



CLIVAR Asian Monsoon activities

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CLIVAR, through its Asian-Australian Monsoon Panel (AAMP), has developed a programme of monsoon research to advance our understanding of the factors that influence monsoon variability on intraseasonal to interannual timescales. A particular focus is on improving our capabilities to provide skillfull seasonal predictions of monsoon activity. The panel seeks to provide a coordinated approach to evaluating climate models, to identify common errors and to set the priorities for future field studies. It is promoting research into the applications of monsoon prediction, the impacts of climate change and strategies to adapt to it. It is also developing a strategy for observing and monitoring the Indian Ocean, an area of global and regional significance.

Key science questions AAMP is addressing are:

- What are the dominant modes of A-AM intraseasonal to interannual variability? What processes give rise to these modes of variability? To what extent they are predictable?
- What determines the structure and dynamics of the annual cycle of the coupled atmosphere-ocean-land system? What are the major weaknesses of the climate models in simulation of the annual cycle? Do models getting diurnal cycle right will improve the modeling of the annual cycle and low-frequency variability?
- What are sub-seasonal to interannual factors that influence floods, draughts, and extreme events?
- What are the major modes of interdecadal variability of the AAM? How will AA-M system change in a global warming environment?

Ongoing and planned CLIVAR activities in the Asian Monsoon region are presented, which we hope will stimulate discussion and collaboration.