
FOUNDATION FOR ENVIRONMENT CLIMATE AND TECHNOLOGY

Progress for 2011

Personnel: Sewwandi Chandrasekera joined as the Coordinator for the Masters in Development Practice Project; and Sanjaya Ratnayake joined as a Junior Research Scientist. Sumudu Adhikari left FECT to join the Government sector.

Papers published

- Gadgil, S., M. Rajeevan, **L. Zubair** and P. Yadav, 2011, South Asian Monsoon: Inter Annual Variability, In Eds, Ding et al., *Global Monsoon System, Research and Forecast*, World Scientific Publications and World Meteorological Organization.
- M. Rajeevan, **L. Zubair**, South Asian Climate, in State of the Climate in 2010, J. Blunden, D. S. Arndt, M. O. Baringer, Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society, Volume 92, Issue 6 (June 2011) pp. S217-219.

Feature articles

- Jan 2011 - Zubair, L., Z. Yahiya, M. Weeraskera and S. Adhikari, S. Sherpa, P.H.D. Kusumawathie. “*Dengue and Chikungunya in Kandy and Akurana*” – News View – Akurana.
- Jan 2011 – Submitted to Kandy News
Dengue and Chikungunya in and around Kandy (Lareef Zubair, Zeenas Yahiya, Madhura Weerasekera, Shaky Sherpa and P.H.D. Kusumawathie).

Reports

- “The Impacts of El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Events on Cereal Production Area and Yield” – FAO, **Investigators** - Zeenas Yahiya (PI), S. Adhikari, M. Weerasekera, & L. Zubair
- Climate change impacts on seasonally and intermittently open tidal inlets (CC-SIOTI). 2010 - 2013. UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education, **Investigators** – Sarith Mahanama (PI) for FECT.

Grants Awarded

- Regional and Seasonal variation of Dengue Risk in Sri Lanka and its relationship to Climate –SEARO (*South-East Asia Regional Office*) – WHO, 2011, (Ongoing). **Investigators** – Zeenas Yahiya (PI), L. Zubair, P.H.D. Kusumawathie, (Anti Malaria Campaign), Hasitha Tissera, (Ministry of Health).
- 2010-2012 (Ongoing). Launching a Masters in Sustainable Development Practice at the University of Peradeniya, *MacArthur Foundation*, **FECT component** - , FECT shall develop curricula for the course on Climate and Society; support teaching; and work with government, non-governmental, development, and private sector organizations in support of placement of students and graduates. **Investigators** – Lareef Zubair, Zeenas Yahiya.

Workshop / Conference Participation

Feb 2011 - Dr. Lareef Zubair and Madhura Weerasekera attended the workshop on “Indian Northeast Monsoon Recent Advances and Evolving Concepts” at the Regional Meteorological Centre, Chennai, India.

April 2011 – MDP workshop at the University of Peradeniya

June 2011 – Madura Weerasekera attended the “Video conference on Disaster Risk management in East –Asia and the Pacific, (Distance learning seminar series 2011) in Partnership with graduate school of Global Environmental Studies (GSGES, Kyoto University, Asian Production Disaster Centre, and Training and Learning Circle, Phillipines), at Distance Learning Centre, Sri Lanka

2011 July – Madura Weerasekera attended the Eighth International Seminar on Climate System and Climate Change (ISCS) held from 18 to 29 July 2011 in Beijing, China.

2011 September – Madura Weerasekera and Zeenas Yahiya attended the - "Summer School on Climate Impacts Modelling for Developing Countries: Water, Agriculture and Health" from 5 - 16 September 2011, in Trieste, Italy.

2011 Oct – Sewwandhi Chandrasekera participated at the Kanna meeting at the Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka in Colombo.

Nov – Dec 2011 – Sewwandhi Chandrasekera & Sanjaya Ratnayake visited the APEC Climate Center Climate Prediction Training Program 2011 in Busan, Republic of Korea.

Personnel

March 2011 – Sewwandhi Chandrasekera joins FECT as MDP Coordinator
Sanjaya Ratnayake joins FECT as a Junior Research Scientist

April 2011 - Janaki Chandimala agreed to rejoin FECT on part-time basis and shall work on developing course material for the MDP and in climate diagnostics

Pratheepa Jeganathan, Lecturer in Statistics at Peradeniya, plans to visit occasionally to work on Cyclone Risk during the next 6 months.

Dec 2011 – NRMS invitation to FECT - Mr. Dassanayake – Manager NRMS says that they discussed at the Board and are willing to have FECT move back into NRMS at Polgolla.

Proposals and concept notes development

December 2010 – “Adapting to Climate Change in Vulnerable Coastal Communities in Eastern Sri

Lanka”. Concept note submitted to International Development Research Centre on Climate Change and Water Program.

February 2011 - Feasibility of Incorporating NASA Model Outputs and Remote Observations for Malaria Modelling and Surveillance in South Asia - Proposal Submitted to NASA NSPIRES (The proposal, although with a lot of good comments, was not awarded)

March 2011 - Developing Hydro-meteorological Services to Support Planning, Design and Management of Mini-Hydropower Production. - Proposal submitted to the National Science Foundation Technology Grant Scheme “Support for Technology Development (Tec D)”

April 2011- Early Warning System for Dengue Risk in North-Eastern Sri Lanka based on Weather and Climate Monitoring (revised proposal submitted) – SEARO TDR Small Grants Project

Sep 2011 - Climate Adaptation and Risk Management in Southern-Most South Asia: Climate Science, Impact Evaluation and Decision Support for Renewable Energy, Fisheries, Infectious Disease and Coastal Environments - concept note submitted to The Development Grants Program (DGP) of USAID

Nov 2011 – Intra-Seasonal Climate Predictions for Sri Lanka and Maldives for Water Resources Management – Proposal submitted to Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement In Research (PEER).

Partnership Services

- Weekly expert input for Hydro-meteorological Assessment for Mahaweli Authority in Sri Lanka. Made available via <http://www.mahaweli.gov.lk> and <http://www.climate.lk/> and <http://fectsl.wordpress.com/>
- Continued to support the 30-day predictions of Paul Roundy for Sri Lankan rainfall. Extended Prediction from National to 6 Regions.
- Continued various rainfall estimation tools.
- Collaboration with Maldivian Ministry of Environment on Plans for Capacity Building
- Collaboration with Renewable Energy Maldives on Proposal Development.
- Monthly Hydro-meteorological Advisory services to Maldives

Web Development

We updated our website <http://www.climate.lk>.
<http://fectsl.wordpress.com/> which is linked to our main website.
Maldives website - <http://www.tropicalclimate.org/maldives>
MDP website - <http://www.tropicalclimate.org/mdp/>

Documentation

- Update of FECT 2-page flyer
- Annual Report for 2010/2011
- Progress Report for 2010
- Flyers on FECT contribution to the Masters in Development Practice at the University of Peradeniya

Administration: Financial management of bank accounts at Peoples Bank and Hatton National Bank has been smooth. Deposits at Ceylinco Group continue to be frozen with minor amounts released this year. The

accounts were drawn up by Rimza Muhulees and Zeenas Yahiya. Our Auditors, Anzari and Co., has reported on a healthy state of financial management in the last Audit conducted until March 2011.

Collaborations: We had productive collaborations with personnel attached to Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka (MASL), International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI), University of Peradeniya (UOP), Open University of Sri Lanka (OUSL), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Institute of Fundamental Studies (IFS), Kandy. Internationally we collaborated with University of Victoria, Toronto and Calgary in Canada on proposal development.

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