



WORLD CLIMATE RESEARCH PROGRAMME

Session 3.2: Climate Research Forums

3.2: Report on Climate Research Forums

Purpose: To report on status and future of Climate Research Forums

- Goal and status
- Key findings
- Options for Future Forums
- Next steps

Acknowledgements:

- WCRP Secretariat - Beatriz Balino, Narelle van der Wel and Hindumathi Palanisamy - for the data analysis and, with Nico Caltabiano, for organising all the Forums.
- The Regional Focal Points for their energy and expert advice in designing and running each of the Forums.

Duration: 20 (10 + 10) mins

Chairs: Helen Cleugh and Detlef Stammer

Rapporteur: Hindumathi Palanisamy

Chat Moderator: *Narelle van der Wel*

Climate Research Forums: Goal

JSC-41 ACTION: Put necessary steps in place to “roll out” regional consultations on WCRP evolution.

- There needs to be an identified regional “lead” to make it happen; i.e. establish the process, establish a team from across the JSC/WCRP family to be the local leads, etc.
 - It is intended to draw upon the networks of JSC members, current WCRP Core Projects and core activities, and also YESS
- Chair and Vice Chair to attend these regional consultations to provide a consistent message
 - A package of materials will be developed to support these consultations
- Outcome: consultation outcomes will refine the Lighthouse Activities, their research program as well as the thinking process about WCRPs future structure.

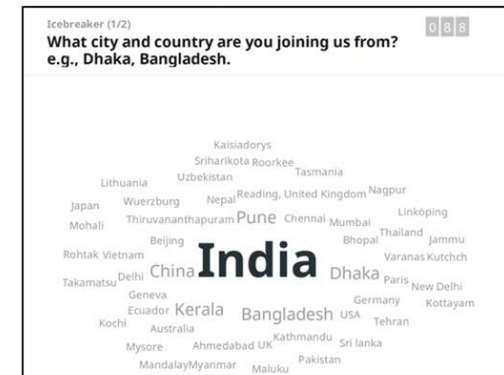
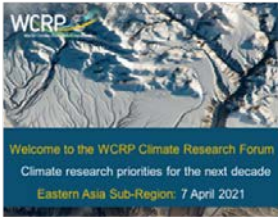
A series of regionally based online “Climate Research Forums” (CRFs) in response to feedback that WCRP’s broader scientific community were not that familiar with WCRP’s new Strategic Plan and science initiatives.

Broad aims were to:

- Inform community about the new WCRP and seek their feedback, especially on the Lighthouse activities.
- Exchange ideas and discuss new activities and opportunities.
- Explore ways that our community of scientists, partner programs, funders and end-users of climate science can better engage.

Climate Research Forums: Status

<https://www.wcrp-climate.org/climate-research-forums>



Eastern Asia Forum participants:

- 70% from China, Republic of Korea and Japan
- From 40 nations, including: Mongolia, Myanmar, Russian Federation, Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Indonesia and Pakistan.

Eastern Asia

- China
- Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- Japan
- Mongolia
- Republic of Korea



SE Asia

- Cambodia
- Laos
- Myanmar
- Malaysia
- Singapore
- Thailand
- Vietnam
- East Timor
- Indonesia
- Philippines



Southern Asia

- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Bhutan
- India
- Nepal
- Pakistan
- Sri Lanka
- Iran
- Maldives



Oceania

- Australia
- NZ
- Pacific Islands



Africa



Africa Regions:

- Northern Africa
- Eastern Africa
- Central Africa
- Western Africa
- Southern Africa

North and Central America; Caribbean and Greenland

- Canada
- USA
- Central America
- Caribbean
- Greenland



South America



Europe and Western Asia

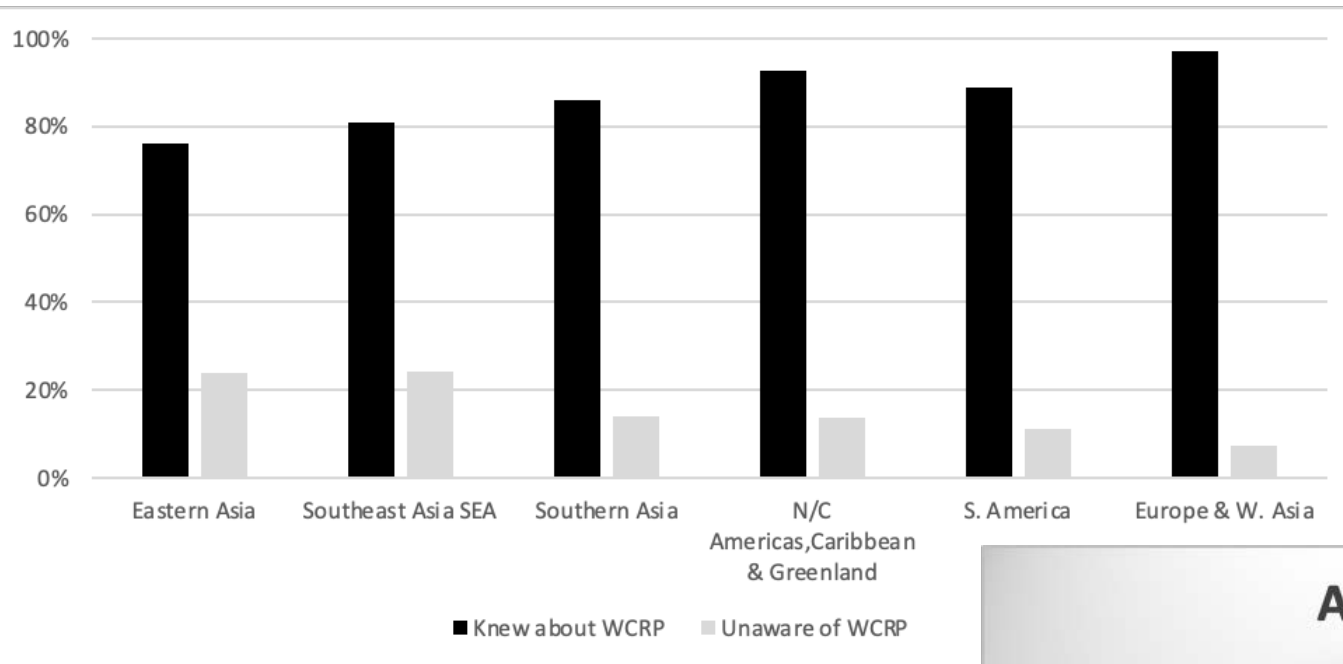


Climate Research Forums: Status

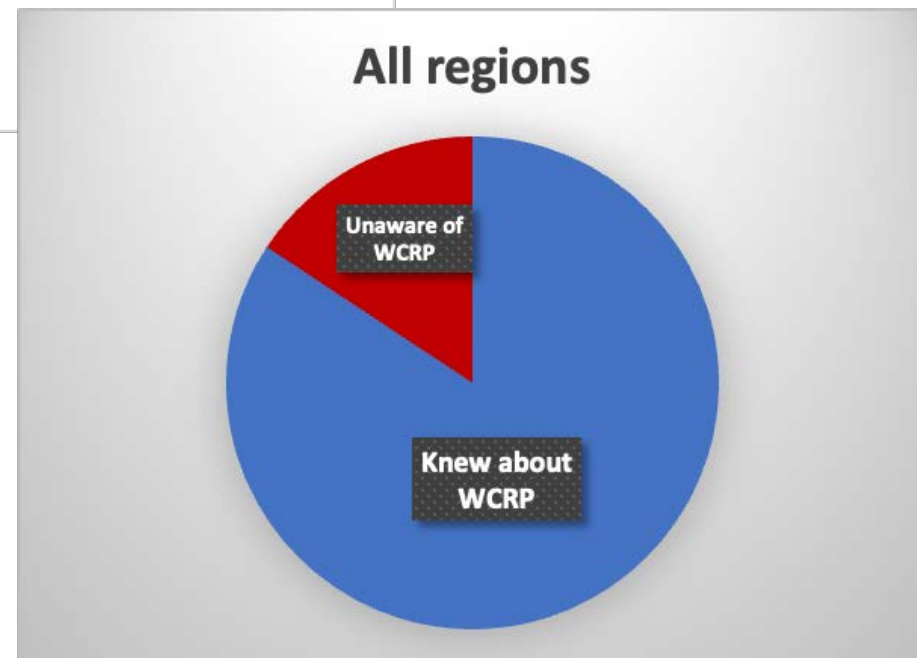
7 Forums, engaging an audience of almost 1900 people from around the world.

Region	Australia	Eastern Asia	North & Central America, Caribbean and Greenland	Southeast Asia	Europe and Western Asia	South America	Southern Asia	Sum
Registered	Unknown	401	434	404	232	537	403	2411
Attended	204	268	200	277	170	501	278	1898
Percentage of registrants attending	Unknown	67%	46%	69%	73%	93%	69%	
Duration (hrs)	1.5	2.0	2.5	2.0	3.5	2.5 per day	3.5	
Dates (in 2021)	Feb 10	Apr 7	May 11	May 25	Jun 9	Sep 8 & 9	Nov 30	

Climate Research Forums: Some key findings

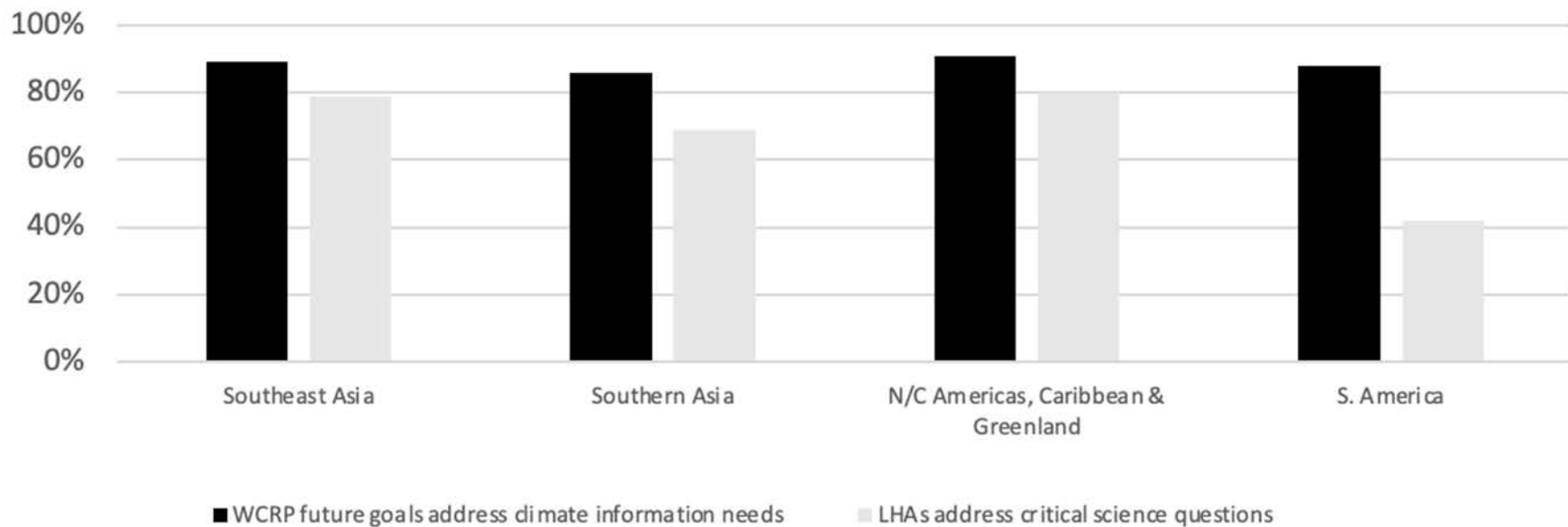


Are you aware of WCRP?



Climate Research Forums: Some key findings

Is WCRP addressing critical science questions (sli.do)?



Climate Research Forums: Some key findings

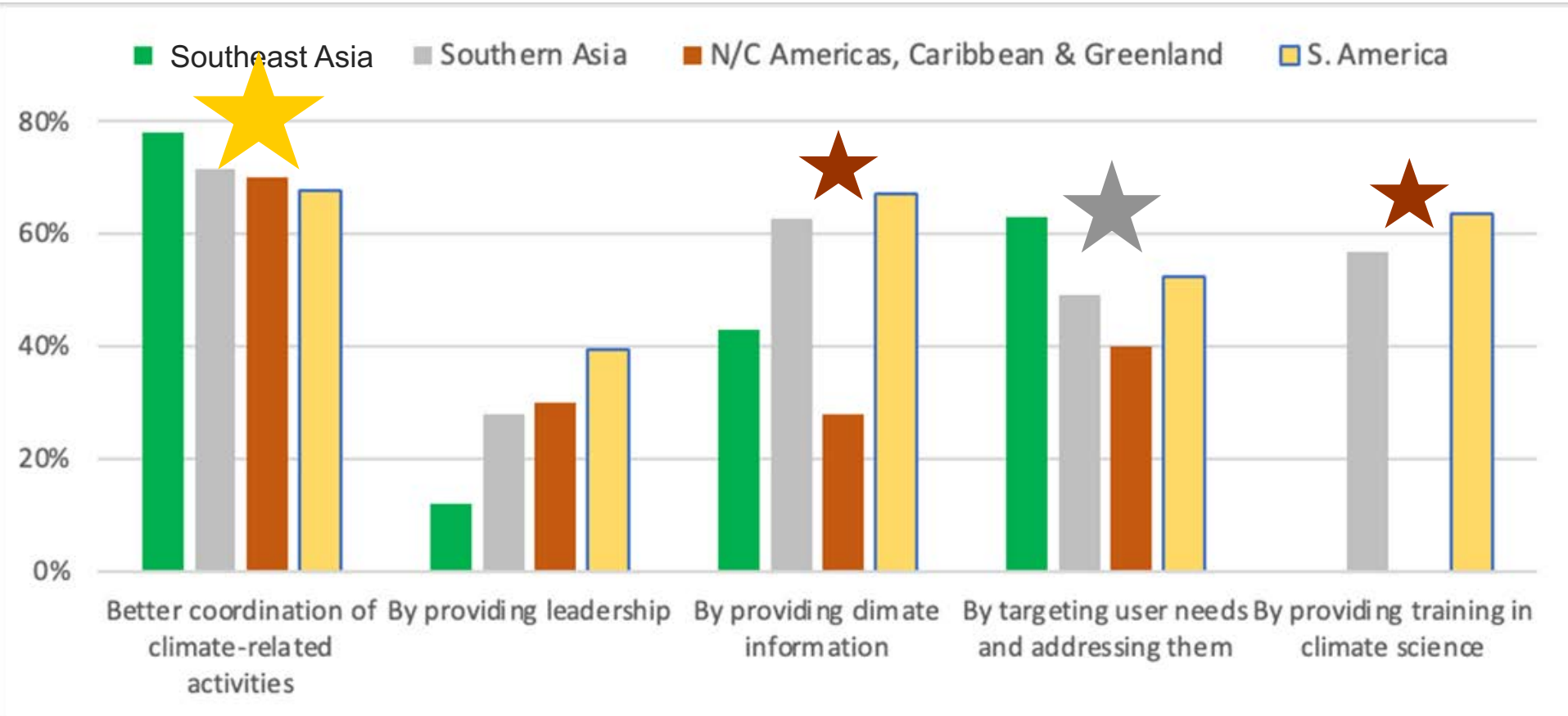
What areas of WCRP science are important to you?



- Strong interest in CORDEX, CLIVAR and education and capacity-building in Asia and South America, followed by GEWEX, ESMO and RIFS
- Lighthouse Activities popular across Europe and Western Asia and in South America: over 40% were interested in My Climate Risk, and the new ESMO and RIFS Core Projects.
- 69% of South America Forum attendees said RIFS was beneficial for climate research in the region.

Climate Research Forums: Some key findings

Where can WCRP make a difference to climate research in your region?



Climate Research Forums: Some key findings




Ways to increase the participation of regional scientists in WCRP – Southeast Asia, Southern Asia and South America

Session 4: WCRP in Southeast Asia (1/3)

0 8 9

What are the top three ways you think WCRP can increase the participation of scientists in this region?

(1/2) **Southeast Asia**

1. Networking activities  1.57
2. Capacity exchange and education  1.36
3. Conferences and workshops  1.27

Survey 3 (3/10)

0 3 4

Please tell us how important each of the following are to increase the participation of Southern Asia researchers in WCRP. Please rank the following from 1 (most important) to 4 (least important):

(1/2) **Southern Asia**





1. Education/ capacity building / Early Career Scientists  5.44
2. Conferences and Workshops  4.44
3. Networking activities  4.27
4. Regions / Assessments, Gap analyses  3.18

Survey 3 (1/13)

0 6 9

Please tell us how important each of the following are to increase the participation of South American researchers in WCRP. Please rank the following from 1 (most important) to 4 (least important):

South America

1. Collaborative networks / Redes colaborativas  3.19
2. Training courses / Cursos de formación  2.58
3. Exchange programs / Programas de intercambio  2.36
4. Discussion forums / Foros de discusión  1.78

Options for Future Forums

What are the options for future CRFs? Some considerations

Pause or continue?

- Original purpose mostly (but not completely) met.
- Supported additional global engagement (strategic goal).
- Requires dedicated resourcing and an identified need and purpose.

Format and Expertise for future Forums

- “Template” for future forums – regular or “as needed”.
- Opportunity for spin-off Forums that WCRP family can utilise.
- Regional Focal Points (RFPs) are knowledgeable experts and should be encouraged to engage in future events.

Alignment (WCRP Strategic Plan and Implementation)

- Regionally based forums need a structural home – most likely RIfS.
- Alignment with My Climate Risk and Academy Lighthouses noted.
- Close interaction with WCRP Secretariat and other IPOs important.

Resourcing

- Skilled and dedicated staff needed ~ 0.5 -1 FTE.
- Within WCRP Secretariat and/or a RIfS IPO.
- Requires sponsorship and fund-raising.

Next steps

1. **Share Report** with JSC and WCRP Core science activities.
2. **For all Regions and RFPs**, explore with OSC Science Organising Committee what role the RFPs might have in the lead-up to OSC-2023.
3. **Follow-up** with the Regional Focal Point groups:
 - a) **Regions where the first Forums have been delivered:** i) review the feedback received; ii) discuss the findings and recommendations in this Report; and iii) discuss what requirements might exist from WCRP's core activities and the regions for follow-up activities.
 - b) **Oceania – NZ and Pacific:** Continue to explore interest in an event in 2022/2023 (possibly as a lead-up to the Open Science Conference) with RFPs, interested agencies and LHAs.
 - c) **Africa:** Reactivate engagement with the RFPs and explore ideas ahead of OSC 2023.
4. **JSC to review Draft Recommendations**

Draft Recommendations for JSC

JSC are encouraged to note:

- First phase of regional consultations has mostly achieved its aims (from JSC-41).
- The approach was an effective, and relatively cost-effective way, to conduct engagement in the regions around the world.
- Feedback and lessons learned, as captured in Sections 2 and 3 of the Report.

Draft recommendations to JSC:

1. Retain RFP groups, at least to end 2023, to potentially support OSC-2023. The JSC Chairs will write to the RFPs: thanking them, confirming this commitment and explaining the follow-up actions over this time.
2. Discussions: a) with RIfS re. “joint ownership” of Forums (with WCRP Secretariat); and b) with My Climate Risk and Academy LHAs – to identify synergies and possible joint activities.
3. Explore need for an “Engagement and Relationship Manager” within the WCRP Secretariat including the role purpose, accountability, appropriate time allocation, and benefits. This person / role would:
 - Have external (funders and partners) and internal (liaising with WCRP core activities) elements.
 - Be closely overseen by the JSC Chair and Head of the WCRP Secretariat.
4. The JSC Vice Chair to work with the WCRP Secretariat to complete the Actions identified.
5. WCRP Secretariat to ensure adequate communication with WCRP core activities about final (approved) recommendations and actions.

Options for Future Forums

What are the options for future CRFs? Some considerations

Pause or continue?

- Original purpose been largely met - enabling WCRP to enhance its global engagement as identified Strategic Plan..
- Requires dedicated resourcing, so pause until future need identified?

Format for future Forums

- A “template” for future forums – either regularly (e.g. annually) or “as needed”, with improvements as described in Report.
- Opportunity for spin-off Forums.

Alignment (WCRP Strategic Plan and Implementation)

- Regionally based forums need to reside in a Core Project – most likely RIfS.
- Alignment with My Climate Risk and Academy Lighthouses also noted.
- Close interaction with WCRP Secretariat and other IPOs important

Resourcing

- Skilled and dedicated staff (0.5 -1 FTE), within WCRP Secretariat and/or a RIfS IPO. Fund-raising or sponsorship therefore needed.
- “Engagement and Relationship Manager” within WCRP Secretariat?