



# **WMO Technical Conference on Climate Services – Building on CLIPS Legacy**

in conjunction with the  
Sixteenth Session of the Commission for Climatology and  
the thirty-fifth Meeting of the Joint Scientific Committee of  
the World Climate Research Programme

**30 June – 2 July 2014, Heidelberg, Germany**

[www.wmo.int/clipsconf-2014](http://www.wmo.int/clipsconf-2014)



**World  
Meteorological  
Organization**

Weather · Climate · Water



## BACKGROUND AND GOALS

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The Climate Information and Prediction Services (CLIPS) project was established by the World Meteorological Congress at its Twelfth Session in 1995, recognizing the need for an integrated approach to climate services. The mission of CLIPS was defined as follows: “to provide the best possible climate information, including expectations of future conditions, to improve economic and social decisions that will reduce risks and improve economic vitality as well as quality of life.” Over the past couple of decades, CLIPS has been striving to help exploit the existing databases for increasing our climate knowledge and improving the prediction capabilities, and to develop the capacities of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) for the delivery of climate information to meet the needs of their users.

The Climate Information and Prediction Services have been instrumental in the development of the concept of Regional Climate Centers (RCCs) and their formal establishment around the world. They have also played a key role in the development of Regional Climate Outlook Fora (RCOF) as effective platforms for generating consensus-based seasonal climate outlooks at the regional scale. Such efforts by the WMO Commission for Climatology (CCI), in coordination with NMHSs, the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) and other relevant bodies, have enabled systematic production of operational climate information at global and regional levels. These initiatives together with the CLIPS training workshops have helped build capacities for climate services. The achievements of CLIPS significantly contributed to the formulation of the WMO-led Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) to better manage the risks and opportunities arising from climate variability and change.

This technical conference, organized on the eve of the sixteenth session of the Commission for Climatology and the thirty-fifth annual meeting of the Joint Scientific Committee (JSC) of WCRP, is therefore devoted to reviewing CLIPS activities and determining its legacy, as well as considering the relevant research and operational aspects to provide guidance for future CCI/WCRP activities and their joint contributions to GFCS.

## THEME

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Under the banner *Climate Services – Building on CLIPS Legacy*, the conference will address the following thematic threads:

- Evolution and achievements of CLIPS – Facilitating standards and consistency in the preparation of seasonal outlooks through RCCs and RCOF
- Importance of the systematic collection and archiving of climate data for reliable climate services
- Improvements needed to better monitor the climate and to provide outlook products for climate information services at global, regional and national levels
- Research challenges for improving climate predictions at the regional scale

## SESSIONS

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The conference sessions will be spread over the three days, concluding with the CCI/WCRP joint session. The tentative outline of the sessions is as follows:

### **DAY 1: 30 JUNE 2014 - EVOLUTION AND LEGACY OF CLIPS**

- CLIPS achievements
- Global climate information
- Panel discussion: Enriching climate information at Regional and National Climate Outlook Fora – Improving dialogue between operational, research and stakeholder communities and initiatives focused on linkages with Climate Outlook Fora

### **DAY 2: 01 JULY 2014 - OPERATIONAL CLIMATE SERVICES – TOWARDS GFCS**

- Climate data and monitoring systems (including data rescue)
- Putting together a climate service toolkit
- Building user interface for effective use of climate information
- Panel discussion: Transitioning CLIPS into GFCS – Creating information systems for climate services

### **DAY 3: 02 JULY 2014 - NEW RESEARCH AND OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES AND PERSPECTIVES (JOINT CCL/WCRP SESSION)**

- Research contributions to operational climate information and services: Focus on sub-seasonal to seasonal prediction
- Beyond interannual predictions: Decade and century climate predictions/projections
- Regional climate information: Challenges of downscaling (including COordinated Regional climate Downscaling EXperiment (CORDEX))
- Limits to predictability and communication of uncertainty, using uncertain information in climate risk management
- Panel discussion: Recommendations on research gaps and operational requirements – Joint CCI-JSC statement

## EXPECTED OUTCOMES

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- Improved linkages between climate researchers and operational climate service providers
- Lessons learned from CLIPS and their relevance for implementing GFCS at regional and national levels
- Research agenda for addressing the gaps in the provision of climate information
- Proposals for effective user engagement to optimally exploit the benefits of climate information and services

## PARTICIPATION

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The technical conference will consist of oral presentations on key topics by invited speakers and poster presentations of papers selected from among the submitted abstracts. Poster presenters shall also have an opportunity to make short oral (five-minute, quick-fire) presentations. Early career scientists and students will have the priority for poster and short oral presentations. They may also obtain travel support if coming from developing countries (subject to availability of funds).

## CALL FOR REGISTRATION AND ABSTRACTS

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Participants will be able to register and submit their abstract on the conference webpage [www.wmo.int/clipsconf-2014](http://www.wmo.int/clipsconf-2014). Deadline for abstract submission is **31<sup>st</sup> March 2014**. Both invited speakers and poster contributors will need to submit abstracts of their proposed presentations. No registration fee is required. Full papers based on both oral and poster presentations will be considered for publication, through a peer review process, in a suitable international scientific journal.

## SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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Mr Rodney Martinez, CIIFEN (Chair)

Mr Jean-Pierre Ceron, France

Dr Clare Goodess, UK

Dr. Agnes Kijazi, Tanzania

Prof Fred Semazzi, USA

Ms Barbara Tapia, Chile

Prof Manola Brunet, Spain

Dr Filippo Giorgi, Italy

Dr Andre Kamga, ACMAD

Mr Stefan Rösner, Germany

Dr G. Srinivasan, India

Dr William Wright, Australia

## ORGANIZERS

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World Meteorological Organization (WMO): [www.wmo.int](http://www.wmo.int)

World Climate Research Programme (WCRP): [www.wcrp-climate.org](http://www.wcrp-climate.org)

Deutscher Wetterdienst (DWD): [www.dwd.de](http://www.dwd.de)

## CONTACTS

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### Dr Rupa Kumar Kolli

Officer in charge,

Climate Prediction and Adaptation

Climate and Water Department

WMO

1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland

Tel: +41 22 730 83 77

[rkolli@wmo.int](mailto:rkolli@wmo.int)

### Ms Valery Detemmerman

Acting Director

WCRP Joint Planning Office

Research Department

c/o WMO

1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland

Tel: +41 22 730 82 42

[vdetemmerman@wmo.int](mailto:vdetemmerman@wmo.int)

### Mr Detlev Frömming

Office of the President

Deutscher Wetterdienst

Frankfurter Straße 135

63067 Offenbach

Germany

Tel: +49 69 8062 4305

[detlev.froemming@dwd.de](mailto:detlev.froemming@dwd.de)