



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

## **ACTIVITY REPORT**

Period: September 2012 to December 2013  
Centre of Excellence: South Africa

## **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?**

- Successful hosting the Eumetsat satellite workshop from 2-6 December 2013
- Successful hosting the Marine satellite workshop from 9-13 December 2013
- Successful hosting of Weather briefings from South Africa
- Publication of the CAT module for ASMET 7.
- Contributing to the Conceptual models for the Southern Hemisphere project

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

- IT support during training sessions
- Firewall problems with running Saba Centra for web Briefings
- Firewall problems with working on Google Docs for CM4SH
- Staff resource with hosting workshops and online weather briefings

### **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)?**

- Mostly produced by the trainers themselves
- Support from Eumetsat

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

- Moodle is used for SAWS based events
- Blackboard is used for University based satellite courses

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

- Saba Centra is used mostly
- GoTo Webinar is used for events hosted by BoM where SAWS trainers present work.

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

- Non-satellite trainers are welcome to join the satellite course to learn more

**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?**

- no

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

<b>Title of training material</b>	<b>Type of resource (e.g. text book, video, recorded presentation, Moodle course, webcast, PowerPoint slides)</b>	<b>Availability of resource (e.g. open educational resource<sup>1</sup>, institutional use only)</b>	<b>Submitted to ESRC (Yes/No)</b>
Satellite interpretation	Moodle page	Open resource/blog	
CAL module for ASMET 7		Open resource	I assume so
Conceptual model for the Southern Hemisphere		Open Resource?	

**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?**

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

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- Yes. From SAWS, we need to get more people involved in the online training activities.

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

SAWS delivers continuous in-house satellite training, as well as providing satellite training to students from the University of Pretoria. For 2014, we have developed a commercial satellite course that will be delivered to interested parties, hosted by the University of Pretoria. The addition of the Moodle Page on Satellite interpretation, is to open the communication channels in the Southern Africa, African and global field, dealing with interesting satellite imagery.

The need to book an online classroom through a Vlab representative was at first frustrating, but the attendance of this technical member in the weather briefings has made a big difference in the quality of the sessions and is a positive move.

**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
2012/09/07 - 2012/09/07	South African RFG - ePort	Online	I Africa	SAWS	RFG discussion	English	7	Seychelles, Australia, South Africa, Germany
2012/11/12 - 2012/11/16	South African RFG and SWFDP Pretoria Workshop	Online + Pretoria	I Africa	SAWS	RFG discussion + Workshop	English	20	SADC
2013/11/11 - 2012/11/15	SWFDP Pretoria Workshop	Pretoria	I Africa	SAWS	Workshop	English	20	SADC
2013/12/02 - 2013/12/06	3rd Satellite Application Course for Southern Africa	Pretoria	I Africa	SAWS	Workshop	English	20	SADC
2013/12/09 - 2013/12/13	Marine satellite course	Pretoria	I Africa	SAWS	Blended course	English	9	South Africa, Kenya, Niger, Tanzania, Morocco, Seychelles
2013/12/12 - 2013/12/12	South Africa Weather Briefing - 10:00 UTC	Online	I Africa	SAWS	RFG discussion	English	8	Seychelles, South Africa, Germany, Swaziland
25.07.2013	Science Week	Online		BMTC	Event Week	English	unknown	Multinational
1/2/2013 – 1/7/2013	Satellite Meteorological Course for Forecasters	Pretoria	I Africa	SAWS	Course	English	3	South Africa
01/02/2013 – 1/07/2013	Satellite Meteorology honours course	Pretoria		SAWS	course	English	10	South Africa
Continuous	ASMET 7	Online	I Africa	EUMETSAT	CAL development	English	8	South Africa Kenya Niger EUMETSAT
Continuous	CM4SH	Online		EUMETSAT	CAL development	English		South Africa, Brazil, Argentina, Australia + EUMETSAT