RCC-development and the CREWS initiative
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The Climate Risk and Early Warning (CREWS) initiative aims to build seamless multi-hazard early warning systems and risk information capacities in developing countries. The initiative is supported by development of WMO RCCs, providing information on climate-change-related risks from extreme events, such as heat waves, extreme precipitation, and coastal flooding. A draft plan is written for a CREWS project, twinning European and African Meteorological Services, that includes the development of RCC-node proving climate data for Western Africa.

The International Climate Assessment & Dataset (ICA&D) aims to provide quality-controlled regional climate datasets and monitoring information; all key products of WMO RCCs. ICA&D builds on the software developed for the European Climate Assessment & Dataset (ECA&D) and is already applied in four regions of the world. ECA&D is the system for WMO Region VI, SACA&D for WMO Region V (Southeast Asia), and LACA&D for WMO Region III (Latin America).

ICA&D serves as a climate monitoring tool for climate change studies, and as a web portal for daily station data and derived indices brought together in regional cooperation. Maps of gridded daily data are constructed providing basic climatic information for applications in sectors like water, health and agriculture. ICA&D is a showcase for GFCS.

Southeast Asia – SACA&D is led by the Indonesian and Dutch meteorological institutes, BMKG and KNMI, in collaboration with 16 countries in Southeast Asia.

Latin America – LACA&D is the ICA&D-concept applied to South America, hosted by CIIFEN, Ecuador.

CREWS RCC-twinning

The Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative, launched at the Paris Climate conference in 2015, aims to significantly increase the capacity for Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS). In this context, a plan is drafted to improve the regional and national capacities for MHEWS, by strengthening National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) through twinning WMOs’ RCC network in Europe and West Africa. If approved, the plan will provide for a regional implementation of ICA&D at ACMAD making available essential climate information and analyses of high-impact weather extremes, serving the NMHSs and other authorities in West Africa.

Other building blocks of the proposed project include short-term and seasonal forecasts, climate projections, capacity building and institutional strengthening.

Additional information:
ECA&D: www.ecad.eu
SACA&D: sacad.database.bmkg.go.id
LACA&D: lacad.ciifen.org
CREWS: newsroom.unfccc.int/media/454809/climate-risks-early-warning-systems-flyer.pdf
WMO-RCCs: http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/wcp/wcasp/rcc/rcc.php