

Second Announcement

Central Asia - GFCS Observation Workshop

Observations for the Global Framework for Climate Services GFCS

08 - 11 September 2015, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan



User-expert dialogue and regional consultation on
observation requirements for climate services
in sectors Health, Water, and Disaster Risk Reduction

Goals and Outcome

Overview: observation requirements for climate services for Central Asia in three user sectors Health, Water, and Disaster Risk Reduction

Identify, prioritize and discuss: opportunities for cross-border collaboration, data management and exchange, as well as innovative observation strategies



A high-level session will open the three-day workshop to underscore the political importance of devising climate services as a prime tool for climate change adaptation strategies. On a practical level, an overview on the regional climate awareness and the role of observations in the region, as well as on the Global Framework for Climate Services will contribute to setting the scene for the workshop.

Programme

The main body of the workshop is structured in four half-day sessions. An initial expert session on 'Innovative Measurement Approaches' will be followed by three user sessions on the GFCS Priority Areas Health, Water, and Disaster Risk Reduction. Each session will be framed by one or more inspiring keynote presentations and a concluding panel discussion to summarize the findings. A final wrap-up session will formulate the main results in form of recommendations, while a field visit to the KyrgyzHydromet measuring site at Cholpon-Ata on Lake Issyk-Kul will complement the event and offer a holistic view on the subjects addressed.

Participants

Invitation to participate goes to the heads of national and regional agencies or their representatives, related to the three user sectors of the Central Asian countries Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan, as well as to senior representatives from international organizations (e.g. WMO, WHO, UNISDR), SDC, and MeteoSwiss. The participants will contribute their excellent overview of climate-related issues in their field of expertise, and so play the key role in identifying and compiling the main observational data gaps which hinder establishing socio-economically beneficial climate services.

Outcome

A short workshop report will be prepared, highlighting the main findings in form of a set of five recommendations for each user sector. These serve to identify and prioritize the most important observation gaps which impede the establishment of climate services in the region. As such, the workshop is seen as a conceptually simple, yet potentially effective tool to further strengthen the GFCS implementation in Central Asia.

Programme

Venue: Park Hotel, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Date: Tuesday - Friday, 08 - 11 September 2015

Conference Language: English, translation service to/from Russian

Updated Information available at www.meteoswiss.ch/gfcsworkshop



Time	Tuesday 08 Sep 2015	Wednesday 09 Sep 2015	Thursday 10 Sep 2015
09:00 - 12:30	Registration and Welcome Coffee High-Level Opening Switzerland, WMO, Kyrgyzstan Setting the Scene: Regional perspective and needs	Role of Observations for Health Co-Chairs: Bettina Menne (WHO), Omor Kasymov (Ministry of Health)	Role of Observations for DRR Co-Chairs: UNISDR/WMO (tbd), Local Co-Chair (tbd)
14:00 - 17:30	Innovative Observation Approaches Co-Chairs: Yves-Alain Roulet (MeteoSwiss), Tatiana Chernikova (KyrgyzHydromet)	Role of Observations for Water Co-Chairs: Thierry Umbehr (SDC), Anna Inozemtseva (CAREC)	Final Wrap-up, Conclusions and Recommendations Chair: Filipe Lúcio (WMO) Closure

Field Visit

Friday, 11 September 2015, 07:30 - 19:30

Visit of the meteorological station Cholpon-Ata on the northern shore of Lake Issyk-Kul, which will be upgraded with new greenhouse gas measurements. Organized transfer by bus, followed by a boat trip. The number of participants is limited. Detailed information will be provided during the workshop.



Registration and Organization

Participants are invited to register for the workshop until 07 August 2015. The indicated catering is included.



Deadline
07 August 2015

How to register

Online registration opens on 20 July 2015 via the workshop website

www.meteoswiss.ch/gfcsworkshop

No registration fees.

Hotel Booking

If you want us to book your accommodation, please make sure to use the indicated form.

Costs for accommodation are at own charge.

Logistics

Registration and Welcome Coffee

Tuesday, 08 September 2015, 08:30 - 10:00

Welcome Desk

Ice Breaker

Tuesday, 08 September 2015, 18:00 - 20:00

Park Hotel

Conference Dinner

Wednesday, 09 September 2015, 19:00 - 22:00

Park Hotel

Pick-up service from/to airport

The Park hotel can organize a pick-up service from/to airport at the following rates:

per car 15\$ (one way / max. 2 person)

per minibus 50\$ (one way / max. 16 person)

Conference Breaks

There will be coffee breaks mid-morning and mid-afternoon for half an hour. Lunch breaks will be held from 12:30 - 14:00. You can indicate your lunch requirements upon registration.

Hotel Overview

For the participants of the GFCS Observation Workshop, different rooms have been blocked in the Park Hotel for 07 - 12 September 2015 at special rates. Please indicate your preferred room category upon registration (costs at own charge).



**** Park Hotel

87, Orozbekov Street
720040, Bishkek
Kyrgyzstan

Tel.: +996 (312) 665 518
hotel@parkhotel.kg
www.parkhotel.kg

Room Categories

Rate per night

Single standard room	117.60 \$
Single superior room	141.60 \$
Twin standard room	133.60 \$
Twin superior room	141.60 \$

Rooms

All rooms are air-conditioned with tv, internet access, minibar, safety deposit box, shower.

Location

In the very centre of Bishkek city, 7 minutes from Ala-Too Square.

Hotel Facilities

Finnish sauna, Turkish hamam, gym and swimming pool (free of charge).

Payment

Upon departure the hotel will charge you the costs for the accommodation. The hotel accepts credit cards.

Hotel Cancellation Conditions

No charge for cancellations received before 20 August 2015. One night will be charged in case of cancellations received later.



General Information



Travel

International Airport

Manas International Airport (Манас эл аралык аэропорту), located 25 kilometres north-northwest of the capital Bishkek. It is a 25 minute drive from the city centre. Most of the international flights depart and arrive at very early hours of the morning. The normal rate charged by the major taxi companies to the city centre is KGS 600.

Visa

Around 60 nationalities can stay for 60 days or longer without a visa, including citizens of most major Western and former Soviet countries.

Insurance

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

Country

Currency

Soms (лв) (1 USD = 62.98 KGS; 1 KGS = 0.02 USD); Banks and licensed moneychanger booths (marked obmen balyot) exchange US dollars

Time Zone

UTC+6

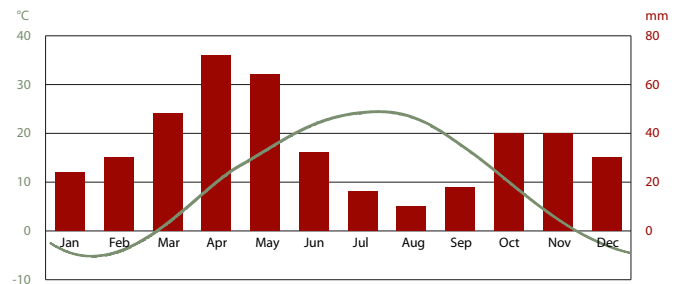
Security

Kyrgyz cities are generally safe but theft can happen, especially at night . Keep valuables locked in your hotel and consider taking taxis if venturing out late.

Electricity

220V/50hz, Type C/F

Climate



Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS)

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



Background

Established at the World Climate Conference 3 (WCC-3) in 2009 in Geneva, the WMO-led Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) aims to enable society to better manage risks and opportunities arising from climate variability and change, especially for those who are most vulnerable to such risks.

The Role of Observations

This is done by developing and incorporating science-based climate information and prediction into planning, policy and practice. Hereby systematic observations of climate variables are the basis for devising user-tailored climate services.

GFCS Observation Workshop

In this context, the Central Asia GFCS Observation Workshop brings together regional stakeholders of the three GFCS priority areas Health, Water, and Disaster Risk Reduction, as well as international experts.

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



"Scientific knowledge must be the basis for global climate policy, both for mitigation and adaptation to inevitable climate impacts"

Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary General



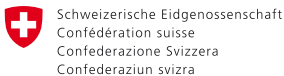
Contact

Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology
MeteoSwiss
Operation Center 1
P.O. Box 257
8058 Zurich-Airport
Switzerland

international.meteoswiss@gmail.com
www.meteoswiss.ch/gfcsworkshop

Partners

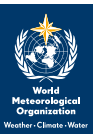
The workshop is organized by MeteoSwiss in close collaboration with the GFCS Secretariat at the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and support of the Central Asian regional Cooperation Offices of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The workshop is funded by SDC and is organized in the framework of the CATCOS project.



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



University of
Zurich^{UZH}



**MORE LOCAL
PARTNERS
TO BE ADDED**