Regional Workshop on Climate Services at the National Level for the Least Developed Countries in Asia

Bangkok, Thailand, 8-10 October 2012

PROGRAMME
The World Climate Conference-3 held in 2009 decided to establish a Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), an international framework to guide the development of climate services. The vision of the GFCS is to enable society to better manage the risks and opportunities arising from climate variability and change, especially for those who are most vulnerable to such risks. This will be done through development and incorporation of science-based climate information and prediction into planning, policy and practice. The greatest value of the GFCS will occur incrementally through the delivery of a multitude of climate services at national or local levels. Climate-sensitive developing countries stand to gain the most from better climate information but are often precisely where climate services are weakest. The Framework will give priority to capacity building in these countries.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

• To review the current status of generating climate information in the LDCs in Asia and assess their needs for climate services in the agriculture, food security and water user sectors at the national and local levels;

• To assess the current status of interactions of the climate service providers with the users in the priority sectors and identify the major areas for improvement;

• To discuss and recommend improved arrangements for national observation networks, enhanced research focus on national and local climate problems, better access to climate predictions, sustained operational mechanisms that facilitate the flow of climate information from global and regional scales through the national and local scales, and effective user interface mechanisms at the national scale;

• To articulate the capacity building needs of LDCs, in terms of mandates, infrastructure as well as human resources, in all the components of the GFCS;

• To identify and propose ways to promote community understanding of climate variability and change along with the associated risks and opportunities for improved climate risk management and raise user awareness of climate products and services.
**SESSION 1: OPENING OF THE MEETING**

09:00 hrs  
**Welcome**  
*Somsri Huntrakul*  
Director General  
Thailand Meteorological Department

09:10 hrs  
**Address**  
*Filipe Lucio*  
Head, GFCS Office  
World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Switzerland

09:20 hrs  
**Address**  
*Winfried Wicklein*  
Principal Country Economist, Thailand Resident Mission  
Asian Development Bank

09:30 hrs  
**Opening of the Meeting**  
*Man Ho So*  
Deputy Regional Representative  
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

09:45 hrs  
**Group Photo and Tea/Coffee Break**

**SESSION 2: LDCs AND CLIMATE SERVICES**  
*(CHAIRMAN: CHARLES RODGERS)*

10:15 hrs  
**The WMO Programme for LDCs and the Istanbul Programme of Action**  
*Datius Rutashobyia*  
World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Switzerland
10:45 hrs  Global Framework for Climate Services  
Filipe Lucio  
World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Switzerland

11:15 hrs  Discussion

SESSION 3: CURRENT STATUS OF CLIMATE SERVICES IN THE LDCs OF ASIA  
(CHAIRMAN: MIKE COUGHLAN)

11:30 hrs  Nepal  
Rishi Ram Sharma  
Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, Nepal

11:45 hrs  Bhutan  
Karma Tsering  
Department of Hydrological and Meteorological Services, Bhutan

12:00 hrs  Lao PDR  
Souvanny Phonevilay  
Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, Lao PDR

12:15 hrs  Discussion

12:30 hrs  Lunch
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Presenter/Department</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13:30 hrs</td>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>Tin Mar Htay, Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, Myanmar</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:45 hrs</td>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>Saiful Islam Khan, Bangladesh Meteorological Department</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00 hrs</td>
<td>Samoa</td>
<td>Sunny Seuseu, Meteorology Division, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Samoa</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:15 hrs</td>
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<td>Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:30 hrs</td>
<td>Solomon Islands</td>
<td>David Hiriasia, Solomon Islands Meteorological Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:45 hrs</td>
<td>Kiribati</td>
<td>Kien Teteki, Kiribati Meteorological Service</td>
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<td>15:00 hrs</td>
<td>Vanuatu</td>
<td>Nihmei Kaniaha Salesa, Meteorological and Geohazards Department, Vanuatu</td>
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<td>15:15 hrs</td>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>Zahid Hameed, Maldives Meteorological Service, Maldives</td>
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<td>15:30 hrs</td>
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<td>Tea/Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00 hrs</td>
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<td>Discussion</td>
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<td>16:30 hrs</td>
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<td>Adjournment</td>
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<td>19:00 hrs</td>
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<td>Workshop Dinner</td>
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TUESDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2012

SESSION 4: NEEDS FOR CLIMATE SERVICES, CURRENT STATUS AND COMMUNICATION OF CLIMATE INFORMATION TO USERS IN THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR

(CHAIRMAN: ANCHA SRINIVASAN)

08:30 hrs Bangladesh
Ansar Ali
Ministry of Agriculture, Bangladesh

08:45 hrs Cambodia
Pheav Sovuthy
Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries, Cambodia

09:00 hrs Lao PDR
Thavone Inthavong
National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute (NAFRI), Lao PDR

09:15 hrs Importance of climate services for agriculture
Beau Damen
FAO Regional Office for Asia and Pacific, Thailand

09:30 hrs Managing climate shocks to agriculture through early warning systems
Subbiah Arjunapermal
Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia

09:45 hrs Needs for Climate Services, Current Status and Communication of Climate Information to Users in the Agriculture Sector
Pramod Aggarwal / Michael Sheinkman
CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security
SESSION 5: NEEDS FOR CLIMATE SERVICES, CURRENT STATUS AND COMMUNICATION OF CLIMATE INFORMATION TO USERS IN THE WATER SECTOR

(CHAIRMAN: RISHI RAM SHARMA)

11:00 hrs Bhutan
Gongsar Karma Chhopel
National Environment Commission, Bhutan

11:15 hrs Bangladesh
Md. Mosaddeque Hossain
Bangladesh Water Development Board, Bangladesh

11:30 hrs Cambodia
Peo Phalla
Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology, Cambodia

11:45 hrs Climate Services for Effective Water Resources Management in the Asian LDCs
Charles Rodgers
Asian Development Bank, Philippines

12:15 hrs Discussion

12:30 hrs Lunch
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Organization/Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13:30</td>
<td>Perspectives from WHO on the Needs for Climate Services in the Health Sector of LDCs in Asia</td>
<td>Khalil Rahman</td>
<td>WHO Liaison Office with UNESCAP, Thailand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:45</td>
<td>Needs for Climate Services in the DRR Sector of LDCs in Asia</td>
<td>Arghya Sinha Roy</td>
<td>Asian Development Bank, Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>Climate services in the DRR sector in Cambodia and Lao PDR</td>
<td>Senaka Basnayake</td>
<td>Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre, Thailand</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:15</td>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>Afsal Hussain</td>
<td>Ministry of Environment and Energy, Maldives</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:30</td>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>Jay Ram Adhikari</td>
<td>Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology, Nepal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:45</td>
<td>Needs for Climate Services in the DRR Sector from Local Communities’ Perspective</td>
<td>Indira Kulenovic</td>
<td>International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies South-East Asia Regional Delegation, Thailand</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SESSION 7: CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT IN ASIAN LDCs: SOME INSIGHTS FROM PILOT PROGRAM FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE (PPCR) (CHAIRMAN: MANNAVA SIVAKUMAR)

16:00 hrs Climate Services for Effective Implementation of PPCR: An Overview
Ancha Srinivasan
Asian Development Bank, Philippines

16:15 hrs Bangladesh
Arif Faisal
Asian Development Bank, Bangladesh

16:30 hrs Nepal
Rishi Ram Sharma
Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, Nepal

16:45 hrs Cambodia
Rosa Perez
Consultant, Asian Development Bank

17:00 hrs Discussion

17:30 hrs Adjournment
# Session 8: Building Climate Services at the National Level

**Chairman:** Datius Rutashobyia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:30 hrs</td>
<td>User Interface Platform</td>
<td>Mannava Sivakumar</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:45 hrs</td>
<td>Climate Services Information System, Observations and Monitoring, Research Modelling and Prediction</td>
<td>Michael Coughlan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:15 hrs</td>
<td>Capacity Development</td>
<td>Filipe Lucio</td>
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<td>09:30 hrs</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<td>10:00 hrs</td>
<td>Tea/Coffee Break</td>
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# Session 9: Operating Climate Services at the National Level

**Chairman:** Filipe Lucio

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:30 hrs</td>
<td>Observations, Monitoring, Analysis and Prediction</td>
<td>Michael Coughlan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 hrs</td>
<td>Data Archiving and Data Services</td>
<td>Mannava Sivakumar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 hrs</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 hrs</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
SESSION 10: BREAKOUT SESSIONS

13:00 hrs  Discussion on breakout groups and terms of reference
           Mannava Sivakumar

13:15 hrs  Meetings of breakout groups

           Group I: Early Warning Systems and Capacity Building for Climate Services in the LDCs: Needs and Priorities

           Group II: Climate Risk Management and Raising User Awareness in the LDCs

15:30 hrs  Tea/Coffee Break

SESSION 11: PLENARY TO CONSIDER BREAKOUT GROUP REPORTS
(CHAIRMAN: ANCHA SRINIVASAN)

16:00 hrs  Group I

16:30 hrs  Group II
17:00 hrs  Word of thanks on behalf of the organizers and Workshop Closure

Filipe Lucio
World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Switzerland
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Asian Development Bank
For more information on this workshop please contact:

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