

National Climate Application Forum

Fall - 2024

27th November, 2024, Islamabad, Pakistan

About CARE for South Asia

Supported by the World Bank, the Climate Adaptation and Resilience (CARE) for South Asia Project aims to contribute to an enabling environment for climate-resilient policies and investments in the region. Component 1, focused on promoting evidence-based climate-smart policies and investments, is implemented by the Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES).

Component 1 involves the development of regional Resilience Data and Analytics Services (RDAS)¹ for the region, and decision-support systems (DSSs)² for selected sectors of agriculture, livestock, water, transport, planning, and disaster risk management in Bangladesh, Nepal, and Pakistan. Component 1 also includes capacity development of users of these systems and their products and supports the South Asia Hydromet Forum (SAHF)³, for a holistic approach to user-centric generation and application of climate information in plans and decisions.

Background

The Climate Application Forum (CAF) is a platform for seasonal climate preparedness planning, with a purview of building the capacity of sectoral stakeholders, over time, in operational, tactical, and strategic application of climate information of different timescales in plans and decisions (i.e. seamless application of historical/observation data, extended range forecasts, and climate change projections in informing plans, and adjusting such plans with the application of short-range forecasts).

The CAF brings together the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) and key sectoral institutions in the country for this preparedness planning session.

¹ The RDAS is a cloud-based open-access platform for acquiring, storing, managing, processing, analyzing, visualizing, and reporting climate and socio-economic data/information, for use in screening climate risks to inform investments.

² DSSs are sector-specific systems, linked to the RDAS, and for assisting users in sectoral planning and decision-making.

³ SAHF is a convergence of NMHSs in South Asia for sharing knowledge, building capacity, and aligning national level technical assistance with regional engagement.

Through an iterative process, the CAF is targeted to provide opportunities for sectoral stakeholders to seasonally review their climate risk-informed, anticipatory preparedness plans and implementation thereof, and how these could be improved in subsequent season(s); and for PMD to constantly evolve/tailor climate information to suit user requirements. Experiences and learnings, from informed seasonal and sub-seasonal preparedness planning and decision-making, are expected to build capacities, in due course, for effective long-term adaptation and resilience.

The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd CAFs leveraged evidence-based climate information applications to address the challenges of climate variability and change. These Forums brought together a diverse array of stakeholders, including, among others, senior government officials, climate scientists, policymakers, and community members, united by a shared vision of building resilient and sustainable actions/solutions for a changing climate.

The 4th CAF is expected to contribute to climate-informed planning and implementation of preparedness measures, by different sectors vis-à-vis the 2024-2025 winter season in Pakistan.

Objective

The key objectives of the CAF are to:

- Review the performance of PMD's climate information of various timescales for the previous season.
- Review users' experiences in applying climate information in plans and decisions, good practices and lessons learned, and obtain recommendations for enhancing both climate generation and application.
- Present PMD forecast products (including enhancements based on previous recommendations) for the subsequent season.
- Present Decision Support Systems (DSS) developed by RIMES for MOPDSI, PAD, and BACD.
- Guide users in putting in place anticipatory preparedness measures based on the generated forecasts/climate information/decision guidance information/advisories.

Expected Outcomes

- Good practices and/or lessons, from experiences in applying climate information of various timescales, shared with relevant stakeholders, to provide insights on beneficial practices that can be replicated and/or inform enhancements in strategies/mechanisms for climate-informed resources and risk management
- Climate-informed action plans, for the 2024-2025 winter season, are prepared/proposed by key stakeholders, for potential uptake by their respective institutions when they report back to their stations
- Stakeholders are better sensitized on the seamless use of climate information for short-, medium-, and long-term preparedness
- Recommendations to enhance climate information products and guide the full development of the DSSs are articulated by stakeholders

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AGENDA

Opening Session

08:45 - 09:00	Arrival and Registration of Participants
09:00 - 09:10	Introduction of Participants and Guests
09:10 - 09:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Welcome Remarks by DG PMD (Mahr Sahibzad Khan) ○ Remarks by World Bank (Mr. Bilal Khalid) ○ Remarks by Chief Guest Lt Gen(R) Nadeem Ahmad, Adviser RIMES)
9:40 – 10:00	Group Photo and Coffee/Tea Break
Review of the Last Season and Seasonal/Sub-seasonal Outlook for Winter 2024-2025	
10:10 – 10:25	Review of the 2024 Monsoon by PMD (NWFC-PMD)
10:25 – 10:35	Discussion
10:35 – 10:50	Review of the 2023-2024 Winter PMD
10:50 – 11:10	Seasonal Climate Outlook for the 2024-2025 Winter (Potential impacts and risks) NWFC-PMD
11:10 – 11:15	Tea break
11:15 – 11:35	Discussion
11:35 – 12:35	<p>Experiences during the 2023-2024 Winter, 2024 Monsoon, and Sectoral Preparedness Actions for the 2024-2025 Winter (Panel Discussion)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ National Disaster Management Authority ○ Federal Flood Commission ○ Agriculture Department of Punjab ○ Agriculture and Cooperatives Department of Balochistan ○ Others relevant <p>Key discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ significant events during the 2023-2024 winter and 2024 monsoon and experiences in managing these events, particularly extreme events, if any ▪ pathways/opportunities to enhance utilization of seasonal/sub-seasonal climate outlook in resources and risks management ▪ utilization of winter climate outlook in enhancing productivity and managing risks during the 2024-2025 winter <p>To be moderated by: RIMES</p>
12:35 – 1:00	Question and Answer

01:00– 01:15	Enhancing seasonal and long-term preparedness in agriculture using the ADVISE Decision Support System (DSS)
	RIMES
01:15 – 01:30	Discussion and Recommendations
Way Forward	
01:30 – 01:40	Wrap-up
01:40 – 01:45	Concluding Remarks by DG PMD
01:45 – 02:45	LUNCH