



Minutes

Minutes date September 23, 2019 **Our reference** 11203626-004-ZWS-0004 **Project** 11203626-004 **Made by** Marcel Ververs

Meeting date September 10, 2019 **Number of pages** 4

Meeting
Delft-FEWS CSB #15 (2019-3)

Present
A. Tavendale, M. Philippart, M. Ebel, T. Flowers, E. Welles, N. Sloopjes, M. Ververs, G. Boot, A. Smith, R. de Crook

Absent

Introduction and attendance

On September 10th 2019 the 15th Delft-FEWS Community Strategy Board (CSB) meeting was held.

At the time of the meeting the CSB consists of the following members:

Organisation	Represented by	Present
Bureau of Meteorology in Australia (BoM)	Adam Smith	Yes
Dutch Waterboards (DWB)	Roger de Crook	Yes
Federal Office for the ENvironment in Switzerland (FOEN)	Martin Ebel	Yes
Rijkswaterstaat in the Netherlands (RWS)	Marc Philippart	Yes
Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)	Amy Tavendale	Yes
National Weather Service (USA)	Trey Flowers	Yes
Deltares-USA	Edwin Welles	Yes
Deltares NL	Nadine Sloopjes Marcel Ververs Ilonka ten Broeke	Yes

Agenda

The agenda was as follows:

12:00 (CET)	Opening	Welcome, presence and apologies
12:05 - 12:10	Confirmation of minutes previous meeting	Minutes CSB #14
12:15 - 12:25	News from the community	Input from all CSB members
12:25 - 12:35	Status update of the Delft-FEWS 2020 roadmaps	Presentation by Gerben Boot
12:35 - 13:30	Delft-FEWS 2025 Vision Organisation Financing	We have prepared a first draft presentation of what the Delft-FEWS 2025 vision will look like and would like to discuss this.
13:30 - 13:40	Any other business	All
13:40 - 13:45	Next meeting	Date and topics
13:45 - 13:50	Closure	Summary and actions



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Opening

Nadine Sloopjes opens the 15th CSB meeting by welcoming everyone and a special welcome to Adam Smith who replaces Justin Robinson as he has changed position within the Bureau of Meteorology. Adam Smith is involved in forecasting since 2007 and is now National Manager of Flood, Tsunami and Storm Surge at the Bureau of Meteorology.

Minutes & Actions previous meeting

Combine actions 10.2, 11.2 & 14.2 into one (action EW + MV)

Action 13.1: Work in progress

Action 13.2: Done during meeting

Action 14.1: To be completed in coming weeks

Action 14.3: Done in this meeting

Feedback from the community

Trey: Large Conference on large scale modelling in San Francisco.

Amy: We had the first meeting with United Kingdom Delft-FEWS users. An important objective of the meeting was to share information on their forecasting systems. No actions or minutes from the meetings were distributed yet. It was agreed that the CSB representative should also involve the other UK clients in providing input and feedback.

Martin: German User days in June. An interesting and productive meeting. The report will be shared through Delft-FEWS portal and to CSB. Remark on the Portal that it should again have separate CSB page. (This is already noted on the wishlist for the portal).

Roger: Lively e-mail discussion ongoing between the Dutch GO-FEWS user group. The action to share configurations is not picked up as active as hoped.

Marc: Development within Rijkswaterstaat is ongoing to easily share data with different organisation, working on plans and finances for the year 2020

Adam: The Australian Delft-FEWS user days were a big success. There is now ongoing contact with Environment Agency. Adam is coming over to Delft for the user days.

Status update of the Delft-FEWS 2020 roadmaps

Gerben gave a status update of the Delft-FEWS 2020 roadmaps and the 2018.02 release.

- The 2018.02 release is already in use by a list of clients
- Status update 2019.02 planned delivery date 1st of December
- Share new deadlines for new features for upcoming releases (action Deltares)

Roger provided feedback on the fact that security was listed in the presentation as not being completed. He said that funding for something like security should not be an issue. Amy suggested to have this as a standard item in a support and maintenance contract. Gerben indicates that security is an ongoing item and therefore it is not marked as completed. It is also listed as one important item in the vision for Delft-FEWS for 2025.



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Delft-FEWS vision for 2025

Nadine presented a draft version of the Delft-FEWS 2025 vision with the objective to get feedback about the current approach, content and format of the vision.

The first feedback was on the fact that open source was mentioned in the vision. It was questioned why this was brought again. The reason is that more and more tenders require open source software. Furthermore, according to the WMO guidelines on flood forecasting open source software is listed as an important criterion. Therefore, we believe that we should start the discussion on open source or not again.

Adam suggested that the benefits from FEWS is the FEWS community, sharing practices. Maybe open source software will end up with a different type of community?

The next discussion was about the term world-leading, the potential market for the Delft-FEWS software and the current Delft-FEWS community. Edwin mentioned that the FEWS user base is unique, so what do you compare it with? Make use of this information in your vision for the future. Some potential user groups are not interesting. Delft-FEWS is mostly used by relatively large organisations. FEWS is a relatively large software package for large scale forecasting systems. Amy replies that you must be clear that there is a range of organisations that you focus on. Delft-FEWS is not just used by really big organisations, but also by medium-size organisations. The Delft-FEWS 2025 vision also mentions Universities. Martin thinks that our clients would hope that our main aim is to focus on usability and stability of the software. Universities have a different way of making use of the Delft-FEWS software and have their own requirements for Delft-FEWS, therefore he thinks that it is probably not the most important group to focus on. It was questioned whether the word world-leading should be used. An alternative is to use the qualification "Global community of Practice".

Adam: State-of-the-art --> Large datasets, can you be more specific? What is a large dataset in your definition?

Adam: In general, make some quotes shorter and more catchy.

Amy: Think about how to deal with licensing of models used in your forecasting system with respect to scalability.

Amy: Sharing configuration should be added

Nadine brought up the topic of how to finance the Delft-FEWS 2025 roadmaps. The reaction from the CSB in general was that the preference was to finance the 2025 roadmaps through the Support and Maintenance contracts. The solution could be to raise the S&M contracts with a certain amount (%) to cover the costs for the yearly roadmaps. Martin raised a point of attention about how this would affect intermediaries. They will also be involved in this approach and Deltares will communicate our intentions and share that with the intermediaries to pass on to their clients.

Any other business

There was nothing to report.

Summary, actions and closure

Nadine thanked everyone for their contributions. Next meeting will be on November 5th 2019 in Delft. The start time for the meeting will be 14.00 CET.

Action list



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Action		Due by	Completion Status	
			date	
13.1	Share list of potential developments with other clients	Deltares	December 2019	Open
13.2	Send an e-mail with info about EVS to be used for verification for forecasts	Edwin Welles	June 2019	Complete
14.1	Organise Delft-FEWS release beta testing workshop in Delft for (Dutch) clients	Deltares	November 2019	Open
14.3	Share information to CSB about status of software release.	Deltares	November 2019	Complete
15.1	<p>Action 10.2 Collate testing experiences into one document</p> <p>Action 11.2 Share details of what has been tested, share general overview what has been tested and an overview of systems that have been used for testing</p> <p>Action 14.2 Share information to CSB how North American clients have been organised into a joined beta testing schedule</p>	Edwin Welles & Marcel Ververs	November 2019	Open

Attachment(s)

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