

# South Sudan Meteorological Service

*Our first journey towards SOFF investment.*

GeoSphere Austria, acting as a SOFF peer advisory, has made an assessment of the current capacities of the South Sudan Meteorological Service (SSMS). With this detailed overview, and guided by the SSMS, a multi-year National Contribution Plan has been developed to enhance the observational capacities of the country. The plan, to be implemented by the African Development Bank, will not only procure, operate, and maintain meteorological stations but will do so in a coordinated manner with existing initiatives to seek leverage and, in essence, strive towards sustained capacity.

“South Sudan is severely affected by weather and climate disasters. Climate change will only make it worse. Our weather service urgently needs solid observational capacity to help mitigate the impact of such disasters, thus saving lives and protecting properties. We need adequate data to inform the decision-makers and assist society, challenged by such disasters. We thank SOFF, the international community, the peer advisor, and the implementing entity for coming on time to work with us in these challenging moments.”



*Mojwok Ogawi Modo Ayoker, Director General South Sudan Meteorological Service*



“We are delighted to accompany the South Sudan Meteorological Service as a peer advisor on their journey towards GBON compliance, which we believe is integral to the value chain of weather and climate services. We are confident that this joint effort will contribute to the South Sudanese society in both the short and long terms.”

*Dr. Andreas Schaffhauser, Director General GeoSphere Austria*

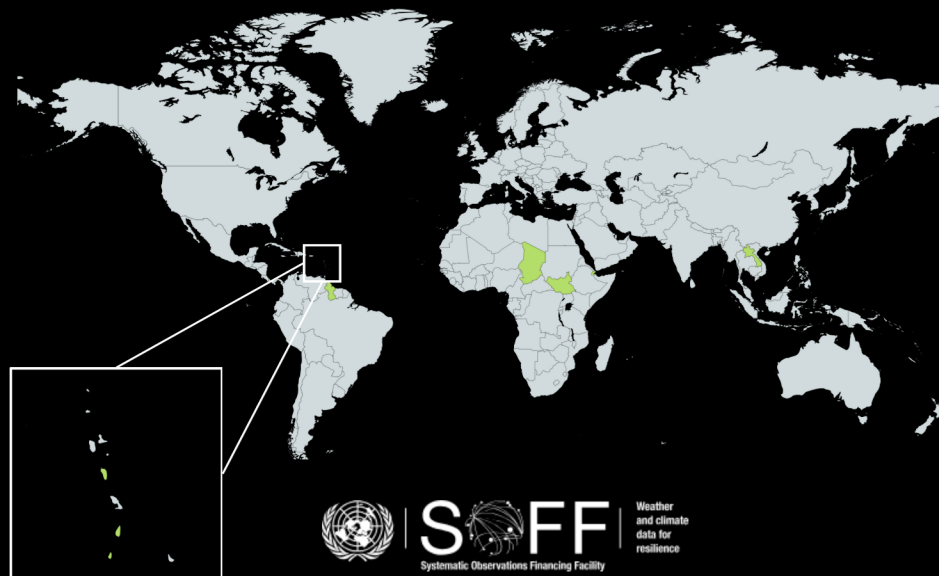


Contact the GeoSphere SOFF Team:  
[giora.gershstein@geosphere.at](mailto:giora.gershstein@geosphere.at) SOFF Focal Point  
[delia.arnold-arias@geosphere.at](mailto:delia.arnold-arias@geosphere.at)



# GeoSphere Austria

Supporting countries to achieve **sustained meteorological observational capacity.**



Weather and climate data for resilience

# A changing world requires *new approaches*.

Climate change is already wreaking havoc, especially in already vulnerable regions, where every minute and every action counts. The **Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF)**, supported by Austria since an early stage, is an innovative long-term UN financing mechanism that supports countries in closing the basic weather and climate observational data gap. As such, SOFF becomes the cornerstone of climate change resilience and early warning services with a unique focus on the **sustainability** of the observational network – a real necessity for informed weather and climate-based decisions.

SOFF is based on a collaborative effort among the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) of the beneficiary countries, implementing entities (IE), development banks, UN organizations, and peer advisors – NMHSs with substantial expertise in the areas of advisory services. They work together to support countries in the sustained collection and international exchange of surface and upper-air as well as climate observations, ensuring compliance with the internationally agreed-upon Global Observing Basic Network (GBON).

Support to beneficiary countries is provided in three phases:

	<b>Readiness Phase</b> Peer-to-peer advisory assessment with a National Gap Analysis, the (optional) Country Hydromet Diagnostics, and the National Contribution Plan.
	<b>Investment Phase</b> Through the IE, SOFF funds are strategically channeled to the country, following the NCP, while leveraging existing activities, coordinating with international entities, and in cooperation with the peer advisors.
	<b>Compliance Phase</b> The NMHS in the beneficiary country directly receive results-based financing and peer advisory to support the operation and maintenance of internationally sharing data stations.

SOFF is bringing a new long-term approach to financing the installation, maintenance, and operations of meteorological stations. Additionally, through the international exchange of data, a local-to-global benefit is established, making SOFF contribute to national, regional and global capacities.

# GeoSphere's presence in the world.

## South Sudan



**South Sudan Meteorological Service**

African Development Bank as IE  
Readiness Phase: Completed  
Investment Phase: Initiated

## Chad



**Agence Nationale de la Météorologie**

World Food Program as IE  
Readiness Phase: In Finalisation

## Guyana



**Hydrometeorological Service**

Inter-American Development Bank as IE  
Readiness Phase: Advanced

## Djibouti



**Djibouti National Meteorological Agency**

UN Development Program as IE  
Readiness Phase: Initiated

## Lao PDR



**Department of Meteorology and Hydrology**

World Bank as IE  
Readiness Phase: Initiated

## Saint Lucia



**Saint Lucia Meteorological Service**

World Food Program as IE  
Readiness Phase: Initiated

## Dominica



**Dominica Meteorological Service**

World Food Program as IE  
Readiness Phase: Initiated

## Saint Vincent and the Grenadines



**Department of Meteorology and Hydrology**

World Food Program as IE  
Readiness Phase: Initiated

**GeoSphere Austria**, at its core, has the mission of sharing expertise to support the global meteorological community and has been involved in the SOFF initiative since its birth, jointly with the Austrian government – one of the main contributors to the SOFF fund.

The journey has only begun. In the years to come, with the joint effort under the SOFF umbrella, the implementing entities, **GeoSphere Austria**, together with other international key players, and, above all, with the strong commitment and engagement of the National Weather Services, a sustained network of meteorological observations will initiate the country's path to essential weather and climate services.

