

TCC's Recent Development

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The Tokyo Climate Center (TCC) of the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA), as a WMO Regional Climate Center, assists National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in the Asia-Pacific region in the implementation of climate services through the provision of climate information, data and products, and capacity-development activities. In the presentation, recent TCC's development will be introduced including the following topics.

1. Pilot Project on Information Sharing on Climate Services

The fifteenth session of WMO Regional Association II (Doha, Qatar, December 2012) decided to establish a pilot project on information sharing on climate services provided by NMHSs as well as activities related to the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS). After collecting information on climate services provided by NMHSs as well as details of good practices on the application of climate information in society via a questionnaire survey, TCC developed and launched a dedicated website in March 2014 (<http://ds.data.jma.go.jp/tcc/pilot/index.html>). The Center will continue to collect pertinent information from NMHSs to be shared with Members.

2. Initiation of the provision of "Monthly Discussion on Seasonal Climate Outlooks"

On 25 March 2014, TCC started providing a new product of "Monthly Discussion on Seasonal Climate Outlooks" on its website (<http://ds.data.jma.go.jp/tcc/tcc/products/model/index.html>). The Monthly Discussion is intended to assist NMHSs in the Asia-Pacific region in interpreting and assessing GPC Tokyo's products for three-month prediction and warm/cold season prediction and understanding the current conditions of the climate system. The Monthly Discussion consists of chapters on Summary and Discussion, Latest State of the Climate System, Three-month Predictions, Warm/Cold Season Predictions, and Explanatory Note, and it is updated around 25th of every month.

3. New/Upgraded Data and Products

A number of new/upgraded climate monitoring products have been made available including the following products:

- In July 2013, TCC started providing new climate monitoring products called Regional Maps on its website (<http://ds.data.jma.go.jp/tcc/tcc/products/climate/rmap/rmap.php>). These resources enable users to easily monitor the regional distribution of 10-day and half-monthly mean temperatures and total precipitation in Africa, Asia, South America, North America, Oceania and Europe.
- The web-based ClimatView interactive climate database has been upgraded (<http://ds.data.jma.go.jp/gmd/tcc/tcc/products/climate/climatview/frame.php>). The new version is designed to allow browsing without plug-ins using PHP and its graphic library. It enabled viewing with web browsers including Firefox and Google Chrome in addition to Internet Explorer.
- In response to the release of JRA-55 data, all climate products generated using JRA-25 data has been replaced by versions generated using JRA-55 data in March. JRA-55 data has also been made available in Interactive Tool for Analysis of the Climate System (ITACS).