Grant agreement no. 243964

QWeCI

Quantifying Weather and Climate Impacts on Health in Developing Countries

D6.1.b – Assessment of results from second year extended visits

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Lead contractor: ICTP
Coordinator of deliverable: ICTP
Evolution of deliverable

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Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	PP
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	

1. Introduction

This report summarizes and assesses the exchange visits that took place in the second year of the project from month 12-24.

2. Type of Exchange

In terms of the length of exchanges, this related to the purpose of the exchange and in general fell into 3 categories:

1. short exchange to collaborate on a specific scientific issue or to implement a technical aspect of the project such as new hardware or software

2. Planned QWeCI meeting, or additional meetings that took place at scientific conferences and workshops as a window of opportunity for additional exchange not planned in the DoW. The main event in this regard was the EGU geophysical union meeting in Vienna in April 2012 at which QWeCI affiliated scientists organised a session on climate and health, in addition to several fringe meeting to discuss QWeCI progress.

3. Long term exchanges involving the network of scientists in order to conduct long term research and interaction.

While the QWeCI meetings obviously involved representation from all QWeCI partners, the extra-DOW meetings for the most part occurred at conferences/workshops occurring within Europe and thus were disproportional represented by the European partners. It should be emphasized that these meeting were extra-DoW and thus were in addition to planned QWeCI exchanges. Nevertheless the issue remains that, even with significant EU funding including an adequate overhead for travel and direct involvement in an EU project with equal African–European involvement, African partners were not inclined to submit abstracts and join such events. Whether this indicates an inadequate scientific engagement is unclear but this it is an issue that will be kept in focus during the final year of the project.

In general, the longer term visits involved exchanges between a core set of the European partners and the main partner in Africa that represent the three pilot regions. Several partners also visited institutes in Africa during the period. Likewise African partners spent time at European institutions. In particular, as envisaged in the DoW, ICTP played a central axis in these exchanges, facilitated by the exchange programmes in place and the mandate to support science in developing countries (and thus associated financial and administrative machinery and experience) that exists at this institute. Two colleagues from KNUST have respectively joined the STEP and ASSOCIATE exchange programmes of ICTP and spent a period of 6 and 3 months respectively at ICTP during the first and second exchange reporting periods. Colleagues from UNIMA have also been supported for both long exchanges and attendance at shorter workshops. ICTP supported this from their own funds which represents a significant financial commitment in support of QWeCI in addition to the usual 25% contribution in terms of person month costs, thus representing excellent value for the EU. One aspect that should be emphasized is that, as planned in the QWeCI proposal, these scientific relationships that were initiated by the EU support in the QWeCI project, thus consequently supported by the exchange programmes of the ICTP, will have a duration that far exceeds that of the EU project itself. For example, the STEP programme support for

Ernest Asare at KNUST is guaranteed until 2014, at which point, if the PhD is successful, Ernest could be further supported under the associate programme. The associate presently supported under the programme is supported until the year 2017. Thus the legacy of the QWeCI programme will not only remain in terms of the science research output and the pilot prototype health forecasting systems, but also in the long term scientific exchanges that were either established or enhanced within the project framework.

Appendix: Specific exchanges in year 2.

Exchange visits

Please could you complete the following table to record any QWeCI exchange visits.

Name (Visitor)	**Institute (Visitor)**	**Name (Host)**	**Institute (Host)**	**Visit Dates**	**Visit Purpose**	**Results Achieved**
Mayamiko and Million Mafuta	UNIMA	Marco Zennaro	ICTP	6 to 24 February 2012	ICTP-ITU-BDT School on Sustainable Wireless ICT solution for Environmental Monitoring	
Ernest Asare	KNUST	A. Tompkins	ICTP	6 months Aug 2011 to Feb 2012	Joint PhD supervision – jointly funded by ICTP STE P sandwich programme -	Further visits planned and funded by ICTP for 2013-2014
Leonard Amekudzi	KNUST	A. Tompkins	ICTP	2 months July-Aug 2012	Co work on Malaria – instruction in VECTRI model – co-funded by ICTP Associate programme	Further visits planned and funded by ICTP until 2018
Francesca Di Giuseppe	ECMWF	A.Tompkins	ICTP	27th May 2012 to 5th June	Finalization of pilot system for coupled ECMWF-ICTP VECTRI seasonal forecasts of malaria	Pilot system completed
Volker Ermert	UniCol	A.Tompkins	ICTP	One month 2011	Finalize v1.0 of VECTRI malaria model code and start work on	VECTRI v1.0

				May	scientific article	complete
R. Lowe	IC3	A. Tompkins	ICTP	Two days July 2012	Plan work on joint statistical –dynamical VECTRI based work on malaria	
Robert Schuster	UoC	KNUST	KNUST	12-21 May 2012	maintenance of the Owabi AWS, weighing gauges, and of a new AWS from KNUST; collection of malaria observations, breeding site measurements, and meteorological data	Contribution to the QWeCI atmospheric database regarding the construction of the KuPTiS and OwabiAWS data sets
Francesca Di Giuseppe	ECMWF	Adrian M Tompkins	ICTP	05-17 September 2011	The visit was organised simultaneously to the Summer School on Climate Impacts Modelling for Developing Countries: Water, Agriculture so that we could also give lessons in the school. The purpose of the visit was to design the interface between the seamless forecasting system developed at ECMWF and the malaria models available inside QWECI (VECTRI and LMM)	A strategy was planned and as main outcome the web infrastructure for ECMWF products had been created in the following months
Rodrigo Garcia	CSIC		KNUST	during 5-6th September 2011	in order to explain KNUST how to use the QWeCI Statistical Downscaling Portal and to establish future collaboration for working on the search of optimum	

					domain/predictors for downscaling over Ghana, which contributes to tasks T3.1b and T3.1d (D3.1d).	