **WFP envisions to expand the mentorship programme through complementary initiatives** such as strategic partnerships with meteorological departments and connections with academia. WFP seeks like-minded partners to enhance the development-humanitarian space with specialized expertise, contributing to sustainable climate services programming.

The Climate Services Accelerator Programme is not just an initiative; it is a movement toward a more inclusive and resilient future. Supporting this

programme means investing in the next generation of climate leaders – those who will shape innovative solutions and ensure no one is left behind in the fight against extreme weather trends.

To ensure that the most vulnerable people and countries have access to early warnings and sustainable climate services, **WFP and partner countries need highly skilled professionals to support and strengthen government capacities. WFP aims to expand its mentorship programme to other interested partners.**



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