

## **International Conference on Climate Services Conference Statement**

November, 2011

The first International Conference on Climate Services met in New York on October 17-19, 2011. Already involved in a range of activities to develop and utilize climate services, participants agreed to form an open and informal Climate Services Partnership (CSP). The CSP is a global partnership that links climate service users and providers, creating a system of knowledge exchange that will help nations and individuals to thrive in the face of a changing climate.

To this end, the CSP will inform climate-smart decision-making for the benefit of society. It will help analyze and foster innovative practice and policy, establishing how effective climate services can help to achieve climate-smart decision-making and ultimately resulting in better development outcomes. The CSP will explore and improve processes of engagement between climate information providers, decision-makers, and policy communities.

The CSP effort will also advance the Global Framework for Climate Services, a formal international system to achieve coordinated support to the development of climate services worldwide.

Over the coming 12 months, the partners in the CSP have agreed to work together to:

- Establish a mechanism to share knowledge and lessons learned. This involves:
  - Outlining an initial framework for knowledge capture
  - Contributing their own experiences to the knowledge capture process in the form of case studies and evaluations
- Identify priority areas for focused attention in the development of new areas of knowledge, and to pursue mutually agreed-upon common work agendas around these areas, including:
  - Methods and structures to provide advice and support in identifying and developing the economic value of climate services and establishing good practices in policy engagement.
  - Establishing useful strategies for identifying user needs, in the use of climate information, and in bridging the gaps between science, practice, and policy communities
- Determine mechanisms and avenues to support the Global Framework for Climate Services and other relevant and interested initiatives, including:

- Supporting the GFCS implementation plan
  - Providing specific activities to be integrated into the GFCS implementation plan at 2, 4, 6, 10, and longer-term milestones
- Continue the ICCS process to encourage continuing connections between climate information users, providers, researchers and donors.
  - Establish an open CSP coordinating group in order to answer questions of broadening membership, coordinating joint activities, sourcing funding, and planning the next ICCS.
  - Prepare for the next ICCS, which will be held in Hamburg, Germany, to take stock of CSP progress and wider progress on linkages between climate information users, providers, researchers and donors.