

RA-I TRAINING COURSE ON TROPICAL CYCLONE
AND PUBLIC WATHER SERVICES
SAINT DENIS, LA REUNION

LESOTHO PRESENTATION
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LESOTHO

Lesotho also commonly known as “The Mountain kingdom” or “ The Kingdom in the Sky” is a country surrounded entirely by the Republic of South Africa.

- It is a country whose lowest point is around 1400m above sea level.
- Two-thirds of the country is highlands (Maloti Mountains) and mainly above 2000 in altitude.
- The area of Lesotho is approximately 30 355 square kilometers.
- The official languages are Sesotho and English

CLIMATE

- Winters are generally dry and cold, During this winter period precipitation is mainly in the form of snow and is very low if any. It snows annually over the highlands, and sometimes over the lowlands.
- Frontal systems often result in low temperatures, and cold rainfall in the lowlands and heavy snowfalls in the highlands. Heavy snowfalls often occur either at the beginning or the end of the winter season.
- Summers are hot and humid, due to the proximity of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) and the Kalahari low-pressure area which draw in land, the moist tropical air masses from the Congo Basin. Short and intermittent thundershowers and hailstorms with strong winds are also common during the summer season.

SNOW IN LESOTHO



THE LESOTHO METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES (LMS)

The Meteorological authority in Lesotho is the Lesotho Meteorological services (LMS)



LMS MISSION

Issue public weather forecasts, provide warnings, advisories, meteorological/climate products and other specialized services primarily for the protection of life and property in support of economic productivity and sustainable development.

LMS QUALITY POLICY

The Lesotho Meteorological Services (LMS) strives to provide consistent quality aeronautical meteorological products and services which are in line with national and international requirements with the objective of achieving customer satisfaction and continually improving the Quality Management System.

LMS-Public Weather and Aviation Services

- Analysis of synoptic weather charts and products.
- Collection and computation of meteorological data.
- Preparation and Issuance of weather forecasts.
- Pilot briefings with the route forecasts.
- To advise the nation on extreme weather events (early warning) that can affect or even endanger their lives.
- Raise awareness by allowing students to visit our offices.
- Provide aeronautical meteorological services

TROPICAL CYCLONES

LESOTHO IS NOT IN THE PATHWAY OF TROPICAL CYCLONES. HOWEVER, BEARING IN MIND THE TROPICAL CYCLONE DINEO (FEBRUARY 2017), ONE CAN SEE THAT LESOTHO IS ALSO PRONE TO THE EFFECTS OF TROPICAL CYCLONES

TROPICAL CYCLONES CONTINUED

THE TROPICAL CYCLONE DINEO SIGNICAFICANTLY AFFECTED ALMOST ALL THE REGIONS OF SOUTH AFRCA INCLUDING LESOTHO. POORING RAINS AND STRONG WINDS WERE EXEPERIENCED FROM THE 15TH TO THE 20TH OF FEBFUARY 2017.

THIS SHOWS WHY LESOTHO ALWAYS HAS TO BE ON THE WATCH FOR THIS KIND OF WEATHER PHENOMENA.

Heavy rain and devastating winds



THANK YOU

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