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Improving the use of climate information in sector decisions

R. Stone[†]; A. Ceylan et al.
[†] World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Switzerland
Leading author: adelju@wmo.int

Improving the use of climate information in decision making requires a need to understand the dynamics of that particular sector and identifying the specific opportunities for management to take an appropriate action and intervene within that sector. Utilising climate information also requires an initial understanding of the impact of climate variability and change within that sector and, especially, to seek to understand where in that sector (e.g. agriculture, finance, transport, and mining) climate really is an issue. Then it is important to determine the opportunities for tactical or strategic management in response to climate information and forecasts. In this respect, it is paramount to identify what possible options there may be at relevant decision-points within that sector and just how decisions might be changed in response to climate forecasts. Also, within this framework, it is important to identify what lead-time is required for management decisions. Participative implementation of climate information and forecasts with users is needed together with provision of feed-back to those agencies developing and providing climate information and forecasts (after Hammer, 2000). In this respect, this poster will provide clear examples drawn from team members of the Task Team on User Interface (TTUI) using existing case studies relevant to quantifying the social and economic benefits of using climate information, products and services as well as steps towards producing a guideline for both users and for national climate services providers on integrating climate information and predictions, into climate risk management, adaptation strategies and planning for various real-world decisions in a range of sectors.