

Second Announcement

Southern Africa


Regional Climate Services Workshop

Towards Exploiting the Full Potential of Climate Services

29 November - 2 December 2016, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe



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 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology MeteoSwiss
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC



Programme and Outcome

This three-day workshop explores possibilities to enhance the availability and quality of climate services by addressing the entire value chain from supply to demand of climate services and the benefit of regional cooperation.



Programme

The workshop begins with a High-Level Opening followed by key-note speeches focussing on the impact of climate science for southern Africa and reiterating the concept of climate services. The main body of the workshop consists of four half-day sessions including presentations, panel discussions and breakout groups. The first session gives an overview on the implementation status of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and underscores the fundamental role of high-quality observations for climate services. Session 2 serves users from the priority areas Agriculture and Food Security (AFS) and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) to outline their needs for climate services and to demonstrate potential benefits for decision-making processes. Session 3 enables selected providers of climate services from the SADC region to illuminate climate services in the same priority areas from their perspective and to showcase best practices. In Session 4, user-provider dialogues in the form of breakout groups allow to discuss the entire value chain from supply to demand of climate services. Ultimately, the workshop draws conclusions, formulates recommendations and outlines opportunities for partnerships. A field visit complements the workshop by providing a practical context of the application of climate services.

Participants

Invitations have been sent to the representatives of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) of all SADC members. Local and regional climate services users from the selected priority areas are invited, as well as experts from academia and further relevant stakeholders. The workshop is jointly organized by the Swiss Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology MeteoSwiss, the GFCS Office at WMO, the Meteorological Services Department (MSD) of Zimbabwe and the Deutscher Wetterdienst (Germany's National Meteorological Service).

Outcome

Considering the current capacities of the NMHSs in the region, the workshop aims at identifying gaps between existing and required climate services with focus on AFS and DRR. Recommendations are formulated on how to build upon the good progress made in recent years, in order to exploit the full potential of climate information for the selected priority areas. Overall, the workshop contributes to further consolidate southern African climate service capacities, and thereby supports the implementation of the GFCS in the region.



Schedule

Venue: Elephant Hills Resort, Victoria Falls

Date: 29 November - 2 December 2016

Conference Language: English

Updated Information available at www.meteoswiss.ch/catcos/workshop

Time	Tuesday 29 November	Wednesday 30 November	Thursday 1 December
09:00 - 12:30	08:00 - 09:00 Registration High-Level Opening Scene Setting: Climate Science and its Regional Impact	Users Perspective: Climate Services for AFS and DRR Co-Chairs: K. Fara (WFP) to be defined ②	Sector-specific User-Provider Dialogue Co-Chairs: L. Makuleni* (SAWS) to be defined ④
14:00 - 17:00	Observational Data Capacities for Climate Services Co-Chairs: F. Lúcio (WMO) J. Helmschrot* (SASSCAL) ①	Providers Perspective: Climate Services for AFS and DRR Co-Chairs: A. Makarau* (President RA I) B. Nyenzi (SADC CSC) ③	Conclusions and Recommendations Chair: F. Lúcio (WMO) Closure

* to be confirmed

Field Visit

Friday 2 December

A field visit showcases applied examples of the dialogue between users and providers of climate services. The number of participants is limited. More information will be provided during the workshop.

Registration and Organization

Participants are invited to register for the workshop until 21 October 2016. The indicated catering is included during the workshop days. Costs for accommodation are at own charge.



Registration

**New Deadline
28 October 2016**

How to Register

Online registration opens on 10 October 2016 via the workshop website and closes on 21 October 2016.

www.meteoswiss.ch/catcos/workshop

No registration fees.

Hotel Booking

After completing the online registration, please contact the hotel directly to book your accommodation. Rooms with a special workshop discount are available at the Elephant Hills Resort for registered participants. To benefit from this discount, please indicate the codeword „GFCS16“ in the email title upon your hotel reservation.

Logistics

Registration and Welcome Coffee

Tuesday, 29 November 2016, 08:00 - 09:00

Welcome Desk

Ice-Breaker

Tuesday evening, 29 November 2016

Elephant Hills Resort

Conference Dinner

Wednesday evening, 30 November 2016

Elephant Hills Resort

Catering

During the workshop days, mid-morning and mid-afternoon coffee breaks, as well as lunch breaks, the Ice-Breaker and the Conference Dinner are included.

Transport from/to the airport

The transport from/to the airport will be arranged by MSD. Alternatively, the rate charged by taxis is about 30 USD, whereas the transfer by shuttle costs approximately 15 USD.



Hotel Overview

Rooms have been blocked in the Elephant Hills Resort from 28 November - 3 December 2016 for the registered participants of the Regional Climate Services Workshop. To benefit from the discount, please indicate the codeword „GFCS16“ in the email title upon your hotel reservation. Costs for accommodation are at own charge.

**** Hotel Elephant Hills Resort

Address: Park Way Drive, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Tel: +263 13 44793-9

Email: ezemba@legacyafricahotels.com

Website: <http://www.elephanthillsresort.com/>

Room Category

Single Room: 105 USD/night

Procedure

After completing the workshop registration on the website www.meteoswiss.ch/catcos/workshop, please contact the hotel directly to book your accommodation. To benefit from the discount, please indicate the codeword „GFCS16“ in the email title upon your hotel reservation addressed to ezemba@legacyafricahotels.com.

Rooms

All rooms are air-conditioned with Satellite TV, minibar, safety deposit box, tea & coffee making station and en-suite bathrooms.

Location

The hotel is situated on a small hill overlooking the Zambezi River, 4 km upstream from the Victoria Falls.

Terms of payment

Hotel payment and cancellation policies apply.



General Information



Travel

International Airport

The international Victoria Falls Airport (VFA) is located 20 km (20 minutes) south of the town of Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.

Visa

Zimbabwe's visa regime is classified in three categories: Category A: No Visa required to enter Zimbabwe (incl. all SADC countries). Category B: Visa on entry in Zimbabwe. Category C: Visa before arrival in Zimbabwe. Please check the visa requirements at the Zimbabwe consulate or embassy responsible for your country or visit www.evisa.gov.zw.

Vaccinations

Visitors coming to Zimbabwe from infected areas are requested to possess vaccination certificates against cholera and yellow fever.

Insurance

You are strongly advised to organise your own personal travel and medical insurance. No responsibility for any incident arising during the conference can be accepted by the organisers.

Country

Currency

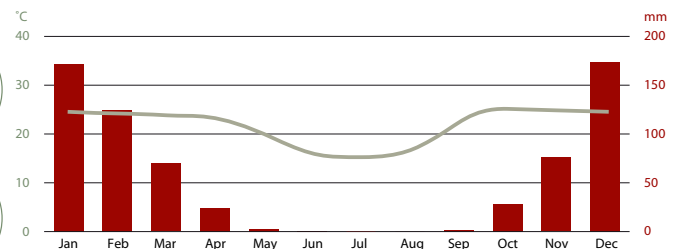
The U.S. dollar and South African rand are the main means of cash payment for all goods and services. The use of credit cards outside of larger hotels is almost non-existent. Bring cash in small notes with you.

Security

Zimbabwean cities are generally safe, but theft and fraud can happen, especially at night. Keep your valuable items locked in your hotel and consider taking licensed taxis if venturing out late. Photographing any objects considered as sensitive like infrastructure and police is prohibited.

November Climate in Victoria Falls

Highest monthly rainfall: 192.7mm Mean max. temp.: 32.8°C
Mean monthly rainfall: 76.75mm Mean min. temp.: 14.5°C
Lowest monthly rainfall: 6.8mm Mean rel. humidity: 50.4%





Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS)

The workshop is organized in the context of the WMO-led Global Framework for Climate Services

Background

Unprecedented weather and climate-related events have a significant impact on the socio-economic development. In response, the WMO-led Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) was established at the World Climate Conference 3 (WCC-3) in 2009 in Geneva, aiming to enable society to better manage risks and opportunities arising from climate variability and change, especially those who are most vulnerable.

Climate Services in Southern Africa

Climate change increases the demand for climate services by decision makers and other users. Therefore, developing and providing science-based climate information and predictions for planning, policy making and practice is crucial. Fostering systematic observation of climate variables as well as regional cooperation in Southern Africa allows to improve existing climate services and further develop user-tailored climate services.

Southern Africa Regional Climate Services Workshop

To this end, the Southern Africa Regional Climate Services Workshop brings together regional and international climate services experts, regional users, and other stakeholders from two GFCS priority areas AFS and DRR.

For more information on GFCS visit: www.gfcs-climate.org



„The GFCS is an important step toward strengthening the application of climate science in local, regional, national and international decision-making.“

Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary General



Partners

The workshop is jointly organized by the Swiss Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology MeteoSwiss, GFCS Office at WMO, Meteorological Services Department (MSD) of Zimbabwe and Deutscher Wetterdienst (Germany's National Meteorological Service). The workshop takes place in the framework of the CATCOS (Capacity Building and Twinning for Climate Observing Systems) project, which is supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and coordinated by MeteoSwiss.

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