



Asia Regional Resilience to a Changing Climate (ARRCC) Met Office Partnership newsletter

March 2022



Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of our ARRCC Met Office Partnership newsletter. This edition covers the period from December 2021 to March 2022, highlighting some of our key activities and events during this time. We hope you will find the articles informative.

If you have been forwarded this email and would like to receive ARRCC newsletters direct in future, please [email us](#) with your details and consent.

The Met Office ARRCC team

**[Impact-based forecasting \(IBF\) -
work package 1](#)**

[RCCC Podcast](#)



The Red Cross Climate Centre (RCCC) has developed a podcast as part of Work Package 1 including contributions from Badan Meteorologi Klimatologi dan Geofisika Indonesia (BMKG) and the South African Weather Service (SAWS) which developed IBF services under the Weather and Climate Science for Service Partnership (WCSSP) programme, supported by the UK Government's Newton Fund. This is part of the 'Can't take the heat' series of podcasts.

Listen to the podcast [here](#).

PMD stakeholder workshop



The Met Office led a stakeholder workshop for the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) from 23 to 25 February entitled 'Impact Based Forecasting & Forecast Uncertainty Training for PMD Stakeholders'. The aim of the workshop was to improve awareness, knowledge and understanding of the aims and objectives of an impact-based forecasting approach to early warning systems, with a view to implementation of an IBF pilot system for rain fed crops in Pakistan.

The event, with logistical support from ICIMOD, was hybrid with 40 stakeholders and 10 PMD staff gathering in a hotel in Islamabad with the Met Office joining remotely. PMD staff helped facilitate the event and delivered some sessions and also translated English sessions into the local language.

PMD are now using the outputs of the workshop to design the IBF pilot (which will be focused on agriculture) product and service which will be launched in two districts of Pakistan in April.

Strengthening Climate Information Partnerships South Asia (SCIPSA) - work package 2

Activities coming up:

During April the SCIPSA team have some upcoming events and engagements:

- The Met Office and RIMES will be co-leading a two part regional training workshop in April, entitled 'Regional Training on Seasonal Prediction to Operational Services in South Asia'. This workshop will cover foundational concepts of seasonal prediction, as well as provide participants with hands-on tutorials using dedicated seasonal prediction software (such as IRI's Climate Predictability Tool or CPT).
- SASCOF-22 is currently planned as a fully virtual engagement from 26-28 April

Climate Analysis for Risk Information & Services in South Asia (CARISSA) - work package 3

Training on “Spatial and temporal climate change analysis using CORDEX regional climate models over Bangladesh”

As part of ongoing institutional capacity building, and following a similar successful training event for the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM) in Nepal in June 2021, ICIMOD held an in-person training event on using CORDEX regional climate models for ten staff from the Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD) and three staff from the Institute for Water Modelling (IWM) in Dhaka in March 2022. The five-day training built underpinning knowledge and skills for analysing climate change projections using CORDEX regional climate model simulations.



ICIMOD led the interactive training, with contributions from the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology-Pune, the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology and the Met Office. The training event was very successful. On the final day, groups showcased skills they had learned, presenting work done during the workshop. The training has been particularly helpful to BMD as they develop their capabilities for providing national climate projections for Bangladesh.

Regional training on “Utilising climate science and services in policy and decision-making”



In partnership with BMD, DHM and the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), the Met Office facilitated an online training workshop aimed at a broad audience of users of climate information in ARCC focus countries and across South Asia. The March 2022 event was attended by over 60 people with many more registered to receive the recorded sessions which will be made available online soon. The interactive training helped participants to understand the strengths and limitations of long-term climate information, learn what information is available and how to access it (at regional and national levels), discuss challenges and solutions to using climate change information, and understand the role of co-produced climate services. It featured explanatory presentations, an introduction and hands-on exercises on the IPCC AR6 Interactive Atlas, as well as break out group discussions. Feedback received from the training showed it was very well received, though also demonstrated the need for more detailed training in future – particularly on using climate information in specific sectoral applications.

The ARCC programme

The UK aid-funded ARCC programme is being led by the Met Office and the World Bank and aims to strengthen weather forecasting systems across Asia. The programme is delivering new technologies and innovative approaches to help vulnerable communities use weather warnings and forecasts to better prepare for climate-related shocks.

Asia is highly vulnerable to natural disasters and this vulnerability is expected to increase. The ARCC Met Office Partnership (MOP) programme is targeting the most vulnerable countries in the region, primarily Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal and Afghanistan, and will support:

1. enhancing regional collaboration and capability for provision of weather and climate services;
2. development of regional and sub-regional forecasting and early warning systems;
3. improving capacity in focus countries to develop and disseminate impact based forecasting (across multiple timescales) to climate sensitive sectors and vulnerable communities;
4. development of new technologies to deliver climate information to vulnerable groups; and
5. the mobilisation of additional resources for building climate and environmental resilience.

The Met Office is working closely with a number of key partner organisations in the region to support delivery of ARCC, including:

- UN bodies such as the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP);
- existing regionally mandated organisations involved in development of weather and climate services, including the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) and Regional

Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (RIMES) and research organisations such as the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT);

- NGOs such as the Red Cross Climate Centre (RCCC); and
- National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS) and related agencies with responsibility for disaster risk management.

Find out more on the [ARRCC Met Office Partnership webpages](#).

Meet the Met Office ARRCC team



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