



Grant agreement no. 243964

QWeCI

**Quantifying Weather and Climate Impacts on Health in
Developing Countries**

M6.1.a – First Exchange Visits Concluded

Start date of project: 1st February 2010

Duration: 42 months

Lead contractor : ICTP

Coordinator of milestone : ICTP

Evolution of milestone

Due date : M09

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Project co-funded by the European Commission within the Seventh Framework Programme (2007-2013)	
Dissemination Level PP	
PU	Public
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)
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)

M6.1a) First exchange visits concluded. M9.

Exchange visits between partners, task **T6.1a**, are a central part of the synergy and capacity building efforts within QWeCI. In the DoW, a minimum of nine exchange visits were planned to occur throughout the entire length of the project, with the first ones occurring by month 9 of the project. In fact, a greater number of visits have occurred and are being planned for the following year.

UNIMA to ICTP April 2010. For a week in April 2010, *Harry Gombachika* from the University of Malawi, visited the Earth System Physics group in ICTP. Purpose of the visit was to exchange preliminary station climate data, identify a preliminary community of end-users and external collaborators for the Malawi pilot project (**WP5.4**). Also logistics and priorities regarding the following visit of UNILIV and ICTP to Malawi were discussed.

ICTP and ECMWF to UNILIV April 2010. In lieu of the kick-off meeting, held in June 2010, a group of mostly UK-based QWeCI scientists, and others joining via teleconference, discussed uses of atmospheric model output, bias correction and downscaling techniques. A particular focus was made on the seamless aspects of the QWeCI systems to be developed. Administration aspects of the project were also covered, including the details of the consortium agreement, the ethical clearance procedures, and the workpackage leaders were allocated.

UoC to KNUST April 2010. In April 2010 *Robert Schuster* of the University of Cologne arrived in Ghana to service existing stations, installed in 2008, and install new ones in the surroundings of Kumasi (fig. 1, **WP5.2**). Also training was provided on use and maintenance of the new stations and the extraction and processing of data.



UoC to KNUST July 2010 and January 2011. In July, *Andreas Fink* added a new pressure sensor to the AWS and maintenance work was performed on it and other three pluvio stations (**WP5.2**). In January, with non QWeCI funds, provision was made for three complete used pluvio stations and a laptop to KNUST and further development and maintenance of the field equipment was carried out. Also

discussion of work in WP5.1 and WP5.2 and about feeding the meteorological data into the QWeCI database with *Sylverster Danour* and *Leonard Amekudzi* proved useful.

ILIRI to Senegal. *Morris Agaba* from ILRI visited Senegal and Gambia and sampled approximately 500 sheep and cattle. This was partly funded by QWeCI but animal samples were supplied by a collaborating project (PROGEBE). This is a potentially important collaboration. These will be tested for RVFV when assays for variants are refined. All samples have associated meta-data including lat, long, date, time (**WP5.3**).

UNILIV to Dakar October 2010. *Andy Morse* (UNILIV) at CSE, at UCAD, at IPD, traveled to Dakar in Senegal to visit *Abdoulaye Deme* (UCAD), *Jacques André Ndione* (CSE) and *Ibrahima Dia* (IPD). Plans were discussed for the Dakar Workshop (**T6.2b**) and field sites relevant to the Senegal pilot project were visited (**WP5.3**).

UNILIV & ICTP to UNIMA November 2010. In November 2010 *Marco Zennaro*, *Carlo Fonda*, and *Ermanno Pietrosevoli*, from the ICTP Aeronomy and Radio Propagation Laboratory, visited various sites in and around the cities of Mangochi, Zomba and Blantyre to install WiFi equipment necessary for **WP5.4** (fig.2). Also *Claudio Piani* *Rachel Lowe* and *Adrian Tompkins*, from the Earth System Physics group at ICTP, and *Andy Morse*, from UNILIV, visited with various potential end users for **WP5.4** and conducted a 1 day workshop (see report **D6.2** due M18) with *Elina Kululanga* at the Malawi Meteorological Service (MMS) to establish data exchange and general collaboration agreements.

