

World Meteorological Organization

Working together in weather, climate and water

Components of the GFCS Climate Services Information System

Peer Hechler WMO



Aim of talk

To provide a future-oriented context for the evolution of RA VI (Europe and Middle East) regional entities and mechanisms in support to national climate services

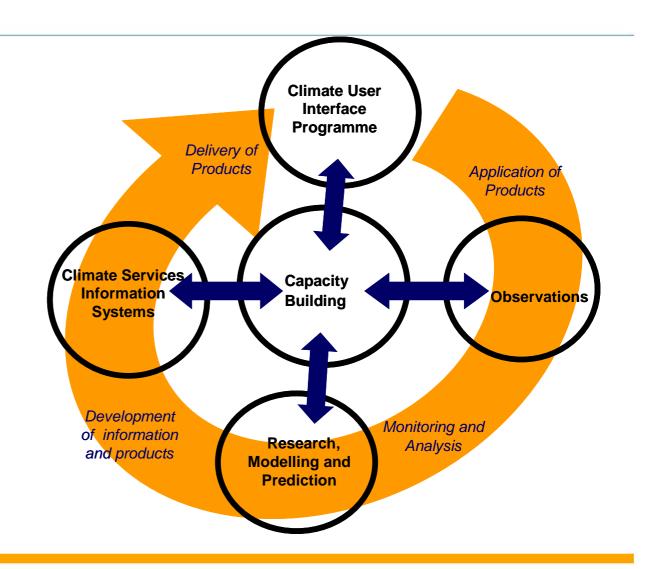
Relevant keywords of the talk:

Global Framework for Climate Services, WMO Global Producing Centres, WMO Regional Climate Centres, Regional Climate Outlook Forums, Global Seasonal Climate Updates, WMO Climate Watch systems



Global Framework for Climate Services

WCC3 decided to establish a Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) to strengthen the production, availability, delivery and application of sciencebased climate prediction and services.





Global Framework for Climate Services

The Climate Services Information System (CSIS) is the component of the Framework that is designed to **routinely generate climate information** which users need for the decisions they have to make.

Relevant WMO current strengths include:

-GDPFS including 12 GPCs and 2 Lead Centers as well as 2 RCCs
-Regional institutions, such as DMCs, ACMAD, ICPAC, CIIFEN
-Standards and best practices for operations (-> CCI, CBS)
-WMO El Niño/ La Niña Update

Relevant WMO contributions to GFCS include:

- -NCS/NCC concept development
- -Extension of GPC and RCC networks to cover all climatic regions
- -Expansion of RCC operations to cover regional climate change scenarios
- -Development of additional global climate updates (-> GSCU)



WMO Regional Climate Centres

- RCCs are Centres of Excellence, designated by CBS and CCI, to perform operational regional-scale climate functions in the domains of long-range forecasting, climate monitoring and data services including training
- Highly recommended functions comprise the domains of climate projections, co-ordination, capacity building and R&D
- RCCs will be complementary to and supportive of NMHSs, which will deliver all warnings and nationalscale products
- Establishment of RCCs will be initiated by Regional Associations, based on regional needs and priorities

Mandatory product list (examples):

Assessment of GPC products

Regional/sub-regional seasonal outlooks

Consensus outlook statements

Verification datasets

Climate diagnostics bulletins

Reference climatologies

Implementation of climate watches

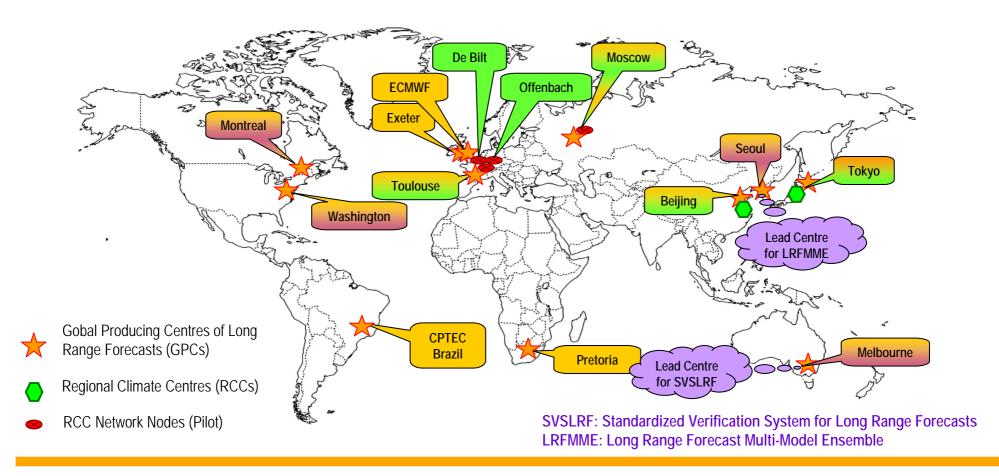
Regional climate datasets

Training, feedback mechanisms, information portals



Global Network of WMO GPCs and RCCs

Global Network for Climate Information (WMO designated global and regional climate centres)





Regional Climate Outlook Forums (RCOFs)

RCOFs bring together national, regional and international climate experts, on a regular basis, to produce regional climate outlooks based on input from global and regional producers of climate information as well as from NMHSs of the region concerned.

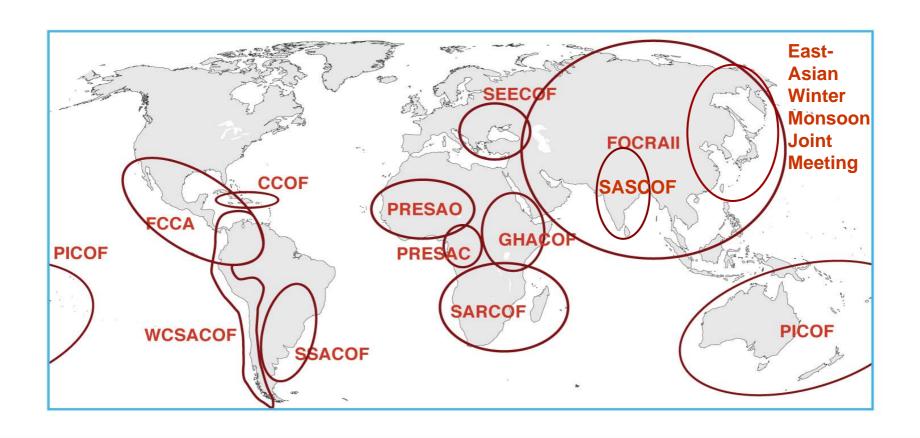
The RCOF mechanism:

- ---> addresses regions of common climate characteristics
- ---> ensures consistency in access to, and interpretation of, climate information
- ---> facilitates close user interaction to jointly assess the likely implications of the outlooks
- ---> provides training on long-range forecasting, communication etc.



Global Coverage of current RCOFs

Existing RCOFs worldwide

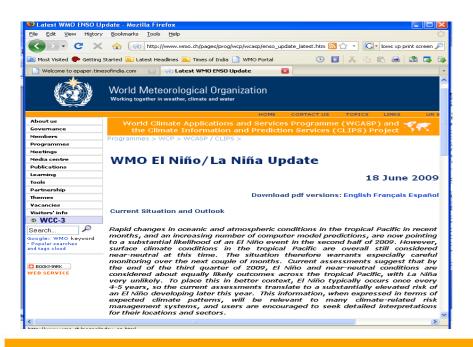




WMO El Niño/La Niña Updates and GSCU

WMO has been issuing consensus based

El Niño/La Niña Updates on a quasi-regular basis over the past more than a decade, providing useful information on these events of significant importance to regional climate impacts.



From 12-14 Oct 2010, an *Expert Meeting* on *Scoping Global Seasonal Climate Updates (GSCU)* took place at WMO Headquarters, expanding the idea of El Niño/La Niña Updates to a quarterly publication on the observed status and potential evolution of the global climate (ENSO, SST, TT, RR, significant events).

A first phase aims at serving regional and national meteorological entities, whilst a second phase might aim at serving global users and media.



WMO Climate Watch Systems

Regional WMO Climate Watch systems, which are designed to detect, monitor and predict (if possible) climate anomalies and related extremes ...

... might be fed by global guidance products, such as WMO's El Niño/La Niña Update and the upcoming GSCU,

... are part of the mandatory RCC functions and will receive guidance information from regional entities and mechanisms, such as RCCs and RCOFs,

... deliver, through NMHSs, national climate advisories to users as a climate service.

WMO Workshop on Climate Monitoring, including the Implementation of Climate Watch Systems in RA VI (25-28 Oct 2010, Offenbach/Germany)



RA VI regional entities and mechanisms in support to national climate services

RA VI existing capabilities include:

Pilot RCC-Network, SEECOF mechanism, SEE-VCCC,

ECMWF, DMC-SEE, EUMETSAT, EUMETNET, EU etc.

Further evolution (examples):

Implementation of RA VI Climate Watch system Formal designation of RA VI RCC-Network Expansion of RCOFs?

Consideration of Arctic and Mediterranean COFs and RCCs!



Information Sources

WMO RCCs, GPCs/LCs, El Niño/La Niña Updates:

http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/wcp/wcasp/wcasp_home_en.html

Global Seasonal Climate Update (concept):

http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/wcp/wcasp/GSCU.html

RA VI RCC-Network: http://www.rccra6.org

SEECOF: http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/dra/eur/SEECOF-3.php

Relevant WMO bodies include:

WMO Commission for Climatology

WMO Commission for Basic Systems

WMO RA VI WG on Climate and Hydrology

