

SAHF Working Group on Climate Services: Progress to date

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Timeline and key milestones

2018-2022: Scoping for a South Asia Climate Forum under the ARRCC programme

November 2023: SAHF Executive Council declaration endorsed broadening the role of SAHF in priority areas

February 2024: SAHF IV declaration included recommendations for a new activity and working group focusing on climate services

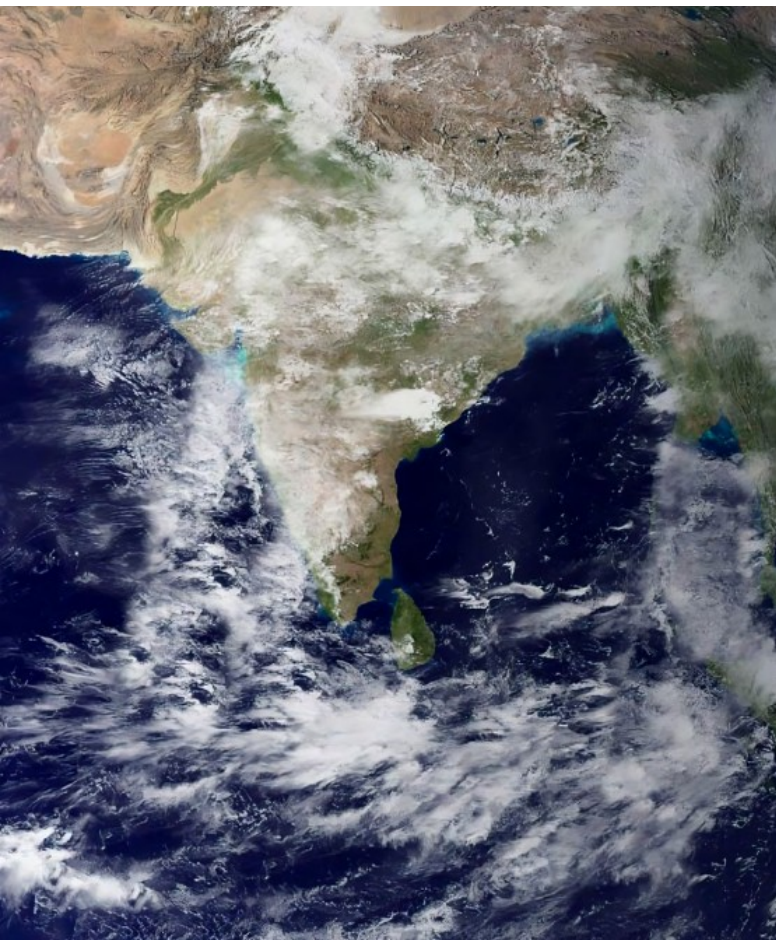
December 2024: Online consultation to scope priorities for a new working group focusing on climate services

January 2025: Workshop for planning the working group and establishing key aims

May 2025: SAHF Executive Council approves proposal for establishing working group on climate services

SAHF IV side session on Climate Services

February 2024, Sri Lanka



Key takeaways

- A broadening of SAHF to cover longer-term information as well as ‘users’ of climate information and services
- SAHF as a mechanism to tackle ‘siloing’, and bring producers and users together, connecting those working across different timescales
- The emphasis in SAHF is for a focus on climate services on shorter timescales, but lessons learnt on these timescales can be applied at longer timescales – a timescale transition period may be required

Recommendations

- A coordinated regional approach, such as through a Regional Framework for Climate Services
- To understand how a SAHF WG on Climate Services will work with other regional mechanisms such as SASCOF

SAHF planning workshop on impact-based forecasting and climate services

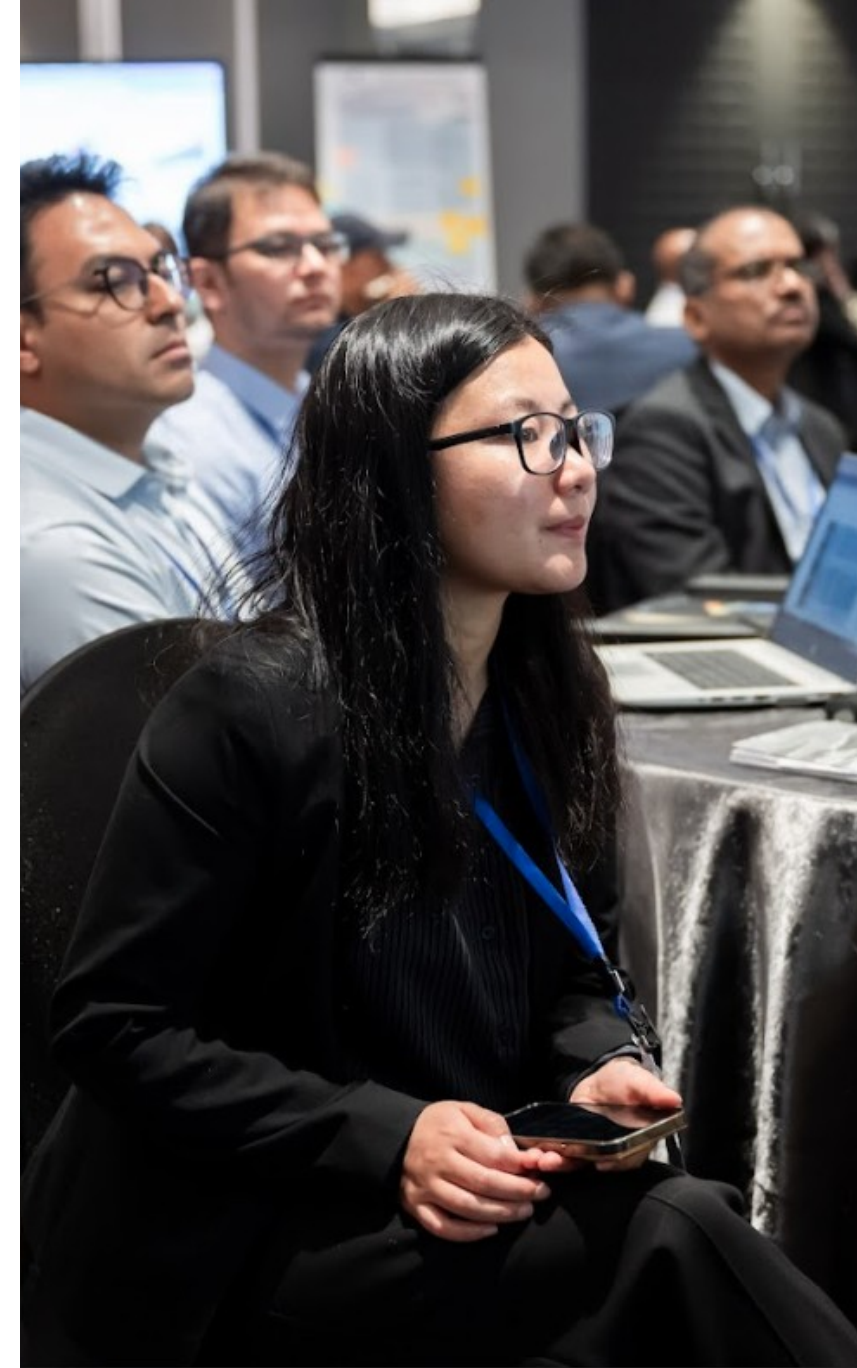
21-24 January 2025

Day 4: A series of interactive sessions to explore the current landscape and future priorities for a SAHF Climate Services WG



WG draft aims

1. Strengthen regional collaboration to enhance climate services and promote cross-border knowledge exchange, establishing a Regional Climate Services Framework.
2. Improve access and uptake of climate data and forecasting tools for better service delivery.
3. Strengthen NMHS and stakeholder technical expertise, infrastructure, and operational capabilities to deliver robust and user-driven climate services.
4. Ensure climate services are integrated into national and regional adaptation and resilience strategies.



Governance and coordination

- Composed of representatives from South Asian NMHSs, technical experts, sectoral agencies, and development partners.
- Secretariat support from RIMES and technical support from the UK Met Office and other relevant international agencies.
- A rotational chairing system to ensure shared leadership and accountability.
- Periodic meetings (quarterly or bi-annually) and reporting progress to the SAHF Executive Council.



Next Steps

- Inception of WG at meeting of chairs, members and technical support. (June 2025)
- Development of a structured and resourced work plan with priorities for short-term goals, ensuring phased, achievable and sustained implementation. (September 2025)
- From October 2025, begin activities of the WG focusing on initial priorities.



Thank you.

