

Climate Services Partnership UPDATES



JUN 2012

FORGING CONNECTIONS

ICCS 2

In collaboration with others, the team at CSC is securing speakers and putting the final touches on the program for ICCS 2, which will be held in Brussels, September 5-7. The conference has a focus on the private sector, with a special emphasis on water, energy, food, and financial services. ICCS 2 will also include a number of side events and/or side meetings, including sessions organized by the WMO, the UNEP Financial Initiative, and KFW.

We have secured funding to support ~10 developing country participants but are continuing to look for more support. Please be in contact if you have ideas for how we might find this support. As mentioned in the last update, the workshop will be followed European Conference on Applied Climatology, which is being held 10-14 September in Lodz, Poland.

EGU

A number of CSP members participated in the Climate Services Day at EGU, which included a Town Hall meeting held by the GFCS. Other organizations that participated include UK Met, CSC, University of East Anglia, ENEA, IRI, etc.

Adaptation Futures

A number of CSP members participated in the Adaptation Futures conference held in Tuscon last month. Organizations that were represented include the Red Cross Climate Centre, Acclimatise, University of Capetown, Climate for Development Framework Programme, and others.

Rio +20

A number of CSP-affiliated organizations will be participating in the Rio+20 event. If you plan to attend, please let us know so we can coordinate actions.

Farmer-Focused Workshop

Together with the WMO & the CSP, CCAFS has organized a workshop entitled Farmer-Focused Climate Information and Advisory Services in Africa and South Asia: Scaling Up Good Practice. The conference will take place in Arusha, Tanzania in November. This landmark event aims to support South-South learning and collaboration between Africa and South Asia to strengthen and scale-up climate information and advisory service for smallholder farmers. A draft announcement is attached; feedback is very welcome.

GATHERING KNOWLEDGE

Case Studies

Many thanks to those of you who have submitted case studies! We are delighted with submissions so far, and are looking forward to gathering more over the coming months. The GFCS has also secured ~20 case studies from national meteorological services.

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Evaluations

The team working on the Mali evaluation - which includes IRI, CCAFS, USAID, ICRISAT -- is in the final stages and will be able to share a document later in the boreal summer. The Red Cross and CCAFS are also involved in evaluations, and will plan to share these at ICCS 2.

The *American Meteorological Society's* Wendy Thomas is also overseeing two pilot valuation studies. One of these studies focuses on the marginal contribution of earth observations to early warning systems for public health and safety; the second links the economic benefits to society that can be derived by making hospitals weather-ready.

Guidance Documents

The World Bank is in the process of developing a climate service *Guide for Development Practitioners*, which can be shared with interested partners in the coming months. The CSP secretariat is also consulting with partners on the development of a more technical Climate Information Guidebook. Please get in touch if this is something you would be interested in contributing to.

CREATING NEW KNOWLEDGE

The **Economic Valuation Working Group** has developed a database on methodologies focused on economic valuation and is hoping to create a synthesis document on methodologies that can be presented at the ICCS2. They are also contributing to the American Meteorological Society efforts to develop a proposal to assess economic value of climate information.

UNEP Financial Initiative. Together with the Sustainable Business Institute and the WMO, UNEP FI has begun a process of developing materials to improve the development and provision of climate services with and for the private sector.

The work plan currently involves coordinated streams of research with the publication and dissemination information on both the supply side (an overview and briefing to financial institutions of the state of climate information) and demand side (an overview and briefing on the needs of the financial sector). The work plan will also include a synthesis of these two streams of information and a series of pilot simulations demonstrating the potential for climate information to be incorporated into current decision-making processes at financial institutions.

MEMBERSHIP

Based on member feedback, it was decided that Climate Services Partnership is the best name for the group; now focus has turned to defining and characterizing benefits associated with membership. The coordinating group is working to finalize membership documents and will share these with the larger group in the coming months.

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PARTNER UPDATES

Global Framework for Climate Services

Please note that the First Order Draft of the Global Framework on Climate Services Implementation Plan is now available, and that the CSP is organizing a series of phone calls in order to encourage discussion on the issue. Calls will be rapporteured and a summary of each discussion will be submitted as feedback to the GFCS. Partners are also encouraged to submit feedback to the GFCS directly.

At the moment, calls are scheduled for

Wednesday, June 13th at 9:30 am NY

Friday, June 15, at 11:00 am NY

Monday, June 18, at 3 pm NY

If you are unable to make any of these times, but are interested in participating in a discussion, please let me know and we will try to accommodate your schedule.

Climate Systems Analysis Group

The Climate Systems Analysis Group at the University of Capetown is looking for climate services post-doc; a detailed description is attached. For more information, or to apply, please contact climapp@csag.uct.ac.za.

European Climate Services Initiative

The CSC hosted a meeting of European Climate Services on May 24. The meeting brought together a wide range of actors interested in climate services throughout the continent. The group has decided on a joint work plan and will continue to collaborate.

