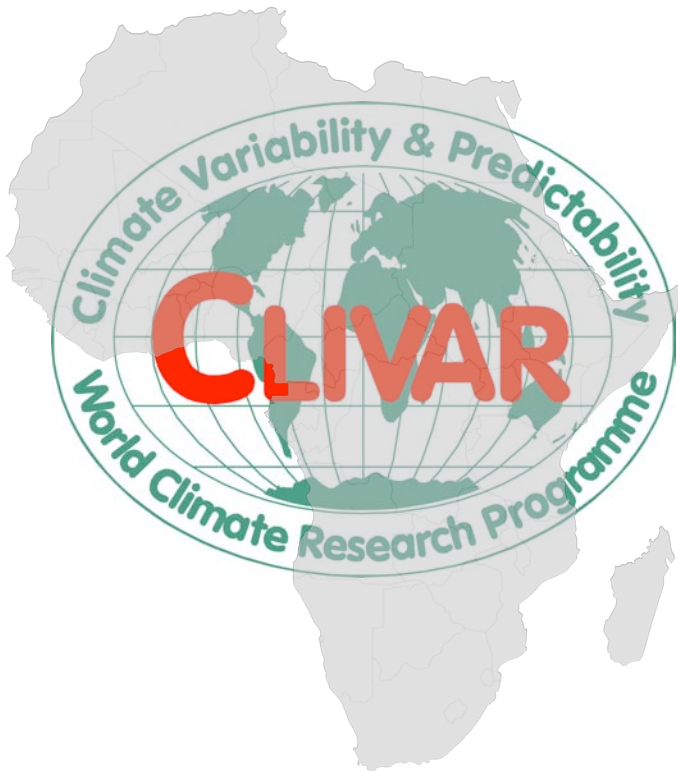


# CLIVAR VACS Southern and Eastern African Climate Predictability Workshop

Tanzania Meteorological Agency, Dar es Salaam 10-13th July 2006



## 1. Introduction

The CLIVAR Variability of the African Climate System (VACS) panel of the World Climate Research Programme (sponsored by WMO, ICSU and IOC) ran a training workshop at the Tanzania Meteorological Agency (TMA) in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania during 10-13 July 2006. The workshop was entitled *Predictability and Prediction of southern and eastern African climate variability and impacts of the neighbouring oceans*. The workshop ran for four days and was aimed at senior operational staff responsible for long range forecasting at national meteorological services and operational staff from related agencies (hydrology, water resources, oceans). Senior research scientists and operational meteorologists from groups around the world presented the material to the participants.

In all there were around fifty participants from over twenty countries. All of those originally invited were able to attend (see Appendix A). Local logistics were well organised by staff at TMA. An opening ceremony was led by Dr Mpetta from TMA. This included short speeches by the president of RA1, TMA Director General Dr Mhita, the VACS panel co-chair Prof. Chris Reason and the Tanzania Minister for Infrastructure Development, the Hon. Basil P. Mramba.

An interactive CD was put together for the participants (copy with this report) which included the agenda (with links to all the talks and practicals) as well as all the background documents, useful links, participant lists etc. A workshop website is also available at:

[http://www.clivar.org/organization/vacs/VACS\\_workshop.php](http://www.clivar.org/organization/vacs/VACS_workshop.php) and an interactive discussion forum hosted by TMA is currently under development (see Section 4)

## 2. Workshop Format

The emphasis of the workshop was very much on training and interaction. The agenda can be seen in Appendix B (a fully interactive version - with all the talks etc. - is available on the enclosed CD).

Most of the first day was spent on background lectures and tutorials in order to give the participants the background knowledge for the later practical sessions. These covered topics such as basic climate dynamics, regional oceanography and atmospheric variability, statistical prediction, forecast evaluation and climate variability and predictability.

Several practical sessions on e.g. malaria and DEMETER seasonal ensemble predictions were held, but the major emphasis was on using the Climate Prediction Tool (CPT) in order to try to improve forecasting in the different agencies across Africa. The CPT was developed at IRI and enables users to produce a sophisticated seasonal forecast of rainfall, temperature or other

parameters using a range of observational and model datasets that are supplied as part of the software package

(<http://iri.columbia.edu/outreach/software/>). The package is easily implemented and run on standard PCs and is therefore ideally suited for institutions in developing countries with limited computing facilities.

An important part of the workshop involved parallel sessions aimed at refining the research programmes for the East African and Southern African regions. These programmes are aimed at better understanding of the mechanisms and societal impacts of climate variability over these large areas of Africa and in working towards improved seasonal to interannual climate prediction. The workshop provided an opportunity for input from operational scientists from each NMS / ocean agency throughout East and southern Africa and to build synergies between them. An example of the questions posed for the Southern African group are shown in Appendix D. This was felt to be a useful exercise both for the researchers involved and the operational agencies in order to facilitate framing the programme around operational requirements and to take account of the needs of various user groups so that appropriate funding requests can be developed.

The networking opportunities provided during the workshop was something we felt to be important – e.g. trying to get different countries to share resources and predictions etc. This seemed to be successful with the participants keen to work closer together in the future, e.g. the South African Weather Service will now expand its seasonal prediction website to include the predictions made by Mozambique and linkages between the ocean agencies and the NMS will be further developed.

The first half and hour of each day was given over to a question and answer session, when the participants could bring up queries they had about the previous days work. The participants were also given feedback forms to fill in and we had a half hour session on the last day when they discussed and wrote a feedback summary (see Appendix C). During this time all the teachers etc. left the room and the participants were encouraged to be as critical as possible. This provided useful input for the workshop organisers.

### **3. Lessons learnt**

For many of us this was the first time we had been involved in organising such a workshop. In general, we felt that the workshop went well and was very worthwhile. However, as always there is always room for improvement. There were several things that we as organisers/teachers felt could have been done better and we also received useful critical feedback from the participants themselves (see Section 2 and Appendix C).

Originally the workshop was meant to be five days rather than four, but unfortunately the time had to be cut due to funding constraints. We felt that an extra day would have made a huge difference and the participants obviously felt the same. They commented that the time for the hands on sessions and discussions should have been increased and that more time needed to be spent on forecasting the onset and cessation of the wet season as well as on the interpretation of results. The participants also felt that a hard copy / CD of the lecture material could have been given at the beginning of the workshop rather than towards the end, which is a fair comment and something we should try to do in any future workshops.

#### **4. Follow up and possible future workshops**

All of us involved in the workshop felt that follow-up to be extremely important in order to build on the good will, contacts and skills obtained during the four days. Since some funds were left over after the workshop, it should be possible to achieve this to some extent. After consulting with the participants, it was felt that a good use of some of this money would be to put together an internet discussion forum for the participants and other users of CPT. This would allow the participants to discuss any problems and possible solutions as well as post their predictions for comparison etc and thereby “kick-start” a seasonal prediction network for southern and East Africa which could ultimately extend to the continent as a whole. Such a website is being put together by TMA for this purpose. Some funds may also be available as e.g. seeding money for a future workshop.

It was felt that another workshop should be a priority. During the VACS panel meeting that followed the workshop this was discussed in some detail. It was felt that the future emphasis of any workshop should be on “training the trainers” i.e. that people are trained in CPT with the idea that they would then act as local trainers in their region. These workshops could be linked to the Seasonal Outlook Fora (SARCOF for Southern Africa, GHACOF for East Africa and PRESAO for West Africa). A detailed proposal to train a pool of Africa-based CPT-competent teachers is currently being put together by the CLIVAR VACS panel.

#### **5. Summary and Acknowledgements**

The workshop was jointly organised by the CLIVAR VACS panel, International CLIVAR Project office and the local organising committee at TMA. Special thanks should go to Mr Matitu and his team at TMA for their superb organisation and friendly welcome. We would also like to thank the sponsors of the workshop: START, TMA, WCRP, WMO/CLIPS, NOAA/USAID, BCLME, BENEFIT and the South African Weather Service.

## Appendix A. Workshop Invitees

### Teachers/observers:

*Attendee*

*Contact details*

### Teachers:

Chris Reason	Chris Reason Oceanography Dept. University of Cape Town Private Bag X3 Rondebosch 7701 South Africa cjr@egs.uct.ac.za tel 27-21-650-5311 fax 27-21-650-3979
Richard Washington	Climate Research Lab Oxford University Centre for the Environment University of Oxford South Parks Road Oxford OX1 3QY UK <a href="mailto:Richard.washington@geography.oxford.ac.uk">Richard.washington@geography.oxford.ac.uk</a> Fax: +44 (0)1865 271929
Kerry Cook	Kerry H. Cook Professor, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences 3114 Snee Hall Cornell University Ithaca NY 14853 (607)255-9716 Kerry Cook <khc6@cornell.edu>

Wassila Thiaw NOAA Science Center  
Climate Prediction Center, W/NP53  
Room # 800  
5200 Auth Road  
Camp Springs, MD 20746  
Tel: 301-763-8000 X 7566  
Fax: 301-763-8125  
Wassila Thiaw <Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov>

Ale Giannini Alessandra Giannini  
IRI for Climate and Society - The Earth Institute at Columbia  
University  
P.O. Box 1000, Palisades NY 10964-8000  
phone/fax: +1 845 680-4473/4864 - email: alesall@iri.columbia.edu

Andy Morse Dr Andy Morse  
University of Liverpool  
P.O.Box 147  
Liverpool  
L69 7ZT  
UK  
A.P.Morse@liverpool.ac.uk

Simon Mason IRI for Climate and Society  
232 Monell Building  
PO Box 1000, Palisades, NY 10964-8000, USA  
Phone: +1 845-680-4514  
Fax: +1 845-680-4865  
Email: [simon@iri.columbia.edu](mailto:simon@iri.columbia.edu)

Willem Landman South African Weather Service, Private Bag X097, Pretoria 0001,  
South Africa  
[willem@weathersa.co.za](mailto:willem@weathersa.co.za), [spurs4\\_ever@yahoo.com](mailto:spurs4_ever@yahoo.com)  
fax: +27 12 367 6189

Joseph Intsiful Dr. Joseph Intsiful  
PRECIS Liaison and Training Manager  
Met Office Fitzroy Rd  
Exeter, Devon EX1 3PB UK  
Email: [joseph.intsiful@metoffice.gov.uk](mailto:joseph.intsiful@metoffice.gov.uk)  
Tel: +44(0)1392 886885  
Fax: +44(0)1392 885681

Rosemary (RANET) Ms. Rosemary P. Mchihiyo  
Tanzania Meteorological Agency  
P.O. Box 3056,  
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania  
Tel: +255 22 2460 706-8/735  
Fax: +255 22 2460 735/700  
[mchihiyo@meteo.go.tz](mailto:mchihiyo@meteo.go.tz), [mchihiyot@yahoo.com](mailto:mchihiyot@yahoo.com)

Mike Sparrow International CLIVAR Project Office  
National Oceanography Centre, Southampton

Buruhani Nyenzi Waterfront Campus, European Way  
Southampton, UK  
Tel +44(0) 23-80596207  
Fax +44(0) 23-80596204  
Email: [m.sparrow@noc.soton.ac.uk](mailto:m.sparrow@noc.soton.ac.uk)  
Dr Buruhani S. NYENZI  
Director  
World Climate Programme (WCP)  
World Meteorological Organization  
7 bis, avenue de la Paix  
CH-1211 GENEVE 2,  
SWITZERLAND  
Tel: +41-22-730-8273  
Fax: +41-22-730-8042  
email: [BNyenzi@wmo.int](mailto:BNyenzi@wmo.int)

Dan Olago Programme Officer  
Pan-African START Secretariat  
Department of Geology  
University of Nairobi  
Chiromo Campus, Riverside Drive  
P. O. Box 30197  
Nairobi, KENYA  
Tel: 254-20-4447740  
Fax: 254-20-4447740  
Email: [dolago@uonbi.ac.ke](mailto:dolago@uonbi.ac.ke)  
[pass@uonbi.ac.ke](mailto:pass@uonbi.ac.ke)

Fred Semazzi Professor Fredrick Semazzi  
Department of Marine, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences  
Box 8208  
Raleigh, NC 27695-8208  
Fax:(919) 515 7802  
Phone: (919) 515-1434  
Email: [fred\\_semazzi@ncsu.edu](mailto:fred_semazzi@ncsu.edu)

Laban Ogallo Prof L.A Ogallo  
IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC)  
P.O.Box 10304, 00100-Nairobi  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Phone: 254 20 3878340  
Fax : 254 20 3878343  
Email: [logallo@icpac.net](mailto:logallo@icpac.net), [director@icpac.net](mailto:director@icpac.net)

M. R. Matitu Tanzania Meteorological Agency  
P.O.Box 3056  
Dar es Salaam  
Tanzania

E-mail: [mrmatitu@meteo.go.tz](mailto:mrmatitu@meteo.go.tz)

**SADC/GHACOF invitees:**

<i>Country</i>	<i>Attendee</i>	<i>Contact details</i>
Angola	Francisco Neto	Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia e Geofisica – INAMET Departamento de Vigilancia Meteorologica-Aeroporto Internacional 4 de Fevereiro –Luanda-Angola Cell phone: +244-923-302387 Work Tel: +244-2-222 351951 <a href="mailto:franciscoosvaldo@hotmail.com">franciscoosvaldo@hotmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:franciscoosvaldo20032000@yahoo.com.br">franciscoosvaldo20032000@yahoo.com.br</a> <a href="mailto:inamet@netangola.com">inamet@netangola.com</a>
Botswana	Alfred Lefaphane	Dept. of Meteorological Services PO Box 10100 Gaborone, Botswana <a href="mailto:meteo@gov.bw">meteo@gov.bw</a>
Congo	Peter MBUYI-KABAMBA	Division Climatologique Service Prevision Saisonniere Climatique METTELSAT/Binza KINSHASA Peter MBUYI-KABAMBA< <a href="mailto:ndelega12002@yahoo.fr">ndelega12002@yahoo.fr</a> >
Ethiopia	Dula Shanko	National meteorology Agency P.o.box 1090 Tell:0116 61 57 79,615789,512299 office

Kenya	James Gathura	011 2362 86 resident mob +251911461956 <a href="mailto:nmsa@ethionet.et">nmsa@ethionet.et</a> , <a href="mailto:du_shanko@yahoo.com">du_shanko@yahoo.com</a> Kenya Meteorological Department Headquarters Dagoretti Corner Ngong Road, Nairobi c/o Kenya Meteorological Department P.O.Box 30259, 00100 GPO Nairobi
Lesotho	Motsomi Maletjane	Tsikoane P.O. Box 805 Leribe 300, Lesotho Tel: (cell) (+266) 5877 9313 (w) (+266) 22 327 659 Fax: (w) (+266) 22 325 057 E-mail: <a href="mailto:motsomim@yahoo.com">motsomim@yahoo.com</a> E-mail: <a href="mailto:maletjane@lesmet.org.ls">maletjane@lesmet.org.ls</a>
Madagascar	Nirivololona Raholijao	Research Service National Met. Office P.O.B 1254 Antananarivo 101 MADAGASCAR Tel: 261 20 22 408 32 Fax: 261 20 22 405 81/408 23 <a href="mailto:niriraholijao@yahoo.fr">niriraholijao@yahoo.fr</a>
Malawi	Clement Boyce	Clement Boyce Department of Meteorological Services P. O. Box 1808 Blantyre, MALAWI. Email: <a href="mailto:clbmw2002@yahoo.co.uk">clbmw2002@yahoo.co.uk</a> / <a href="mailto:cboyce@metmalawi.com">cboyce@metmalawi.com</a>
Mauritius	S Veerasamy	Mr Veerasamy Divisional Meteorologist, Meteorological Services Mauritius <a href="mailto:meteo@intnet.mu">meteo@intnet.mu</a>
Mozambique	Moises Benessene	Beira Meteorological Office P.O. Box. 597 BEIRA, MOZAMBIQUE <a href="mailto:moises_b@inam.gov.mz">moises_b@inam.gov.mz</a> Tel. +258 1 490064, Fax. +258 1 491150
Namibia	Episo Mwangala	Private Bag 13224 Windhoek, Namibia. Tel: (+264 61) 287 7012 E-mail: <a href="mailto:smwangala@yahoo.co.uk">smwangala@yahoo.co.uk</a>
South Africa	Lucky Ntsangwane	<a href="mailto:lucky@weathersa.co.za">lucky@weathersa.co.za</a> Private Bag X097

Pretoria  
0001  
South Africa  
Telephone Number +27-(0) 12-367 6239

Sudan	Abdalla Khyar Abdalla,	P.O.Box 574 Meteorological Authority Khartoum Sudan. Tel: Office (249 83) 762186, 762163, 762162, 772992 ext 225 Res 249 87) 534048, Mobile (249) 0911370093 Fax: 24983) 771693. E-mail: <a href="mailto:khyar35@hotmail.com">khyar35@hotmail.com</a> .
Swaziland	Duduzile Nhlengethwa	Swaziland Meteorological Service Ministry of Public Works and Transport PO Box 58 Mbabane, H100 Swaziland Tel: 268 404 5728 / 8859 Email: <a href="mailto:dudu@swazimet.gov.sz">dudu@swazimet.gov.sz</a>
Tanzania	N D Pyuzza	P.O. Box 33154, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Phone: +255-748-674-581 (Mobile),+255-222-460-706 (Office) E-mail: <a href="mailto:ndpyuzza@meteo.go.tz">ndpyuzza@meteo.go.tz</a> , <a href="mailto:ndpyuzza@yahoo.com">ndpyuzza@yahoo.com</a>
Uganda	Lukiya Tazalika	Department of Meteorology P.O.Box 7025, Kampala, Uganda. Telephone: 256-041-251798, Fax:256-041-251797 Mobile: 071-671583 <a href="mailto:ltazalika@yahoo.co.uk">ltazalika@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Zambia	Jacob Nkomoki	ZAMBIA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT P.O. BOX 30200, LUSAKA Cell Tel: 097 883189/252728/251912 E-mail: <a href="mailto:jnkomoki@yahoo.com">jnkomoki@yahoo.com</a>
Zimbabwe	T Nyamudeza	House No. 6533, Western Triangle P.O. Highfields, Harare, Zimbabwe (+263)-4-778173 (Business) <a href="mailto:tee_nyamudeza@yahoo.com">tee_nyamudeza@yahoo.com</a>

**Ocean agencies:**

*Country            Attendee            Contact details*

Namibia	Nande Nickanor	Mr. Nande Nickanor NATMIRC P.O. Box 912 Swakopmund, NAMIBIA nnickanor@mfmr.gov.na
South Africa	LARRY HUTCHINGS	Chief Specialist Scientist : Ecosystems Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism Marine and Coastal Management Private Bag X 2 Roggebaai 8012, South Africa Tel: + 27 21 402 3109, Fax: + 27 21 402 3351 Cell: 082 329 3900 lhutchin@deat.gov.za
Angola	Pedro Tchicalanga	INIP Instituto Nacional de Investigaçao Pesqueira (INIP) ANGOLA ptchipa@supernet.ao
Mozambique	Badru Nordine Hagy	Instituto Nacional de Investigao Pesqueira Av. Mao Ts Tung, 389 Maputo-Moambique Cell phone: +258 82 4198050, Fax: +258 21 492112 <a href="mailto:hagy@moziip.org">hagy@moziip.org</a>
Kenya	Charles Magori	Kenya Marine & Fisheries Research Institute Silos Road, English Point - Mkomani P. O. Box 81651, Mombasa 80100 KENYA. Tel: +254 722 475565, Fax: +254 41 475157 Email: cmagori@kmfri.co.ke, cmagori@yahoo.com
Zanzibar	Alfred N. Muzuka	Institute of Marine Sciences, P.O. Box 668, Zanzibar, TANZANIA Tel:+255 22 223 0741 E-mail:muzuka@ims.udsm.ac.tz

**"local" attendees**

<i>Country</i>	<i>Attendee</i>	<i>Contact details</i>
Tanzania	Pius Z. Yanda	University of Dar es Salaam Institute of Resource Assessment (IRA) E-mail: <a href="mailto:yanda@ira.udsm.ac.tz">yanda@ira.udsm.ac.tz</a>
Tanzania	J.K. Mwalilino	Faculty of Science, Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) P.O. Box 3038 Morogoro <a href="mailto:jilisam@yahoo.com">jilisam@yahoo.com</a> and <a href="mailto:mwalilino@suanet.ac.tz">mwalilino@suanet.ac.tz</a>
Tanzania	K.A. Suleiman	Tanzania Meteorological Agency P.O. Box 340, Zanzibar Tel: +255 22 2460 706-8/735 Fax: +255 22 2460 735/700

		E-mail: <a href="mailto:suleimanka@meteo.go.tz">suleimanka@meteo.go.tz</a> <a href="mailto:suleimanka@yahoo.com">suleimanka@yahoo.com</a>
Tanzania	F.F. Tilya	Tanzania Meteorological Agency P.O. Box 3056, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Tel: +255 22 2460 706-8/735 Fax: +255 22 2460 735/700 E-mail: <a href="mailto:ftilya@meteo.go.tz">ftilya@meteo.go.tz</a>
Tanzania	Agnes L. Kijazi	Tanzania Meteorological Agency P.O. Box 3056, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Tel: +255 22 2460 706-8/735 Fax: +255 22 2460 735/700 E-mail: <a href="mailto:kijazi@meteo.go.tz">kijazi@meteo.go.tz</a> or <a href="mailto:akijazi2000@yahoo.co.uk">akijazi2000@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Tanzania	Sarah Osima	Tanzania Meteorological Agency P.O. Box 3056, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Tel: +255 22 2460 706-8/735 Fax: +255 22 2460 735/700 E-mail: <a href="mailto:moshasarah@meteo.go.tz">moshasarah@meteo.go.tz</a> <a href="mailto:sarahmosha@yahoo.com">sarahmosha@yahoo.com</a>
Tanzania	Joseph A. Aliba	Tanzania Meteorological Agency P.O. Box 218, Kigoma Tel: +255 22 2460 706-8/735 Fax: +255 22 2460 735/700 E-mail: <a href="mailto:nmtckgm@meteo.go.tz">nmtckgm@meteo.go.tz</a>

## Appendix B – Agenda

*Monday, July 10th*

8.30– 8.45 Welcome and Introduction to goals of workshop ([Chris Reason](#))

8:45 – 9:05 **Basic Climate Dynamics** ([Kerry Cook](#))

- Description of the climate dynamics of southern and eastern Africa, placing the region in a global context
- Observations of rainfall and its seasonal cycle
- Role of and formation of the major features of the atmospheric circulation

9:05 – 9:40 Regional **Oceanography** ([Chris Reason](#))

- The SST climatology and variability
- Base state and circulation
- Annual cycle of SST, thermocline depth
- Focus on important features for African climate such as the cold tongue, the thermocline ridge NE of Madagascar, the Agulhas retroflexion, the tropical - subtropical cells
- The Benguela Nino

9:40 – 10:00 **Introduction to Regional Variability** ([Richard Washington](#))

- Distinguishing between internal variability and forced variability
- The elements of the mean circulation and SST that are prone to variability and how the rainfall time series changes

10.00-11.30 Tea, opening ceremony

11.30-13.00 **Variability related to the Indian and Pacific Oceans** (inc. **ENSO**) ([Kerry Cook](#) & [Ale Giannini](#))

- ENSO
- Indian Ocean dipole modes
- Overall warming
- Feedbacks with upwelling
- Subtropical SST modes and their influence on southern Africa south of about 10°S in JFM

14.00 –14.45 **Statistical prediction** ([Willem Landman](#))

14.45 –15.45 **Evaluating Forecasts** ([Simon Mason](#))

- Aspects of forecast quality (accuracy, skill, reliability, resolution value etc)
- Attributes of verification scores (propriety, equitability, effectiveness, and locality)
- Differences between verification of discrete vs. continuous forecasts, and between deterministic vs probabilistic forecasts
- Forecast scoring recommended in the WMO SVSLRF, emphasizing probabilistic verification, reliability (reliability diagrams) and resolution/discrimination
- Example of constructing reliability and ROC diagrams using DEMETER forecasts

15.45 –16.15 Additional talk from TMA and discussion

16.15 –16.45 Tea

16.45 –18.00 **Climate Variability and its Predictability** ([Richard Washington](#))

- Practical session

*Tuesday, July 11<sup>th</sup>*

8.30 – 9.00 Question and Answer session

9.00 – 9.20 **RANET** ([Rosemary Mchihiyo](#))

9.20 – 9.50 **Dynamical prediction**, including a theoretical/practical demonstration of dynamical model based prediction ([Joseph Intsiful](#))

9.50 –10.35 **Climate Prediction Tool theory, assumptions, constraints** ([Simon Mason](#))

10.35 –17.30 **Climate Prediction Tool** – hands on training & applications. ([Simon Mason](#))

*Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>*

8.30 –10.30 **Further details of CPT** ([Simon Mason](#) and [Richard Washington](#))

1.30 –2.00 **Recent Large-scale Climate Anomalies** ([Wassila Thiaw](#))

- The very wet summer 05/06 in Namibia, Botswana, most of South Africa, parts of Angola
- The ongoing drought in Kenya, Uganda, Sudan
- Connections with the variability modes discussed above
- Note that the contrasting East and southern African rainfall anomalies in '06, especially OND, are a recurring pattern.

Rest of day: **Climate Prediction Tool** – hands on training & applications ([Simon Mason](#))

*Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup>*

8.30 – 9.00 Question and Answer session

9.00 – 9.40 **Seasonal Ensemble Prediction: Applications for Malaria** ([Andy Morse](#))

9.40 –12.30 **Practical: Malaria and DEMETER seasonal ensemble predictions** ([Andy Morse](#)) OR

9.00 –12.30 **Climate Prediction Tool** – hands on training & applications ([Simon Mason](#))

- Examples of potential applications during Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning – wet and dry spell frequency and intensity during the rainy season, variability in onset and cessation of the rainy season, impacts on health conditions, tourism, agriculture, fisheries, forestry and water resources,

development of climate indices useful for agricultural, health, water resource and other applications.

12.30 –13.30 Lunch

13.30 –14.00 **Dynamical model based prediction** ([Joseph Intsiful](#))

14.00 –14.30 Student feedback session

14.30 –16.00 Parallel sessions aimed at refining the **East African programme & Southern African research programme** (SAGRADEX). Linkages with other programmes (e.g. IOGOOS, IOP, WGSIP). Development of a collaborative research network between NMS's and universities in Africa and appropriate international institutions ([Laban Ogallo/ Fred Semazzi](#) et al. for East and [Chris Reason/ Richard Washington](#) et al for Southern Africa)

16.00-16.20 Tea

16.20 –17.20 Plenary – report backs from parallel sessions

17.20 –18.00 Summary and closing ceremony

## **Appendix C – Participant Feedback**

### **1. Introduction**

The VACS Southern and Eastern African Climate Predictability Workshop was held in Dar-es-Salaam Tanzania from 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> July 2006. A number of countries in Southern and Eastern Africa were represented at the workshop. Participants were introduced to various methodologies for climate prediction and validation using Global Data Sets as well as observed data from individual participating countries. In addition to presentations by various resource persons, hands on sessions were also conducted particularly on the Climate Predictability Tool (CPT).

### **2. Organisation**

Organisation was excellent right from the airport on arrival, accommodation and meals. Participants expressed their appreciation to the organising committee

### **3. Training Materials and presentations**

The material presented was very good and relevant to the work of seasonal forecasters over Eastern and Southern Africa. However, participants observed that the time for the presentations was rather short to fully understand the CPT concepts and techniques. Furthermore, participants with oceanographic background needed extra explanations concerning the possibilities of forecasting the onset and cessation of oceanic processes, such as the Benguela Niño. The time spent on regional climate modelling was found to be short and hence was not well covered and also the interpretation of results was not clear.

The workshop has greatly equipped useful skills of climate predictability to the participants, however there are still some challenges; for example predicting the onset/cessation and extreme events of rainfall in Southern and Eastern Africa .

### **3. Recommendations**

- Time for hands on sessions and discussions should be increased.
- Time should be dedicated to forecasting the onset and cessation of the season.
- Interpretation of results should be emphasized.
- Networking amongst participating countries should be established for sharing CPT experiences.
- Follow-up workshop is recommended
- The lecture material should have been given instantaneously during the workshop
- CPT was seen to be a very powerful tool which requires to be further worked with.
- Future workshops should accommodate time for site seeing

### **4. Acknowledgement**

Thanks to Sponsors of workshop and Tanzania Meteorological Agency for organising and hosting the workshop.

### **Appendix D – Questions posed during the Southern African discussion session**

- What is your job description?
- How much time do you spend on seasonal rather than weather forecasting/data management or other non-seasonal forecasting related tasks?
- Is there a dedicated seasonal forecasting group at your institute/NMS? If so, how many are in the group?
- List the seasonal forecasting priorities of your institute/NMS.
- List the seasonal forecasting problems experienced by your institute/NMS
  
- Can you list the users/potential users of seasonal forecasts in your area?
- What limits the delivery of forecasts and their uptake by the user groups (e.g. farmers, health officials)? (is it lack of tailored product? Is it a lack of the general inclusion of climate in decision making process? Is it the lack of skill in the forecasts? Would your region be able to benefit from a forecast with perfect skill now?

- What single thing would make the biggest difference to progress with seasonal forecasting in your region?