



## CSC – Germany: Lessons learned and the European perspective

Irene Fischer-Brunns, Maria Máñez Costa, Daniela Jacob, and Guy Brasseur  
Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht, Climate Service Center

Building up climate services is not an easy task. There are many formulas to start such an institution. Some of them have particular characteristics and offer insight on how to take an institutional development path that could be appropriate to the needs of climate services users. One example of this is the Climate Service Center (CSC) in Germany. The CSC is a National Knowledge Transfer Center for Climate Change and Adaptation. It is not a research institution, but a center that assembles, integrates and disseminates products and services to users. More precisely, its mission is to facilitate the transfer of state-of-the-art and user-oriented scientific information to society.

CSC's main aim is to bridge the gap between science and the user community of climate services. CSC provides stakeholders in the public and private sectors with practical information on climate change and adaptation. It disseminates high-quality information produced by scientific research and presents it in a customized, easily accessible and immediately usable form. Target groups are decision makers in business, politics and administration. CSC was established in 2009 as part of the Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht, has been supported by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and is embedded in the Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres (HGF) from June 2014 on.

CSC establishes strong partnerships with scientific partners at the national and international level. It also participates in several national and European scientific research projects and is expanding its network by involving partners worldwide. It develops concepts, services and products that facilitate the institutionalization of climate services - also at the international level.

In this presentation we intend to show the lessons learned and the European and international perspective of a national initiative as CSC.