

Climate research gaps and opportunities to support risk management and adaptation in Latin American countries

Rodney Martínez*, Eduardo Zambrano*, Juan José Nieto*
International Center for Research on El Niño-CIIFEN
www.ciifen.org

The poster shows climate research gaps identified in Latin America. Gaps are related with quality of databases, the need for higher resolution model outputs, the understanding of the climate system and its dynamic response to ENSO, the ENSO cycles and their relation to climate change, and a better understanding of ENSO impacts in different regions. It is showed CIIFEN's approach to the cycle from climate knowledge to concrete actions at political and community levels. Good understanding of the climate (global, regional and its local possible impacts) is the first step to determine how vulnerable the territory is to those climate threats. Then the communication strategy can be defined to inform and engage authorities and community leaders to overcome with political and communitarian responses both at local and national levels. Once decision makers are involved, and adaptation or resilience measures are defined with the participation of the stakeholders, these can be implemented in the territory.

Lessons learned in terms of climate risk management are included. The management of El Niño 2015-2016 left lessons in terms of monitoring, data and information provision, communication strategies at different levels, strengthening of the institutional framework, inter-agency coordination, and the need to harmonize the agendas of risk management and climate change.