World Meteorological Organisation

International Workshop on the Recovery of Climate Heritage in the Indian Ocean rim Countries and Islands

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Dates:
Monday, April 21, 2014 to Thursday, April 24, 2014
Location:
Maputo
Mozambique
Type:
Workshop

Understanding the science explaining the role of the Indian Ocean in triggering regional and larger scale climate variability and related extremes such as droughts, heavy monsoon and flooding is important to sustainable global development. East African droughts, Australian droughts, flooding in Southern Africa which also frequently hits Mozambique, flooding in India and Pakistan just to name a few, have caused large socio-economic impacts in the affected countries, often resulting in disasters. Developing a strong data foundation will help in achieving an improved understanding of the role of key climate drivers that lead to these extremes. These data will also provide information on the characteristics of the extremes and enable improved prediction of their occurrence in a timely manner. Over many years, the World Meteorological Organization and the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS) have made significant efforts in capturing climatic data. However, a substantial amount of old climate archives going back to the 19th century are available but often stored under poor conditions. Large parts of these archives are on paper and need to be recovered, imaged and digitized before they deteriorate beyond use. The implementation plan for the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) includes large scale Data Rescue as a priority area.

Related Project:
Programme for Implementing the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) at Regional and National Scales

Related Information:
- Concept Note and Programme
- List of participants
INDARE Implementation Plan

Final Report:

1. Informing on major regional and international data rescue projects and activities and the vast potential to recover historical weather and climate observations from both terrestrial and marine sources around and across the Indian Ocean basin;

2. Providing a forum for NMHSs from across the Indian Ocean region to assess gaps, challenges and opportunities with regards to accessing historical weather and climate data in the region and abroad;

3. Informing climate experts from NMHSs on modern Data Rescue and Data Analysis tools methodologies and tools through a dedicated parallel technical session.; and

4. Agreeing on an implementation plan for an INdian Ocean Data REcue Initiative (INDARE) aimed at enhancing the quality and quantity of historical terrestrial and marine weather and climate observations. INDARE will therefore constitute a vital basis for the GFCS in the region, and the genesis of a long term collaborative efforts in the region, on Climate Data and its use in providing climate services.