



WMO-CGMS Virtual Laboratory  
for Education and Training in Satellite Meteorology

## **ACTIVITY REPORT**

Period: September 2012 to December 2013  
Centre of Excellence: Costa Rica

## **GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE (CoE) AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF VLAB TRAINING ACTIVITIES**

### **1) What were the major achievements of your CoE during this reporting period?**

- The assistance provided to NMS of Peru, which included two visits: one in December 2012 for the installation of Gempak, IDV and related software; and one in July 2013 to train personnel in the use of software to download and manipulate satellite imagery.
- The creation of an outreach course at the University of Costa Rica for the delivery of the Spanish version of the refresher course for forecasters (AERO-CPD) taught at the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH). Training started for forecasters in El Salvador, but was suspended because of administrative problems. It will probably continue in 2014.

### **2) What were the main difficulties of your CoE during this reporting period?**

- Managing the governmental administration in the countries that requested training regarding the refresher course for forecasters.
- Finding an appropriate person to take over as focal point of the CoE Costa Rica. A candidate is being considered, but he will not be able to join until 2015.

### **3) Who provides support in the production of your training materials (e.g. produced by own trainers, support from Satellite Operators, IT staff, University researchers and lecturers, etc)?**

We do not produce training material.

### **4) Is any kind of Learning Management System (e.g. Moodle, Blackboard, etc) used by your CoE to conduce training activities?**

Moodle, Skype, Anymeeting, Whatsapp, Tango.

### **5) Is any kind of Online Conferencing System (e.g. Saba Centra, Blackboard Collaborate, GoToWebinar, etc) used by your CoE to conduce training activities?**

Anymeeting, Skype.

### **6) What kind of training is provided to the trainers of your CoE and at what frequency?**

- Training in the use of the Moodle platform is provided any time at request by the University of Costa Rica.
- WMO's Train the Trainers, every two years.

**7) Can you suggest ways for the VLab (including CoEs, Supporting Satellite Agencies, Partner Programmes, WMO Space Programme, VLab Co-chairs and TSO) to provide better support to your CoE?**

**8) Please use the table below to list any training materials you may have developed over this reporting period:**

**NONE**

Title of training material	Type of resource (e.g. text book, video, recorded presentation, Moodle course, webcast, PowerPoint slides)	Availability of resource (e.g. open educational resource <sup>1</sup> , institutional use only)	Submitted to ESRC (Yes/No)

**9) Is your CoE working closely together with the CoE's sponsoring Satellite Operator/Agency in VLab training activities? Can you suggest ways to improve this collaboration?**

Yes, collaboration is excellent.

<sup>1</sup> Please also indicate if the Creative Commons License was applied to the resource.

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**10) Please use this space for additional remarks you may wish to make relating to the delivery of training by your CoE.**

New on-line outreach courses will start to be opened starting the second semester of 2014, to satisfy the demand of training in Spanish to comply with BIP-M.

**11) The next page presents a table containing all training events entered by this CoE in the VLab Online Calendar of Events during this reporting period. Please complete the table with information about the number of trainees and Country of origin of trainees that attended the events. If the CoE had conducted other training events considered as part of their VLab activities, that for some reason were not submitted to the Online Calendar of Events, please add them to the table.**

Date	Title	Location	WMO region	Host	Type	Language	Number of trainees	Country of origin of trainees
2013/12/03 - 2013/12/05	GEONETCast Semana del evento	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	CIRA	Event week	Spanish	48, 54, 53	(1) Argentina, Brazil, Cape Verde, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Uruguay, US (2) Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Germany, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Uruguay, US (3) Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Uruguay, US
2013/12/03 - 2013/12/05	GEONETCast Event Week	Online	IV North America	CIRA	Event week	English	32,31,25	(1) Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Germany, Ghana, Guyana, St. Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, US (2) Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Cayman, Ecuador, El Salvador, Germany, Ghana, Guyana, St. Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, US (3) Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Cayman, El Salvador, Ghana, Great Britain, Guyana, Suriname, US
2013/05/08 - 2013/05/08	Virtual Round Table Event on Competence Requirements for Aeronautical Meteorological Personnel	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	CIMH	Online course	Spanish	34	Argentina, Barbados, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Germany, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, UK, USA

2012/09/19 -	RFG of the Americas and the Caribbean	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	USA/Costa Rica/Barbados	RFG discussion	English/Spanish	38	Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Suriname, US
2012/09/19								Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guyana, Haiti, Panama, US
2012/10/17 -	RFG of the Americas and the Caribbean	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	USA/Costa Rica/Barbados	RFG discussion	English/Spanish	60	Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Netherland Antilles, Panama, Suriname, Uruguay, US
2012/10/17								Barbados, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Lithuania, Mexico, Panama, Suriname, Switzerland, US
2012/11/07 -	RFG of the Americas and the Caribbean	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	USA/Costa Rica/Barbados	RFG discussion	English/Spanish	79	Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Netherland Antilles, Panama, Suriname, Uruguay, US
2012/11/07								Barbados, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Lithuania, Mexico, Panama, Suriname, Switzerland, US
2012/12/19 -	RFG of the Americas and the Caribbean	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	USA/Costa Rica/Barbados	RFG discussion	English/Spanish	17	Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guyana, Mexico, Panama, Suriname, US
2012/12/19								Barbados, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Haiti, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Suriname, Switzerland, US
2013/01/15 -	RFG of the Americas and the Caribbean	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	USA/Costa Rica/Barbados	RFG discussion	English/Spanish	15	Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Mexico, Suriname, US
2013/01/15								Bahamas, Barbados, Colombia, Costa Rica, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela, US
2013/02/14 -	RFG of the Americas and the Caribbean	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	USA/Costa Rica/Barbados	RFG discussion	English/Spanish	33	Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Haiti, Mexico, Panama, Peru, St. Kitts and Nevis, US
2013/02/14								Bahamas, Barbados, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Great Britain, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela, US
2013/03/13 -	RFG of the Americas and the Caribbean	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	USA/Costa Rica/Barbados	RFG discussion	English/Spanish	28	Barbados, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Great Britain, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela, US
2013/03/13								Bahamas, Barbados, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Great Britain, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela, US
2013/04/18 -	RFG of the Americas and the Caribbean	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	USA/Costa Rica/Barbados	RFG discussion	English/Spanish	37	Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Haiti, Mexico, Panama, Peru, St. Kitts and Nevis, US
2013/04/18								Bahamas, Barbados, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Great Britain, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela, US
2013/05/23 -	RFG of the Americas and the Caribbean	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	USA/Costa Rica/Barbados	RFG discussion	English/Spanish	48	Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Haiti, Mexico, Panama, Peru, St. Kitts and Nevis, US
2013/05/23								Bahamas, Barbados, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Great Britain, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela, US
2013/06/13 -	RFG of the Americas and the Caribbean	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	USA/Costa Rica/Barbados	RFG discussion	English/Spanish	51	Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Haiti, Mexico, Panama, Peru, St. Kitts and Nevis, US
2013/06/13								Bahamas, Barbados, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Great Britain, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela, US



2013/07/25 -	RFG of the Americas and the Caribbean	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	USA/Costa Rica/Barbados	RFG discussion	English/Spanish	33	Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Niger, Panama, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, US
2013/08/28 -	RFG of the Americas and the Caribbean	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	USA/Costa Rica/Barbados	RFG discussion	English/Spanish	22	Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Haiti, Honduras, Panama, Peru, St Kitts and Nevis, Uruguay, US
2013/09/12 -	RFG of the Americas and the Caribbean	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	USA/Costa Rica/Barbados	RFG discussion	English/Spanish	33	Bahamas, Belize, Colombia, Haiti, Honduras, Panama, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, US
2013/10/24 -	RFG of the Americas and the Caribbean	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	USA/Costa Rica/Barbados	RFG discussion	English/Spanish	33	Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cayman, Colombia, Costa Rica, Haiti, Honduras, Panama, Peru, St. Lucia, US
2013/11/20 -	RFG of the Americas and the Caribbean	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	USA/Costa Rica/Barbados	RFG discussion	English/Spanish	16	Barbados, Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Haiti, Honduras, Panama, Peru, US
2013/12/06 -	RFG of the Americas and the Caribbean - 16:00 UTC	Online	IV Central America / Caribbean	USA/Costa Rica/Barbados	RFG discussion	English/Spanish	20	Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Ghana, Haiti, Honduras, Suriname, Uruguay, US