

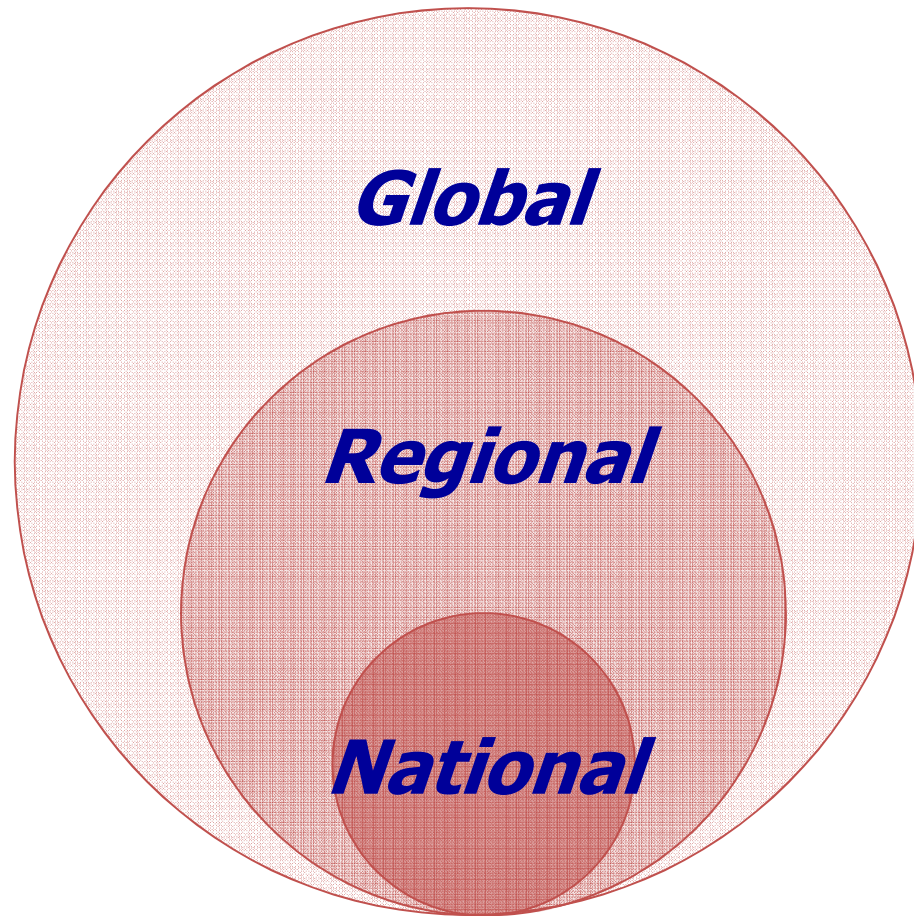
Climate services in RA IV?



Experiences of GFCS Task Team for RA IV

Jamie Smith, Chair, Canada

Domains of operation of GFCS



Steps taken to date...

- The task given, work plan and vision was developed for Task Team (TT) review
- A number of teleconferences and side meetings were held to review the task, vision, and the draft work plan
- Work plan was revised and submitted to RA IV MC with a draft budget

Membership

COUNTRY	NAME
Canada	Jamie Smith
Dominican Republic	Lic. Juana Sillé
Guatemala	Ing. Paris Rivera
Trinidad & Tobago	Kenneth Kerr
British Caribbean Territories	Dr. David Farrell
Colombia	José Franklyn Ruiz
Antigua & Barbuda	Dale Destin (Leave)
USA	Dr. Meredith Muth
Costa Rica	Roberto Villalobos
Mexico	Jorge Luis Vázquez Aguirre

Tasks Given

- Identify RA IV needs for climate services including formulating proposals for Regional Climate Centres and Regional Climate Outlook Forums
- Put in place a work plan for the implementation of the GFCS in RA-IV and ensure coherence and integration of regional activities with GFCS implementation
- Provide advice and support to the President of RA-IV and PRs in highlighting and defining regional interests in the ongoing development of the GFCS

Task

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Work Plan

- Development of a vision of an appropriate RA IV Climate Service
- Map and develop a tri-lingual electronic inventory of current activities within the region
- Identify RA IV needs as regards to climate services including formulating proposals for RCC and RCOF
- Development of a plan for collaboration of various stakeholders in the region towards a UIP

Findings to date...

- The **task given is broad enough** for TT to adapt to meet our needs
- Many activities on a sub-regional level but **not across the region as a whole**.
- We need to understand **how the TT can add value** to what is already happening.
- An **inventory of activities is needed** to understand the scope and gaps, individual national capacity
- Debating using GFCS **pillars verses priority areas** (coastal ecosystems should be added) as a framework for analysis for RA IV mapping/inventory
- **TT role is to share lessons learned** (i.e. knowledge exchange), and cataloguing lessons learned such as success stories would be useful activity
- Considering the **need to link GFCS with existing policies and the work of other TT** (DRR) in the region
- **User interface platform is not necessarily an IT platform**, can be face-to-face and *bidirectional flow of information* is critical component.
- A mechanism is needed for **user to provide feedback** on how to improve the climate services in the region as a whole
- We also need to **link to other WMO groups** who are working on related topics if possible and have them speak to our group.
- Need to find a way for have a **face to face TT meeting** to flesh out details

RA IV MC Approved Work Plan

- Development of a vision of an appropriate RA IV Climate Service
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- Development of a plan for collaboration of various stakeholders in the region towards a UIP

(Funded by MC (PRs for \$20k Year 1 – TT Meeting to finalize plan of action)

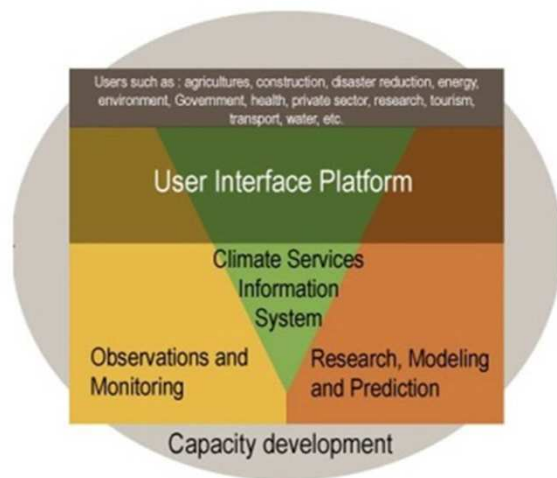
Key Challenges

- Refining the scope and value added for regional TT
 - Determining realistic activities that will benefit the entire region
 - Variable climates and capacities across the region
 - Tension between regional goals and national needs to improve capacity (MC)
- Communications (logistics and language)
- Need to engage MC as soon as possible to verify work plan and budget



Thoughts on GFCS Regional Implementation

System Requirements (capacity)



Themes for Engagement?

- Agriculture
- Water
- Health
- Risk
- Others specific to region?
(Coastal)