

# Information Sheet: Trusted national and regional sources for climate forecasting and early warning as well as local actors

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Cluster coordinators and partners can access climate forecast information from a range of meteorological and humanitarian sources to support decision-making, preparedness, and anticipatory action.

## 1. REGIONAL FORECASTING CENTRES

These centres provide seasonal outlooks, early warnings, and technical climate support for groups of countries. All are part of the WMO Regional Climate Centre (RCC) network which helps standardize climate services across regions (access the full list at:

<https://community.wmo.int/en/activity-areas/climate-services/regional-climate-centres> ):

- [ACMAD – African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development](#) (Africa-wide): Supports continent-wide seasonal forecasting, early warning, and technical coordination across African NMHSs.
- [ICPAC – IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre](#) (East Africa): Provides seasonal forecasts, risk maps, and advisories for IGAD member states (e.g., Kenya, Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan).
- [SADC CSC – SADC Climate Services Centre](#) (Southern Africa): Provides regional climate monitoring, seasonal forecasts, early warning information, and training for SADC member states (e.g., Botswana, Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique).
- [RIMES – Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System](#) (South and Southeast Asia): Offers climate forecasts, hazard early warnings, and capacity-building for member countries across Asia.
- [CIIFEN – International Research Centre on El Niño](#) (Latin America and the Caribbean): Focuses on climate monitoring and El Niño-related forecasts for Andean and coastal countries in Latin America.
- [ArabCOF – Arab Climate Outlook Forum](#) (Middle East and North Africa): Seasonal forecasts coordinated through the WMO Regional Climate Centre (RCC) network. ArabCOF does not have a dedicated website; its products are disseminated via national meteorological agencies and through [WMO RCC coordination](#).

## 2. NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL AND HYDROLOGICAL SERVICES (NMHS)

Most countries have an NMHS that provides:

- Seasonal climate forecasts
- Short- and medium-term weather outlooks
- Extreme event alerts (floods, storms, droughts)
- Agro-meteorological updates

Search by country via the [WMO Member Directory](#)

In fragile or conflict-affected settings, NMHSs may be under-resourced or inactive. Always verify their functionality (see checklist in Section A). Where gaps exist, coordinate with regional centres, humanitarian partners, or technical NGOs.

## 3. HUMANITARIAN AND INTER-AGENCY SOURCES

These organizations and tools help interpret climate information for planning and early action:

- [Integrated Food Security Phase Classification \(IPC\)](#)

- [ACAPS](#) – Risk updates, forecast-based analyses, scenario planning support
- [Start Network / Anticipation Hub](#) – Guidance on forecast-based financing and early action

In-country OCHA offices or inter-cluster coordination groups (ICCGs) often serve as hubs for sharing seasonal briefings or regional climate outlooks, even where NMHS capacity is limited. As coordinators, you can request that OCHA or the ICCG in your country provide such briefings or information if they are not already offered.

#### 4. OTHER LOCAL CLIMATE CHANGE RESOURCES

Climate change expertise exists in most countries within government agencies, NGOs, universities, community-based organizations (CBOs), specialist groups, and international organizations. Humanitarian coordinators with limited time should prioritize contacting:

- **Government:** Start with the department responsible for the National Adaptation Plan, Ministry of Environment, and Meteorological Services (essential for forecasting).
- **Local NGOs/CBOs:** Identify active climate-related NGOs and CBOs through your existing contacts within the coordination platforms or local referrals.
- **Specialist groups:** Seek recommendations to identify specialist organizations that have developed expertise in climate-related risks faced by persons with disabilities, children and youth, and elderly populations. This expertise, though not widespread, is emerging and valuable.
- **Academic institutions:** Specifically, departments dealing with climate or sustainability.

##### Priority Contacts:

###### **Government:**

Department responsible for the National Adaptation Plan  
 Ministry of Environment  
 Meteorological Services  
 Disaster Management Agencies

###### **Local NGOs/CBOs:**

Obtain recommendations from networks of your coordination platform or trusted local contacts. Brief online searches for prominent national climate-focused NGOs.

###### **Specialist groups:**

Organizations recommended by coordination networks as having climate expertise on disability inclusion, child/youth, and elderly-focused climate resilience.

###### **Academic institutions:**

Departments of Environmental Sciences, Climate Studies, Geography, Sustainability  
 Directly contact department administrators for expert recommendations.

###### **International NGOs/development partners:**

Local UNDP and UNEP offices  
 Local World Bank office  
 International NGOs (CARE, Oxfam, WWF)