

**WMO OMM**

World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale
Organización Meteorológica Mundial
Всемирная метеорологическая организация
المنظمة العالمية للأرصاد الجوية
世界气象组织

Secrétariat

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Our ref.: 19748/S/CS/GCF

8 September 2023

Annex: 1 (available in English only)

Subject: Invitation to attend as an expert at the WMO-GCF Second Global Forum on Climate Science Information Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, 10-12 October 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and Green Climate Fund (GCF) will host the **Second Global Forum on Climate Science Information** in a hybrid format from 10 to 12 October 2023 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE), with limited in-person participation of representatives of climate science information user and producer communities.

Under the Climate Science Information for Climate Action initiative, WMO and GCF are partnering to provide the global community with access to new climate information, tools, and guidance to develop the scientific basis for climate action decisions. Access to these products will help countries identify and select the most effective climate actions to overcome the challenges of climate change, contributing to country-level decision-making and mobilization of climate finance.

The Forum builds on the results and recommendations of the First Global Forum that was held virtually in September 2022. The Second Global Forum on Climate Science Information will address the following objectives:

1. To co-explore user needs and requirements, including data and information for specific sectors (e.g., energy, water, agriculture, disaster risk reduction, health, transport, etc.) and societal groups (e.g., youth, women, farmers, indigenous people, etc.), and take stock of the latest experiences in the co-production of climate science information and services.
2. To discuss Principles for co-designing climate services, considering engagement, feedback and learning mechanisms, with the user community on obtaining climate change and vulnerability information.
3. To discuss standardized approaches for combining information for climate action planning, including its classification principles and criteria, and coordinate authoritative and quality-controlled information from the global climate science information community.

The Forum will be hosted by the National Center of Meteorology (NCM) of the UAE located in Abu Dhabi. The Forum will involve NMHSs, the WMO technical community, research/academic and international organizations (e.g., GCF, IPCC, ECMWF/C3S, UN Agencies, etc.) and information users such as Accredited Entities (AEs) to the GCF, decision-makers, development partners, private sector, regional development banks, non-governmental and civil society organizations. A total of around 40 participants, including WMO staff and technical facilitators, are expected to attend in person. Remote participation will be allowed for relevant partners and organizations. In this regard, I am pleased to invite you to participate

To: Invited experts (limited distribution)

and contribute to the technical sessions of the global Forum with your expertise. I would be grateful if you could confirm your willingness to be engaged as an expert in the event no later than **8 September 2023**. Please communicate any information and relevant details with WMO focal points on this topic, Ms Ilaria Gallo (igallo@wmo.int) and Mr Amir Delju (adelju@wmo.int) at the WMO Secretariat. A draft agenda of the Forum is attached for your information.

Please note that, your institution will be responsible for financing your participation expenses, including flight and accommodation.

I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and contribution to the WMO activities.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Stander', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr Johan Stander
Director
Services Department

WMO-GCF Global Forum on Climate Science Information

Concept Note and Agenda

Second Global Forum on Climate Science Information 2023 (hybrid)

“The Climate Risk Context of Climate Actions”

10-12 October 2023

Version 04 September 2023

Introduction

Recognizing the contribution of science-based decision-making in responding to climate change, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and Green Climate Fund (GCF) have partnered to provide the global community with access to new climate information, tools, and guidance to develop the scientific basis to support climate action decisions. These resources and products respond to a growing demand from stakeholders of the GCF and climate finance organizations, the WMO, and other stakeholders to have access to such tools and information platforms to guide the development of climate actions, particularly for adaptation and resilience projects. The aim of providing these products is to help countries identify and select the most effective climate actions to overcome the challenges of climate change. This guidance can contribute to country-level decision-making and the mobilization of climate finance.

Description

The WMO-GCF Global Forum on Climate Science Information aims to gather international, regional, national and sectoral expert users of climate science information to discuss the climate information required for climate action planning and for funding proposals, to evaluate and promote guidance on its use, to identify gaps, and to promote and coordinate authoritative information.

The first Global Forum was held from 27 to 29 September 2022¹ with a focus on Data, Tools and Methods and gathered more than two hundred participants, including the National Hydro-Meteorological Services (NMHSs), the WMO technical community, research/academic and international experts, GCF stakeholders such as Accredited Entities (AE) and National Designated Authorities (NDAs), decision-makers and development partners. The first forum reviewed the state of guidance for developing climate action proposals, discussing the use and application of such information for preparing climate action investments, plans and policies, particularly in developing countries. A list of required

¹ At WMO Headquarters, Geneva – Hybrid Format, 27-29 September 2022.

enhancements to existing information, methods and tools was identified in the final recommendations summarized in the [forum's final report](#).

Objectives

The objectives of the Second Global Forum on Climate Science Information can be summarized as follows:

1. To co-explore user needs and requirements, including climatic and non-climatic data and information, including socio-economic data, for specific sectors (e.g., energy, water, agriculture, disaster risk reduction, health, transport, etc.) and societal groups (e.g., youth, women, farmers, indigenous people, etc.), and take stock of the latest knowledge and experiences in the co-production of climate science information and services.
2. To discuss principles for co-designing climate services, considering engagement, feedback and learning mechanisms with the user community on obtaining climate change and vulnerability information that can help design climate science information and services.
3. To discuss standardized approaches to combining information for climate action planning, including its classification principles and criteria, coordinate authoritative and quality-controlled information from the global climate science information community and provide guidance on its use through a potential online web portal, the Climate Science Information Gateway. The Gateway can create a bridge between climate information providers and users of such information, to help identify and select the most effective climate actions and improve access to climate finance.

Format

The Second WMO-GCF Global Forum on Climate Science Information will take place from 10 to 12 October 2023 in a hybrid format, with limited in-person participation of representatives of climate science information user and producer communities. The forum will be hosted by the National Center of Meteorology (NCM) of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) located in Abu Dhabi. Limited remote participation will be allowed to relevant partners and organizations through Zoom or Teams platforms. The Forum will involve NMHSs, the WMO technical community, research/academic and international organizations (e.g., GCF, UNFCCC, IPCC, UN Agencies, etc.) and information users such as AEs, NDAs, and Direct Access Entities to the GCF, decision-makers, development partners, private investors, regional development banks, non-governmental and civil society organizations. A total of 40 participants, including WMO staff and technical facilitators, are expected to be in attendance in person.

Programme

The Forum will take place over three days and be structured around:

1. **Day 1** will focus on exploring user requirements and perspectives on obtaining and integrating climate change and vulnerability information as well as principles and experiences for co-producing climate science information and services.
2. **Day 2** (morning session) will discuss challenges and solutions for co-production of climate science information and services, concluding with recommendations and the next steps to overcome challenges and gaps in climate science information and services co-production. This session will be followed by a technical discussion (afternoon session) to brainstorm about a structure and criteria for the classification of knowledge sources with respect to different user needs and profiles that can be accessed through a potential online web portal, the Climate Science Information Gateway.
3. **Day 3** (morning session) will conclude with a final segment to summarize results and provide recommendations from the various sessions as well as propose the next steps following the forum.

Expected outputs

The Forum is expected to generate agreement upon and facilitate the development of the following outputs:

1. *A position paper to inform the IPCC Assessment Report (AR) VII* - To define the areas of the increasing engagement between IPCC experts, mainly from WG1 and WG2, and the WMO-GCF Climate Science Information for Climate Action initiative to facilitate the capacity of the global community to access, synthesize, and incorporate relevant climate science information into climate action.
2. *Practitioner guidance for knowledge distillation* - To further develop the existing overarching and sector-specific matrices developed by WMO and FAO in 2023 by refining the criteria for the classification of tools and platforms. The overarching matrix developed can be enhanced by adding information related to i) Types of data and datasets; ii) Indication of level confidence and criteria to assess robustness (including for observation-based data) of data and information provided; iii) Typology of users; iv) User applications. The overarching and sector-specific matrices would be complemented with *practitioner guidance* that provides: i) a definition and description of tools, portals, platforms, data hubs, computing platforms (which contain functions/arguments to compute specific indices) etc. and all components that will feature in the matrices and ultimately in the gateway; ii) a description of typology of users and their needs and requirements; iii) criteria to define the robustness of data (this can be based on IPCC or it could be also part of the IPCC ARVII review process by itself); iv) propose a decision-tree and criteria on how to assemble and sequence different sources and types of information generated by the

tools²; v) present some case studies from project-based experiences (e.g. user community).

3. *Contributor structure for the Climate Science Information Gateway* – A work plan to identify and share the tasks into achievable components with clear roles and responsibilities among partners to develop the Gateway and its technical supporting materials, including ongoing maintenance (see point 2 - matrices, practitioner guidance and user cases).
4. *Academic paper on data gaps* – To finalize the concept and structure of a paper that provides authoritative advice on reliable and universally agreed methods for bridging the gaps in climate data for developing the Climate Science Basis for Climate Action and identify/recommend criteria for the prioritization of auxiliary data sources (reanalysis, gridded data, remotely sensed data (ex. satellite data or images), etc.). The paper will build on the existing work undertaken by the WMO Expert Team on Data Requirements for Climate Services (ET-DRC) and summarize lessons learned and challenges identified through case studies from countries with poor or non-existing historical data records, such as LDCs or SIDSs; introduce generalized options to offer provisional solutions to overcome climate data gaps and their pros and cons and list and exemplify available resources.

² Appropriate tools can be recommended at different stages of the project design process. This may help users who feel swamped by the number of tools available. For example, when proposals are being developed and the user is at the stage of describing historical climate, then depending on the project type (e.g., agricultural, hydrological etc.) specific tools can be recommended to the user, e.g., CAVA, Climpact and so forth.

Draft agenda (04/09/2023)

Ref.: 19622/2023-1.3 S/CS

Day 1 Tuesday, 10 October (08:45-17:00 CEST) Understanding the climate risk context of climate actions		
Time	Topic	Proposed Speaker <u>(to be discussed and agreed)</u>
08:45 – 09:00	Registration Registration for in-person participants	Facilitated by NCM support staff
Session 1 09:00 – 10:00	Welcoming and opening remarks 1.1 Welcoming 1.2 High-level remarks 1.3 House-keeping announcements 1.4 Group photo	Facilitator – NCM Master of Ceremony Opening remarks by Chris Hewitt (Director, WMO) Opening remarks by NCM PR/WMO P COP28 Presidency representative (UAE) (TBC) Opening remarks by Kevin Horsburgh (Lead Scientist, GCF)
Session 2 10:00 – 11:00	Introduction and objectives 2.1 Introduction and objectives of the Second Global Forum and expected outcomes: 2.2 AR VII position paper 2.3 Practitioner guidance for knowledge distillation 2.4 Contributor Structure for the Gateway 2.5 Paper on data gaps	Moderator – Zelina Zaiton (UoP/IPCC) Ilaria Gallo (WMO) Richard Jones (UK Met Office/IPCC) Kevin Horsburgh (GCF) Denis Stuber (Meteo France/ET-DRC)
11:00 – 11:30 - Health break		
Session 3 11:30 – 12:30	User requirements on climate change and vulnerability information 3.1 User needs and requirements on obtaining and integrating climate change and vulnerability information	Moderator – Zelina Zaiton (UoP/IPCC) Chris Hewitt (WMO) Jorge Alvar-Beltran or Lev Neretin (FAO) Mark Tadross (UNDP) Gabriel Kpaka (UNFCCC/LEG)



		Bruce Hewitson (UoCT)
12:30 – 13:30 – Lunch break		
Session 4 13:30 – 14:30	Co-producing climate science information and services 4.1 Introduction 4.2 Principles for co-production 4.3 Examples of “how to”	Presentations moderated by Ilaria Gallo (WMO) Richard Jones (UK Met Office/IPCC) Zelina Zaiton (University of Putra/IPCC)
Session 5 14:30 – 15:30	Experiences and solutions for co-production from user communities 5.1 National decision-making: Indonesia and Zambia 5.2 Municipalities (Energy, Urban, Health) 5.3 Youth (Education)	Panel discussion moderated by Zelina Zaiton (UoP/IPCC) Ardhasena Sopaheluwakan (BMKG) Ntazi Sinyangwe (Zambia NDA) UAE municipality (TBD with NCM) Adriana Valenzuela /Youth delegate (GCA)
15:30 – 16:00 – Health break		
Session 5 (cont.) 16:00 – 16:50	Experiences and solutions for co-production 5.4 NGOs/CSOs (e.g. women, farmers) 5.5 Indigenous people 5.6 Private sector (UAE/Transport/Energy/Water)	Panel discussion moderated by Zelina Zaiton (UoP/IPCC) TBD TBD with GCF Advisory Group and SC-AGR TBD with NCM
Session 6 16:50 – 17:00	Concluding remarks for Day 1	Chris Hewitt (WMO)
End of Day 1		

Day 2 Wednesday, 11 October (09:00-17:00 CEST) Experiences and solutions for the co-production of climate science information and services		
Time	Topic	Speaker
Session 7 09:00 – 09:05	Overview of Day 2	Moderator – Roshni Dave (WMO)
Session 8 09:05 – 10:30	Challenges, barriers and solutions for using climate science information	Panel discussion facilitated by: Richard Jones (UK Met Office/IPCC) Zelina Zaiton (UoP/IPCC)



Session 9 10:30– 11:00	Next steps on co-production	Brainstorm session facilitated by: Richard Jones (UK Met Office/IPCC) Zelina Zaiton (UoP/IPCC) Berit Arheimer (SMHI)
11:00 – 11:30 - Health break		
Session 10 11:30 – 12:00	Final recommendations and closing remarks	Moderator – Zelina Zaiton (UoP/IPCC) Chris Hewitt (WMO) Kevin Horsburgh (GCF)
12:00 – 13:15 – Lunch break		
Session 11 13:15 - 13:30	Introduction to the Climate Science Information Gateway 11.1 Structure and purpose of the Climate Science Information Gateway	Moderator – Carlo Buontempo (C3S) Kevin Horsburgh (GCF)
Session 12 13:30 - 14:30	Classification of knowledge sources 12.1 What contents are already available (<i>types, roles and validation</i>)? WMO and FAO matrices 12.2 Approaches to combining climatic and non-climatic information (including socio-economic data) for climate action (additional criteria for classification)	Panel discussion moderated by Kevin Horsburgh (GCF) Jorge Alvar-Beltran or Lev Neretin (FAO) Nick Herold (UNSW) Carlo Buontempo (C3S) Delegate from user communities
Session 13 14:30 – 15:30	The Climate Science Information Gateway contents and structure - Demonstration 13.1 What else should go in it? What does not do in it? 13.2 What the practitioner guidance should contain?	Group discussion facilitated by: Kevin Horsburgh (GCF)
15:30 – 16:00 - Health break		



Session 14 16:00 – 16:45	Next steps for the Climate Science Information Gateway 14.1 Work plan, roles and timelines	Brainstorm session facilitated by: Kevin Horsburgh (GCF)
Session 15 16:45 – 17:00	Closing remarks for Day 2	Chris Hewitt (WMO)
End of Day 2		

Day 3 Thursday, 11 October (09:00-12:45 CEST)		
Summary reporting and final recommendations		
Time	Topic	Speaker
Session 16 09:00 – 09:05	Overview of Day 3	Moderator – Ilaria Gallo (WMO)
Session 17 09:05 – 09:45	Next steps for the Climate Science Information Gateway Continued from Day 2 (if necessary)	Brainstorm session facilitated by: Kevin Horsburgh (GCF)
Session 18 09:45 – 10:30	Way forward 18.1 Review the list of actions from the Forum 18.2 Next steps on outputs 18.3 AOB	Moderator – Roshni Dave (WMO) Kevin Horsburgh (GCF) Zelina Zaiton (UoP/IPCC)
Session 19 10:30 – 10:45	Closing remarks	Amir Delju (WMO remotely) Kevin Horsburgh (GCF) NCM PR (TBC) COP-28 Presidency Delegate (TBC)
Health break – 10:45-11:15		
Session 20 11:15 – 12:45	Visit to NCM	NCM
12:45– 13:45 – Lunch break		
End of the Forum		

Proposed List of Participants (04/09/2023) – To be confirmed

Ref.: 19622/2023-13 S/CS

List of Participants				
In-person				
N°	Organization	Name/SURNAME	Contact	Area of expertise
1.	WMO Secretariat	Chris Hewitt	chewitt@wmo.int	Climate science, GFCS
2.		Ilaria Gallo	igallo@wmo.int	Climate science information
3.		Roshni Dave	rdave@wmo.int	Climate science information
4.	WMO Regional Office for Arab Region	Hesham Abdelghany Moussa	habelghany@wmo.int	Regional Representative for Arab Region
5.	GCF	Kevin Horsburgh	khorsburgh@gcfund.org	Climate science information
6.		Stephen Seres	sseres@gcfund.org	
7.		Samuel Partey	spartey@gcfund.org	
8.		Krishna Krishnamurthy	kkrishnamurthy@gcfund.org	
9.	SMHI	Berit Arheimer	Berit.Arheimer@smhi.se	User requirements
10.	UNSW/Climpact Team	Nicholas Herold	heroldn@mailbox.org	Climpact/Climdex
11.	ECMWF	Carlo Buontempo	Carlo.Buontempo@ecmwf.int	Copernicus Climate Change Service
12.	Meteo France/SC-CLI/ET-DRC	Denis Stuber	denis.stuber@meteo.fr	Data gaps
13.	SC-CLI	Renzo Taddei	renzo.taddei@unifesp.br	Social scientist
14.	SC-AGRI - Task Team on Indigenous and Local Knowledge and Weather and Climate Services	TBD		Local Knowledge and Weather and Climate Services
15.	GCF Advisory Board on Indigenous Knowledge	TBD		Local Knowledge and Weather and Climate Services
16.	IRENA	TBD		

17.	University of Cape Town	Bruce Hewitson	hewitson@csag.uct.ac.za	Research Chair in Climate Change Climate System Analysis Group
18.	UK Met Office/IPCC	Richard Jones	richard.jones@metoffice.gov.uk	WGI
19.	University Putra/IPCC	Zelina Zaiton Ibrahim	zelinazi@gmail.com	WGII
20.	UNDP	Mark Tadross	mark.tadross@undp.org	
21.	WEMC	Alberto Troccoli	alberto.troccoli@wemcouncil.org	
22.	FAO	Lev Neretin/Jorge Alvar-Beltran	lev.neretin@fao.org jorge.alvarbeltran@fao.org	
23.	UNFCCC	Motsomi Malejane	mmaletjane@unfccc.int	Team Lead
24.	UNFCCC LEG	Gabriel Kpaka	gabrielkpaka@gmail.com	LEG Chair OK
25.	UNEP	Jochem Zoetelief	jochem.zoetelief@un.org	Climate Services and Capacity Building Unit, Early Warning and Assessment
26.	Climate Finance Expert	Urvaksh Patel	urvaksh.patel@gmail.com	
27.	GWP	Rene Schieritz	rene.schieritz@gwpsaf.org	Water
28.	USAID	Laurie Ashley		Climate Adaptation and Resilience Advisor, Center for Resilience · USAID
29.	WB/CCKP	TBC		
30.	AF	Saliha Dobardzic	sdobardzic@adaptation-fund.org	Senior Climate Change Specialist
31.	Indonesia	Ardhasena Sopaheluwakan	ardhasena@gmail.com	GFCS/UiP
32.	Zambia	Ntazi Sinyangwe	ntazi.sinyangwe@ndazambia.gov.zm	NDA
33.	(Oman)	TBD		
34.	(Qatar)	TBD		
35.	(Bahrain)	TBD		
36.	Media (UAE)	TBD		

37.	Private sector (UAE)	TBD		
38.	Municipality (UAE)	TBD		User needs and perspectives, solutions
39.	GCA/Youth	Adriana Valenzuela		User needs and perspectives, solutions
40.	Youth Delegate	TBC		User needs and perspectives, solutions
41.	Women <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • African Women's Development and Communication Network • Support for Women in Agriculture and Environment • Women Environmental Programme • WIDO 	TBD with FAO		User needs and perspectives, solutions
42.	Indigenous people <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inuit Circumpolar Conference • Center for Indigenous Peoples' Research and Development • Indigenous Information Network 	TBD with FAO		User needs and perspectives, solutions