

**SIDE EVENT on**  
**“Progress on GFCS Implementation”**  
**at 17<sup>th</sup> World Meteorological Congress**  
**Geneva, Switzerland,**  
**27 May, 2015**  
**17:45 – 18:45 h**  
**CICG (Salle 3)**

**Description**

The World Climate Conference-3 (Geneva 2009) unanimously decided to establish the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), a UN-led initiative spearheaded by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to guide the development and application of science-based climate information and services in support of decision-making in climate sensitive sectors. By promoting science-based decision-making, the GFCS is empowering governments, communities and companies to build climate resilience, reduce vulnerabilities and adapt to impacts. The initial priority areas of GFCS are Agriculture and Food Security; Disaster Risk Reduction; Health; and Water Resources.

The implementation of GFCS is well underway. Activities are being implemented in various countries in Africa, the Caribbean, Asia and Pacific Small Islands Developing States through flagship projects and activities in the four priority areas of GFCS to enable the development of a *Proof of Concept*. The focus at national level is on strengthening institutional capacities needed for development of capacities for co-design and co-production of climate services and their application in support of decision-making in climate sensitive sectors. Establishment of regional capacities through climate centres to support national institutional capacities is a major focus. The *Proof of Concept* will be replicated in other parts of the world to ensure worldwide improvements in climate services for the four priority areas to facilitate the reduction of society's vulnerability to climate-related hazards and the advancement of the key global development goals.

The side event will present concrete examples from countries where GFCS is being implemented as well as activities being implemented with partner Agencies.

**Organization of the Session**

The Session will present the experiences of countries implementing the GFCS, identifying lessons learned as well as challenges. The representatives from countries will discuss issues related to coordination, sustainability, governance, user interface and the value of climate services for adaptation. In addition, UNITAR will present a demo of an e-tutorial on GFCS that is currently being developed.

After the presentations, the moderator will engage the audience in the room who will have an opportunity to make comments and ask questions to the representatives.

**For more information on this event please contact:**

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## PROGRAMME

Moderated by *Filipe Lúcio*, Director, GFCS Office

### INTRODUCTION

**17:45 hrs**      Opening remarks  
*Jens Sunde*, Chair, Intergovernmental Board on Climate Services (IBCS)

### PANEL DISCUSSION

**17:50 hrs**      Panelists  
  
*Agnes Kijazi*, Director-General of the National Meteorological Service of the United Republic of Tanzania  
*Linda Makuleni*, Chief Executive Officer at South African Weather Service  
*Aida Diongue Niang*, Director of Senegal Meteorological Service

### OPEN DISCUSSION

**18:10 hrs**      Questions and Open Discussion

**18:20 hrs**      Demo of an e-tutorial on GFCS  
*Francesco Pisano*, Director, Research, Technology Applications & Knowledge Systems, United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

**18:45 hrs**      Summary and Closure

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