



COP17/CMP7
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Global Framework for Climate Services

UN system-wide response to climate change

Under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General, the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) brings together 29 UN system organizations to jointly support Member States in meeting global challenges.

In 2007, CEB adopted the Climate Change Action Framework, a joint action-oriented approach in line with the decisions of the UNFCCC Parties. The UN system supports Member States in implementing their commitments and in responding to emerging challenges.

At COP 17/CMP 7, the UN system is presenting its ongoing work and practical solutions and tools at side events and exhibits and through this joint package of thematic information.

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 CEB Website: www.unsceb.org/ceb/priorities/climate-change/

The United Nations system is responding to society's pressing needs for practical information to anticipate the increasing impacts of climate on people's life.

The Sixteenth World Meteorological Congress (Geneva, May-June 2011) set in motion the process for the development of the Global Framework for Climate Service (GFCS), a joint United Nations system initiative led by the World Meteorological Organization.

Through the Framework, a set of international arrangements will coordinate global activities and build on existing efforts in order to provide climate services that are focused on meeting the requirements of all those who need them and provide the greatest benefits possible from knowledge about climate.

The Framework aims to:

- Help countries and communities adapt to climate change;
- Target vulnerable people who have no access to climate services and need them most to manage climate risk and maximize climate opportunities, with particular attention to people in Least Developed Countries, Small Island Developing States, Land Locked Developing Countries and other vulnerable developing countries;
- Provide understandable, accessible and usable climate information to support decision-making at all levels, and build capacity to provide and use this information;
- Translate scientific advances into tools for action on the ground by downscaling global knowledge to fit local needs.

Initial priorities for the implementation of the Framework will focus on facilitating access to improved climate services in four key areas: **agriculture and food security, water, health and disaster risk reduction.**

Over the long-term all climate-sensitive sectors will be covered, providing a basis for all countries and individuals to benefit from the implementation of the Global Framework for Climate Services.

United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination Climate Change Action Framework

Focus (left) and Cross-Cutting Areas (right) have been identified in pursuance of the broader mandates and capacities in the UN system (with corresponding convening agencies) to ensure better coordination and cooperation for concrete deliverables:

Adaptation
 Technology transfer
 Forestry and Agriculture
 Financing mitigation and adaptation action
 Capacity-building

Climate knowledge; science, assessment, monitoring and early warning
 Supporting global, regional and national action
 Public awareness-raising
 Social Dimensions of Climate Change

Global Framework for Climate Services

Objective

The goal of the Global Framework for Climate Services is to enable better management of the risks of climate variability and change and adaptation to climate change at all levels, through development and incorporation of science-based climate information and prediction into planning, policy and practice. In particular, the Framework will support and promote climate change adaptation measures, many of which will require climate services that are not currently available.

Activities

The Framework will focus on efforts to strengthen five components needed to support the production, availability, delivery and application of climate services, as follows:

User Interface Platform, a mechanism through which users and providers of climate services will interact to understand each other's needs and improve the effectiveness of the Framework and its climate services;

Climate Services Information System, a system to protect and distribute climate data and information according to the needs of users and to agreed standards;

Observations and monitoring systems that will collect data to meet service provision needs and develop agreements and standards for generating necessary climate data;

Research, modeling and prediction mechanisms that will harness science capabilities and results to improve climate services;

Capacity building activities to support the systematic development of the institutions, infrastructure and human resources needed for effective climate services.

Benefits

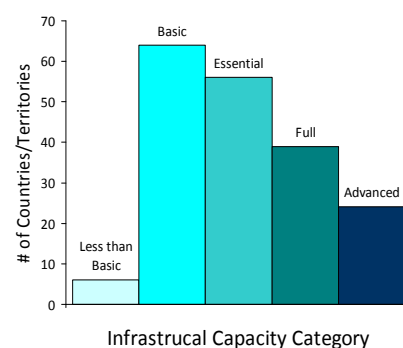
All countries and people around the world stand to benefit from the implementation of the Global Framework for Climate Services through availability of user focused climate services for risk management.

Seventy countries without climate service capabilities, mostly Least Developed Countries, Small Island Developing States, Land Locked Developing Countries and other vulnerable developing countries will be able to **develop basic capabilities** for the production and application of **climate services by 2020**.

The success of the Framework is critically dependent on the level of engagement of all stakeholders in a transparent and holistic manner.

Moving forward

The implementation plan and the governance mechanism of the Framework are under development, involving consultations engaging a broad range of stakeholders including governments, UN system and other international agencies and specific communities of practitioners and experts. Consultations facilitate discussions of key issues related to the production, availability, delivery and application of climate services in the four key areas (agriculture and food security, water, health and disaster risk reduction) so that the implementation plan of the Framework is a true reflection of the aspirations of stakeholders. An open review process of the draft implementation plan and governance of the Framework is planned for March and July 2012. **WMO Congress** will convene its **Extraordinary Session** in October 2012 to approve the draft implementation plan and establish the governance mechanism of the Framework.



Capacities of countries to provide climate services (WMO, 2010)

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