



COMITE PERMANENT INTER-ETATS DE LUTTE CONTRE LA SECHERESSE DANS LE SAHEL
PERMANENT INTERSTATE COMMITTEE FOR DROUGHT CONTROL IN THE SAHEL
COMITÉ PERMANENTE INTER-ESTADOS DE LUTA CONTRA A SECA NO SAHEL
اللجنة الدائمة المشتركة لمحاربة التصحر في الساحل



« 50 years of commitment to serving Sahelian and West African populations »

AGRHYMET RCC WAS

AGRHYMET Calls for Stronger Partnerships and Sustainable Investment to Transform Hydrometeorological Services in West Africa and the Sahel

Lagos, Nigeria, 15 October 2026

The Director General of the AGRHYMET Regional Climate Center for West Africa and the Sahel (AGRHYMET RCC-WAS), **represented by Dr. ALHASSANE Agali**, reaffirmed the Centre's commitment to advancing resilient, innovative, and sustainable hydrometeorological services during the Alliance for Hydromet Development Annual Meeting 2026 in Lagos, Nigeria.

The high-level event brought together governments, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), development partners, regional organizations, financial institutions, academia, and private sector actors to explore innovative solutions for strengthening weather, water, and climate services under the theme: **"Partnerships, Innovation and Sustainable Investment in Weather, Water and Climate Services."**

The annual gathering provided an important platform for dialogue and collaboration aimed at accelerating investments, fostering innovation, and strengthening partnerships to build more effective hydrometeorological systems capable of supporting climate resilience and sustainable development worldwide.

In his intervention, Dr. ALHASSANE Agali highlighted AGRHYMET's central role as a regional institution of CILSS dedicated to building capacities, generating scientific knowledge, and supporting Member States with climate, weather, water, and agricultural information services. He underscored the importance of strong regional cooperation in helping countries respond to increasing climate variability and extreme weather events.

He also showcased several strategic initiatives currently being implemented by AGRHYMET RCC-WAS under the World Bank-financed Food System Resilience Program (FSRP). These include the development of sustainable business models for hydrometeorological services, establishment of public-private partnerships for rainfall monitoring, creation of a regional reference laboratory for maintenance of observation equipment, deployment of a regional watchroom for monitoring

extreme hydroclimatic events, and the development of integrated digital platforms to facilitate access to climate and hydrological information.

These initiatives reflect AGRHYMET's ambition to modernize hydrometeorological services across West Africa and the Sahel while ensuring that countries have access to reliable and actionable information for decision-making.

During discussions on sustainable investment in HYDROMET services, Dr. ALHASSANE Agali emphasized that the success of investments should not be measured solely by the number of stations installed or infrastructure deployed, but by the quality, accessibility, and usefulness of the services delivered to end users. He stressed that weather, water, and climate information systems must be designed around the needs of users, enabling farmers, policymakers, water managers, disaster risk management institutions, and communities to make informed decisions.

The AGRHYMET representative further noted that while innovative business models and private sector engagement offer significant opportunities for strengthening service sustainability, the public-service nature of essential hydrometeorological information must be preserved. Early warning services and life-saving weather information, he stressed, should remain accessible to all populations without barriers.

A key message from AGRHYMET was the need to move beyond fragmented investments toward a coordinated regional approach. The institution called for greater collaboration among the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Regional Climate Centers, NMHSs, development partners, financing institutions, and the private sector to develop a shared vision for hydrometeorological investments aligned with national and regional priorities.

The meeting also highlighted the growing potential of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, cloud-based systems, satellite applications, and digital transformation tools, to improve the delivery of weather, water, and climate services. Participants exchanged experiences on financing mechanisms, technological innovation, public-private collaboration, and strategies for ensuring the long-term sustainability of hydrometeorological infrastructure and operations.

Through its active participation in the Alliance for Hydromet Development Annual Meeting 2026, DG AGRHYMET reaffirmed its determination to support Member States in strengthening climate resilience, enhancing early warning systems, improving access to reliable climate information, and promoting science-based decision-making across West Africa and the Sahel.

As climate risks continue to intensify, AGRHYMET remains committed to working with regional and international partners to build stronger, more sustainable, and user-centered hydrometeorological services that protect lives, safeguard livelihoods, and contribute to sustainable development throughout the region.



