

ABSTRACT: *The Evolving Role of WMO in Climate Change Adaptation.*

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At the end of 2007, the UNFCCC held its thirteenth Conference of Parties (COP-13) in Bali (Indonesia), within the context of the United Nations Climate Change Conference, culminating in the adoption of the *Bali Road Map* and its *Bali Action Plan*, thereby charting the course for a negotiating process to tackle climate change.

In supporting the UNFCCC, WMO has been especially active in the *Nairobi Work Programme on Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change*, and recently developed its own *Initiative to Support Climate Change Adaptation (WISCCA)*, with the objective to achieve synergies in climate change adaptation, particularly for the benefit of developing countries.

At the same time, as UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon identified climate change as the *defining challenge of our age*, WMO became increasingly involved in the UN Coordinated Response to Climate Change. Accordingly, the role of WMO in the international climate change adaptation arena considerably expanded, especially in the areas of food security, water resources management, and energy and health issues, among others.

Climate change adaptation issues have key socioeconomic dimensions in the context of sustainable development. In particular, climate risk management can be considered an interface between social & climate processes, necessitating increasingly multidisciplinary collaboration and partnerships among all stakeholders and sectors. The World Climate Conference - 3 (Geneva, 31 August - 4 September 2009), which WMO is organizing with partners, will be a principal venue to facilitate advances in climate prediction for decision-making, especially in support of climate change adaptation.