

FECT-MV

FOUNDATION FOR ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE AND TECHNOLOGY - MALDIVES

Annual Progress Report 2018

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Publications and Conferences

American Geophysical Union Fall Conference, Washington DC, December, 2018.

- L. Zubair, R. Salih, A. Nijamdeen. Climate drives the seasonal and regional variation in seasonality and epidemics across the scattered islands of the Maldives. Foundation for Environment Climate and Technology. American Geophysical union fall meeting 2018.

Communication Material

- FECT – 15th Anniversary Compilation includes description of work in Maldives

Brochures/Flyers

A flyer on STEM project was drafted.

Publications

Peer Reviewed Journal Publications

Maldives Dengue Paper (in progress) – updated to 2016

Technical Reports

Banuka Wijerathne, (2018) Industrial Project Report, *Quantifying Climate Impacts on Dengue in Maldives*, Supervisor, Zubair, L. FECT Technical Report. Foundation for Environment, Climate and Technology, Digana.

Discussions / Meetings

Maldives

September 2018 – Dr. Lareef Zubair visited Maldives with regard to the STEM project.

- Visit to Male Offices of the Small Island Research Group/Centre to discuss project with Aishath Abdulla and Hussein Zahir of the Small Island Research Group.
- Visit to Maldives National University in Male to discuss ongoing work on air quality and to make arrangements for STEM work.
- Visit to MNU in Thinadhoo island of Huvadhu Atoll for collaboration on STEM project. They arranged our engagement with the Atoll School.
- Visit to Maathoda office off the Small Island Research Centre/Group to undertake arrangements for the STEM project, to check on weather station, make arrangements for handover and installation of microscope and water quality instruments
- Meeting with Principal of Huvadhu School to arrange for STEM project work. Follow up permission are being sought from the Zonal Education Director.
- Handing over scientific equipment for the middle school students of the G. Dh. Atoll Education Centre Thinadhoo, Small Island Research Centre who will be a part of this project.

Internal FECT Meetings - for FECT staff, to review past projects in SL and MV, understand the key/goals of FECT and also orient the new staff members of FECT.

February 2018 – Review meeting at Akurana

August 2018 - Review Meeting at the St. Paul's church, Kandy with the participation of Dr. P.H.D. Kusumawathie and Prof. Wickramagamage.

December 2018 – Review meeting, Conference hall of Satyodaya. Dr. P.H.D. Kusumawathie and Prof. Wickramagamage also participated.

Grants Ongoing/ Completed

PEER Cycle 4: Can drought, flood and landslide hazard be skillfully assessed at fine spatial resolution from combining constrained streams of observed, remotely sensed and model predicted data in Sri Lanka and Maldives? From the US National Academy of Sciences (PI – P. Wickramagamage, L. Zubair, Zahir, 2015 – 2018)

PEER Cycle 4, Sup.: STEM Education and Capacity Building for Resources and Risk Management in Remote Outposts capitalizing on PEER projects on water, drought and hazards: Gaafu Dhaalu Atoll in Southern Maldives (PI – P. Wickramagamage Co PI - Lareef Zubair, July 2018 – June 2019)

Grant Reporting

Two Quarterly Reports, one Annual Report (in October) and another Quarterly Report for the extension were submitted to Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research Science, on, 'Can drought, flood and landslide hazard be skillfully assessed at fine spatial resolution from combining constrained streams of observed, remotely sensed and model predicted data in Sri Lanka and Maldives?'

The first Quarterly Report for July to September was submitted to Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research Science, on 'STEM Education and Capacity Building for Resources and Risk Management in Remote Outposts.'

Proposals, Concept notes and Expression of Interest

P. Wickramagamage, Lareef Zubair, proposal on STEM Education and Capacity Building for Resources and Risk Management in Remote Outposts capitalizing on PEER projects on water, drought and hazards: Gaafu Dhaalu Atoll in Southern Maldives, to PEER, National Academy of Sciences, granted.

Training and Staff

Janan Visvanathan, Ashara Nijamdeen, Tuan Hadgie, Fathima Shakira, Shifna Rameez, Rasika Abeysinghe and Ruchira Lokuhetti continued work from 2017. Thereafter, the new contributors were Tharani Kailaivasan, Himeshi Piyarathne, and Rushda Salih.

Operational Services

- **Climate Assessments:** Disseminated our monthly and annual climate assessments for Maldives by email and via social media
- **Drought Monitoring Portal:** Developed the Drought Monitoring Portal for Maldives (www.tropicalclimate.org/maldives/drought/)
- **Climate Services for Maldives:** In collaboration with the Maldivian Meteorological Services. Monthly Hydro-meteorological Advisory services to Maldives, via <http://fectmv.blogspot.com> and <http://www.tropicalclimate.org/maldives>
12 monthly reports distributed via email, posted on Facebook, and distributed via twitter

Websites, Social Media and Mailing Lists

We have maintained websites, social media and mailing lists for Maldives. Subscriptions for Maldives is included in <http://www.climate.lk/subscribe.html>

- **Websites:** <http://www.tropicalclimate.org/maldives>
- **Blogs:** <http://fectsl.blogspot.com> and fectmv.blogspot.com are being regularly updated. <https://maldivesclimate.wordpress.com/> (2 posts, 103 views, 47 visitors)
- **Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/fectmv> (119 tweets and 71 followers)
- **Facebook:** <http://facebook.com/fectmv> (344 posts and 216 likes)
- **Mailing List:** Subscription: <http://www.climate.lk/subscribe.html>
Alternative short link: <http://eepurl.com/bPkohP> (210 subscribers, 12 campaigns)

Weather and Soil Moisture Instruments

- For Southern Maldives: Automated Weather Station operated by LaMER at Small Island Research Centre, Southern Maldives. Data reviewed in August of 2018.
- Automated Weather Station provided to Thinadhoo school
- Soil Moisture and Temperature Measurement Instruments at 4 depths along with transmission and automated data-logging were provided for the Maldives. (Operated by SIRC, MMS and MNU.)

Collaborations

We continued collaborations with partners and colleagues locally and internationally. In Maldives, we had productive collaborations with the Small Island Research Center, Maathoda, the Maldives National University, Maldives Meteorological Society, LaMER, the Ministry of Environment, the Huvadho School, Maathoda and the Thinadhoo High School, Thinadhoo.

Administration

The Directors of FECT-MV Hudha Ahmed and Dr. Mizna Mohamed have supported this work all along. Aishath Afaaf has been interacting on behalf of FECT with the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs so as to expedite the registration of FECT-MV. L. Zubair was able to interact with the Maldives Consulate in New York by the phone as the matter was referred here as part of the 4 year review of our application!

Acknowledgement

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