

27th
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Maldives Marine Science Symposium

Abstract Booklet

Themes

climate change
conservation
ecology
ecosystem dynamics
fisheries
management
oceanography
resilience
resource dependence
socio-economics



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The Monthly Climate Advisory for Maldives - a resource for marine Scientists

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Abstract

Climate affects oceans in marked ways sometimes posing risk to marine organisms and ecosystems and as such ongoing climate information can help scientists and managers in their work. The Foundation for Environment, Climate and Technology (FECT), International Research Institute for Climate and Society and the Maldives Meteorological Service have been developing tools and databases and undertaking research to generate such information over the last 8 years. The overall objective is to provide timely, state of the art and comprehensive information useful for managing the resources. This advisory provides historical, monitored and predicted information on Maldives land and sea climate. The analysis for the advisory are obtained from customized tools developed at the IRI Data Library for Maldives. We use analysis from the Maldives Meteorological Service, US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency, (NOAA), the Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) and from the Indian Meteorological Department among others. The advisory comprises of 3 sections, namely: Climatology, Monitoring & Predictions. The climatology section has maps that provide information about usual climate conditions (rainfall and wind) expected in given months. The monitoring section contains information on the rainfall conditions in the previous month and comparisons with rainfall in past years in the same period. The monitoring section contains daily rainfall maps for the previous 15 days derived from satellite estimates. The analysis is done in three regions (northern, central and southern) separately. In the predictions section, there are rainfall and temperature predictions from daily to seasonal (up to 6 months). Dissemination of this report started in June 2012 after two trial reports published in April 2011 and November 2011. Since June 2012 we have been publishing this advisory continuously, to the end of the month. In May 2016 we started publishing a bi-weekly report containing only the highlights in the middle of the month. The advisory is published on www.tropicalclimate.org/maldives and www.fectmv.blogspot.com as well as on social media www.facebook.com/fectmv and www.twitter.com/fectmv. Additionally, a monthly newsletter is released as soon as an advisory is published. Presentations on the interpretation of the Climate Bulletin were presented in the Maldives at the Workshop on Climate and Water in September 2015 at the Maldives National University. A long-standing research effort has led to the sustained production of customized climate bulletin for the Maldives and consultation by experts. In the future, we shall extend the impact analysis to selected sectors, seek to better communicate the information and seek to reach a larger audience.