

Scoping Climate Services and Climate Services Science

Climate Services - Climate information and expertise/knowledge to support/inform decision and policy-making processes.

- Spectrum of services (what is included and not included e.g., is adaptation information included?)
- There are two types of climate services – generic data products such as observations, forecasts and future climate (freely available) and bespoke climate services (tailored to meet specific needs). Need to understand where the UK is going in terms of climate services.
 - There is a spectrum of services (where is the dividing line between freely available and bespoke)
- More than just description of climate – need to support ‘climate smart’ decision making
- Not just about product, but also includes knowledge and expertise

Climate Services science – generating and communicating knowledge and practice associated with:

- Knowledge and practice of provision / delivery of climate services
- Utility (relevance) of climate services and
- Accessibility
- Knowledge exchange
- Need to understand what is needed to support climate services science in the UK recognising the links to international science

How is climate different from other issues needing information?

- Timescale involved (now, seasonal/decadal, near-term, mid-term and long-term (century plus) - dependent on users and decision/policy context
- Spatial scale – UK and beyond (i.e. European, international and global) to support users’ needs local to global

Meetings of interest

- Second International Conference on Climate Services Hamburg 2012 (First conference was at Columbia University in USA (October 2011) – Is there a role for the UK in this conference?)
- 2012 EGU – April 2012, Vienna
- Society for Risk Analysis, Zurich, June 2012
- Planet under Pressure, London, March 2012
- 6th Global Initiative for Community-based Adaptation (communicating climate change is a theme) April 2012, Hannover