



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

ACTIVITY REPORT

Period: September 2011 to August 2012

Centre of Excellence: Oman

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

What were the major achievements of your CoE during this reporting period?

Hiring 5 scientist to enhance the CoE activities, joined the work June 2012

What were the main difficulties of your CoE during this reporting period?

Shortage of human resources specially instructors, modules developers, programmers and the funds to train them. This is expected to be over come within a year when the new scientists get into this field. There are also shortages in local course materials and support for some of least development Middle East countries participants to attend the courses

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)?

Mainly EUMETSAT, Partially local

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

Moodle web site is available

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

Saba Centra is used

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

- *Yearly Plan of refresher courses in all aspect of Meteorology, Conceptual models and Remote sensing.*
- *From time to time, Enhancement of the Educational Skills by train of trainers courses offered from WMO or EUMETSAT.*
- *Attending training related conferences and meetings*
- *They are encouraged to attend online courses or live participation in relevant distance learning courses.*

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?

- *Support training of more different trainers to provide backups and spread the idea of VLab and CoE project.*
- *Help launch the Regional Focus Group by helping in creating more initiative events to simulate the cross region VLab activates activities in the Middle East.*

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

Title of training material	Type of resource	Availability of resource	Submitted to ESRC
<i>Case study (16-21 March 2012 Dust outbreaks)</i>	<i>Paper and presentation</i>	<i>Muscat-CoE Vlab site by December 2012</i>	<i>no</i>

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, EUMETSAT is Muscat-CoE sponsor
 EUMETSAT might help training the new 5 scientists who are recently hired to supposed helping activate the CoE*



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

Centre of Excellence: Oman

CoE website: www.met.gov.om/coe (if you can't access the site, the reason will be most probably that your network blocked the port 8888, open this port or give more time to change to another recognized one by most networks)

Head of CoE: Humaid AlBadi

Contact details: Main Forecasting Centre / Meteorological Affairs
Head of Remote Sensing and Studies Section
P.O. Box 1, PC 111
Seeb, Oman
Email: h.albadi@gmail.com

Main point of contact: Humaid AlBadi

Telephone number: +968 99494842

Fax number :+968 24521326

Email: h.albadi@gmail.com

Satellite meteorology trainers:

Name: Humaid AlBadi

Email: h.albadi@met.gov.om

Name: Juma AlMaskari

Email: j.almaskari@met.gov.om

Name: Andy Kwarteng

Email: kwarteng@squ.edu.om

Please complete the table in the next page with information about the training events organised by your CoE, as part of VLab activities, during this reporting period.

Alternatively, you may export the information you have entered in the Online Calendar of Events to Excel and just add the post-event information needed (i.e. number of participants and Country of origin of participants). You can then copy and paste your own table to the last page of this report.

Date	Title	Location	WMO region	Host	Type	Language	Number of trainees	Country of origin of trainees
<i>11-22 February 2012</i>	<i>The Eighth EUMETSAT Satellite Application Course (ESAC- VIII)</i>	<i>SQU Class- Room</i>		<i>CoE- Oman EUMETSAT</i>	<i>Course</i>	<i>English</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>Oman, UAE, Yemen, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait ,Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Jordan, Egypt , Morocco</i>