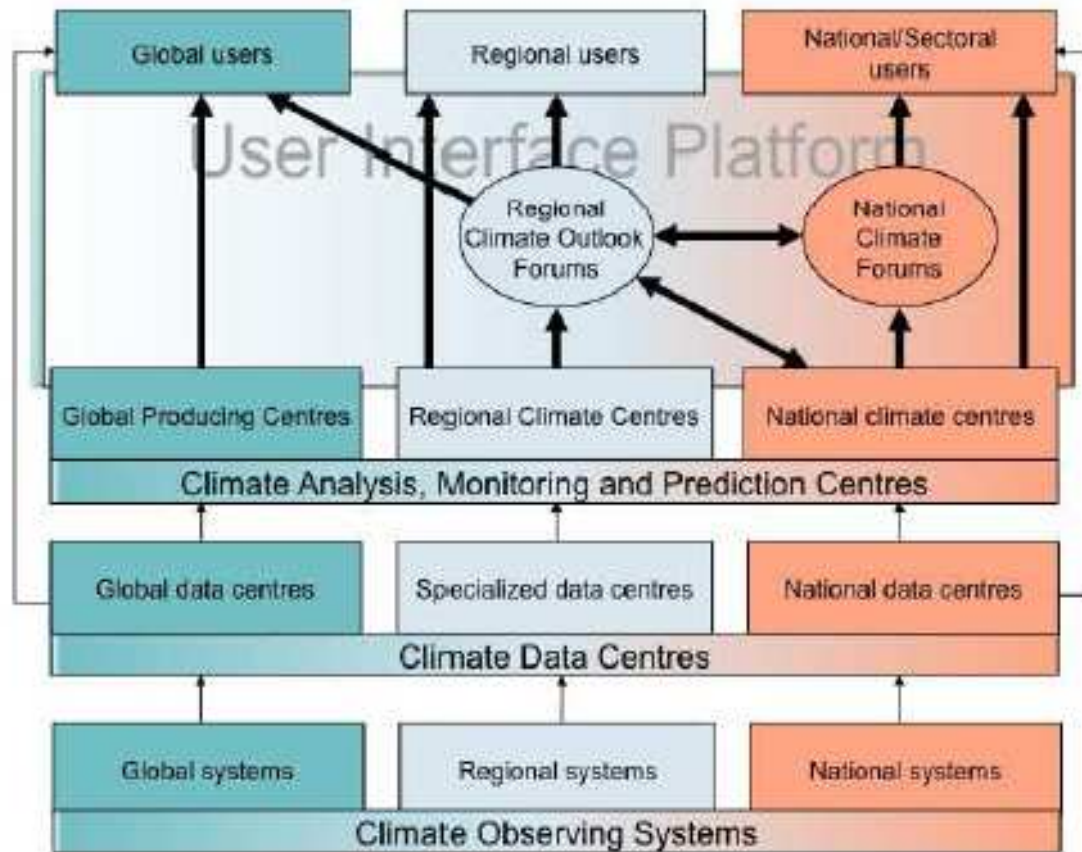


GFCS Climate Services Information System



12 WMO-designated Global Producing Centres of Long-range Forecasts (GPCs)

www.wmolc.org



- GPCs provide (at least) a minimum list of forecast variables each month for next 3-months

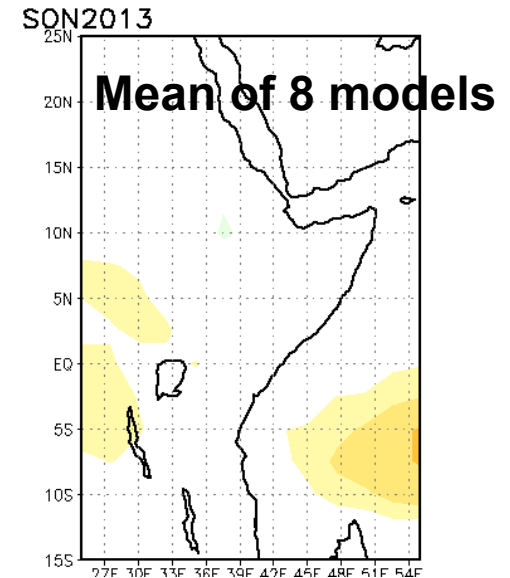
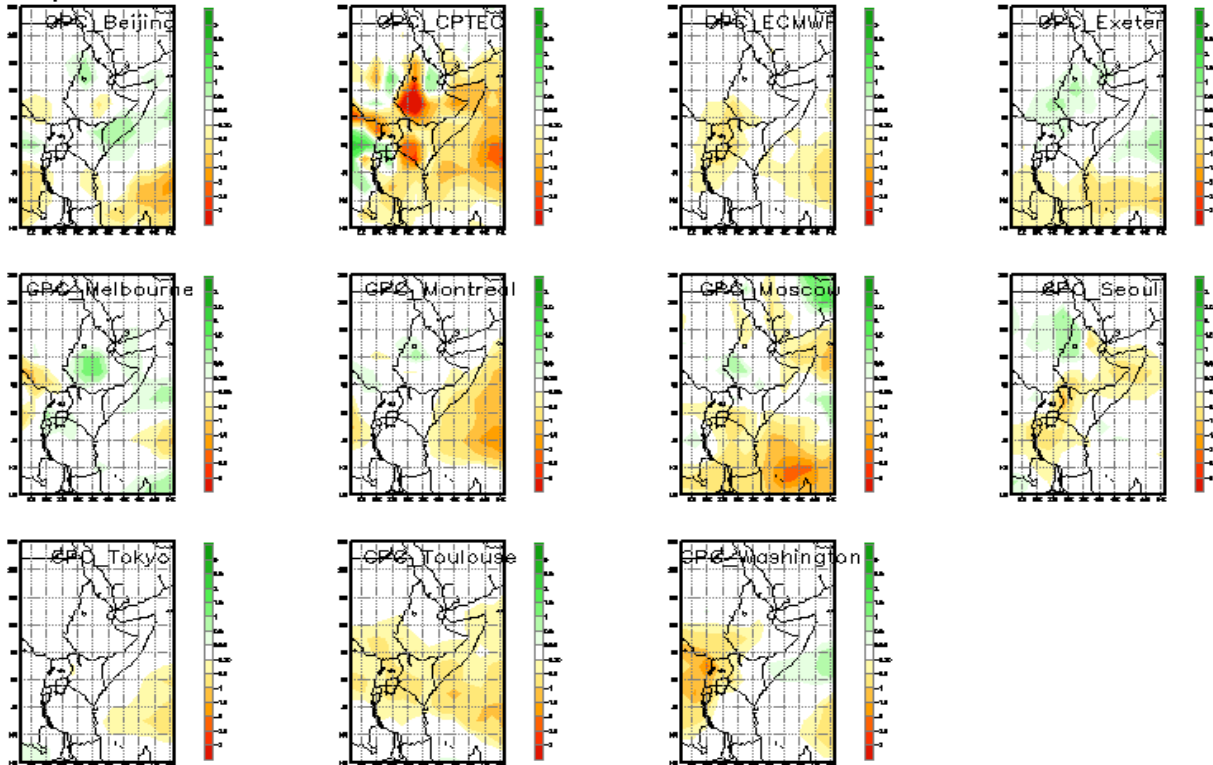
GPC data are collected and processed by Lead Centre for Long-range Forecast Multi-Model Ensembles (operated by KMA/NCEP)

Predictions for SON 2013 input to GHACOF35

lat=-15 25
lon=25 55

Precipitation : SON2013

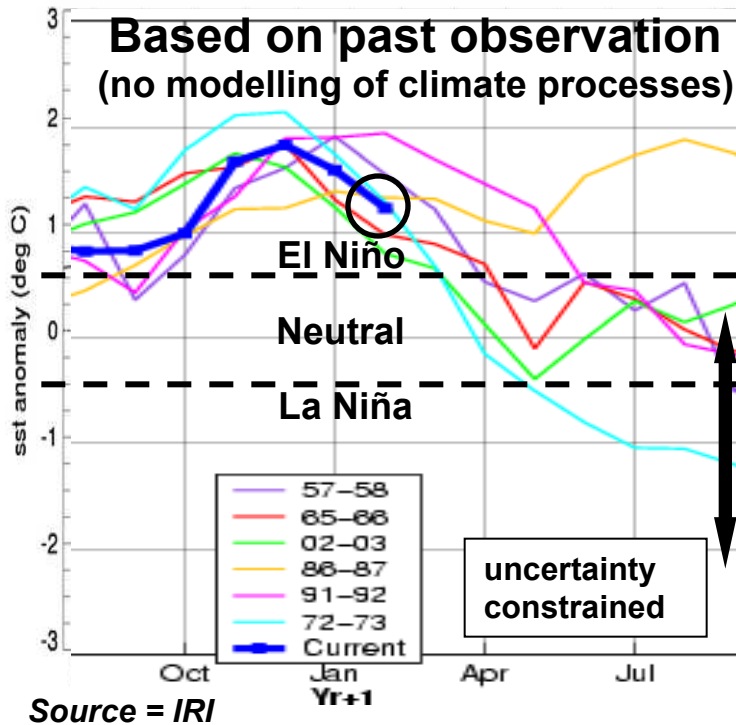
(issued on Aug2013) [Unit: mm/day]



Global Seasonal Climate Update (GSCU) document incorporating a synthesis outlook for each Regional Association, plus obs monitoring for previous 3 months (in development)

What's the benefit of the GPCs? motivation! – and a challenge!

**Early warning:
La Niña predicted from March 2010**



**Early action?
12 WMO GPCs (GFCs)**



**Failure of East Africa Sep-Dec “short rains” season
(typically dry in La Niña years)**

arnings
ica
children
Oxfam

What are the challenges in linking together the different levels in production – leading to climate services

Current situation/gaps/strategy for progress

All the below needs funding support! (ack: DfID (CSRP); AfDB (ISACIP);... but needs ramping up.

- Development of GPC-RCC(/NMHS) partnerships
 - Go extra mile; tailor the exchange of data; improve access to data products
 - Joint research, trial, implementation of new/strengthened products (e.g. onset timing forecasts)
 - Collaboration to investigate/develop Regional Model downscaling of seasonal forecasts (“in house” at RCC)
 - GPCs support and get involved in Regional Climate Outlook Forums



What are the challenges in linking together the different levels in production – leading to climate services

- Increased understanding of optimum methods of forecast production
 - Optimum use of output from GPCs (climate model based forecasts) and combination with statistical methods and local knowledge/forecaster judgement.
 - Objectify the process (as far as possible) and the value added by each prediction tool (forecast verification)
 - GPC/RCC/NMHS workshops: increase mutual understanding and use of data

What are the challenges in linking together the different levels in production – leading to climate services

- Knowledge sharing
 - RCCs: need strengthened knowledge of climate-model-based seasonal forecast systems needed; and tools to aid in using their forecasts.
 - GPCs: need RCCs/NMHSs to feedback user requirements – to inform model/product development
 - GPCs: need knowledge of RCC uses of GPC products and service delivery standards
 - GPCs: need feed back on performance of their forecasts, and data to assist in tailoring forecasts (inc e.g. historical crop yields, river flows)
 - GPCs can help by knowledge sharing on forecast communication (Public Weather Service)