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WMO Commission for Climatology supporting adaptation to climate change and climate variability

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Adaptation to climate variability and climate change should be based on solid science and the best available knowledge about the past, present and future climate. All the components of the WMO Commission for Climatology workplan and activities directly and indirectly provide basic information needed for effective planning for adaptation.

CCl encompasses the following five thematic areas of work: (a) Climate data management; (b) Global and regional climate monitoring and assessment; (c) Climate prediction, projection and delivery mechanisms; (d) User Interface for climate adaptation and risk management; (e) Capacity development. Under each of these 5 areas operates a number of expert and tasks teams, support is provided also from advisers on specific topics. Most of the work is undertaken on a voluntary basis. The structure of the commission is aligned with the structure of the Global Framework for Climate Services.

Commission for climatology is providing guidelines on climatological practices, definitions and tools like climate indices to detect climate change and extremes definitions, trainings on techniques for data homogenization are provided. Also data rescue, climate observational issues, databasis, data quality check and quality management are addressed. Recommendations for infrastructure and institutional capabilities are being discussed. We also work on competencies required for climatologist.

In respect to adaptation to climate change are especially important teams addressing climate prediction, projection and their delivery mechanisms, requirements for Regional Climate Centres; operational predictions from sub-seasonal to longer timescales; global seasonal climate update; Regional Climate Outlook Forums; and tailored climate information. One of expert teams is working on user interface for climate adaptation and risk management, another on climate risk and sector-specific climate indices. We pay due attention to user interface for climate information, and requirements for effective climate risk management.