Opening Ceremony WeaDL Workshop, 2022

Hello to everyone, first of all I would like to thank you for inviting me to open the workshop. I have to confess, when I saw I have 10 minutes for this introduction I initially thought it would be too much, but when I went through the project I realized that it was not too much, but it was too little time. My name is Sorin Cheval and I am the director for Applied Meteorology (Director for Research) at the National Meteorological Administration (NMA) of Romania. We already had some interesting internal presentations within the project as it's being implemented within the NMA and what I can remark is that it's a very applied project, which I like very much, as it's very clear which are the project outcomes and how these project outcomes can improve our tools and knowledge regarding weather forecasting. I'm sure that all participants are aware of the importance of having an accurate forecast, as this is a challenge from various perspectives, which we are very familiar with here at the NMA. One of these challenges is to integrate the platform with the different data sources we have at our disposal. As we know, we integrate data from RADAR, weather stations and satellites; we could integrate data from citizen observatories, which is an interesting topic nowadays, together with airborne sensors or drones. Data integration from various sources and using one of the most updated tools such as machine learning is something that can withstand rigorous project evaluations. I also find valuable the collaboration between the NMA, which provides forecast and research and the Babeș-Bolyai University, who carry out research that is combined with the University's educational mission. With regards to the participation of our Norwegian colleagues from MET-Norway, I must mention that we at the NMA have already developed some previous projects with MET-Norway and we will definitely find new avenues for future collaboration. I wish you all success at this workshop, thank you!

Sorin CHEVAL

National Meteorological Administration (NMA) of Romania