



A Change in the Weather?

The relationship between public and private sector meteorology in an era of rapid technological and economic change.

Geological Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W1J 0BG

Wednesday 11 December 2019, 13.00 – 16.30

Abstract

The WMO has led one of the greatest international collaborations of all time, creating a mechanism for the global exchange of data which underpins the tremendous advances in weather forecasting capability seen over the last few decades. Until recently most of the observational, NWP and research effort driving those advances has been carried out by publicly funded bodies.

But the private meteorological sector is undergoing rapid expansion, thanks to technological advances and the growing commercial value of weather and climate services. Private sector surface and space-based observation networks and NWP capability now exist and may rival the scale of the international public effort in the not too distant future. This growth comes at the same time as public bodies are under increasing financial pressure.

There is much to be gained from public/private/academic collaboration, but current structures and agreements such as free exchange of data can act as barriers.

This meeting will provide a forum for leading players in the public and private sectors to discuss the challenges, present examples of successful partnerships, and explore ideas for future relationships.

Meeting Chair – Peter Gibbs, Broadcaster and Meteorologist

Organiser – Karen Aplin

Rapporteur –

13.00	Welcome	Peter Gibbs Former Met Office and BBC weather forecaster and presenter, now freelance broadcaster. Meteorological adviser to Opus Insights, a company providing forecast services to agricultural supply chains in the tropics.
13.05	Developments in public-private-academic sector engagement in the global weather enterprise.	Prof Alan Thorpe Co-ordination Group for the Global Weather Enterprise Forum
13.35	Private sector weather services	Mary Glackin President-elect of AMS. Former director of science and forecast operations at IBM Weather Company
14.05	Tea Break	
14.35	Roles and responsibilities of the public sector	Andy Kirkman Met Office
15.10	Academic sector – (Contributions to innovation in weather services for developing countries)	Dr Ben Lamptey GMet, Visiting Cheney Fellow University of Leeds
15.40	Panel discussion chaired by Peter Gibbs	All speakers taking part in the panel discussion along with Penny Endersby, Met Office Chief Executive.
16.30	Meeting close	

Twitter: #RMetSMeet

This meeting is part of the Royal Meteorological Society National Meetings programme, open to all, from expert to enthusiast, for topical discussions on the latest advances in weather and climate. Non-members are welcome to attend these meetings. 3