



South Asian Climate Outlook Forum (SASCOF-30) for updating the SASCOF-29 outlook

5th December 2024

(to be held online through video conferencing)

Concept Note

Background/Context:

The South Asian climate is influenced by both tropical (Oct-Dec) and temperate mid-latitude (Dec-Feb) circulation systems during the winter months. Southern parts of South Asia, including peninsular India, Sri Lanka, Maldives and southern coastal areas of Myanmar are influenced by North East Monsoon (Re-establishment of prevalent north easterly trade-wind regime over South Asia associated with the southward movement of the ITCZ), while extra-tropical activity dominated by “Western disturbances” influence the northern parts of the region including Afghanistan, Pakistan, north India, Bhutan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Myanmar. It is therefore necessary that seasonal forecasts for winter season be issued at two different times - one during September/October for southern region and the other during November/December for northern region. The crucial role of winter rains and the growing recognition of the benefits of SASCOFs in articulating and sharing seasonal climate information have led to the need for regularly conducting of winter SASCOFs.

This year, Twenty Ninth session of South Asia Climate Outlook Forum 2024 (SASCOF-29) was held via video conferencing during 25-26 September and 3 October, 2024. The Consensus statement of SASCOF-29 Outlook for the 2024 October to December (OND) Season Rainfall and Temperature over South Asia was released on 3rd October 2024.

SASCOF-30 (Thirtieth Session of SASCOF) for the winter season (DJF) will be held via video conferencing. All participants are encouraged to exchange views on current climate factors and discuss the outlook of climate prediction over South Asia for the upcoming winter season December to January 2024-25 (DJF 2024-25).

Objectives:

The main objectives of the forum are:

- a. To exchange monitoring results of climate in the region;
- b. To discuss the update of regional climate outlook for the upcoming winter season
i.e. DJF 2024-25.

Expected outcomes:

It is expected that the forum will provide a detailed analysis of the South Asian climate state and give an update of the seasonal climate outlook for the upcoming winter season i.e. DJF 2024-25 over the South Asia region.

Draft Agenda: 5th December 2024, Thursday 13.00.PM IST

- 13:00 Opening Remarks (Shri. K. S. Hosalikar, RCC, Pune and Representative from RIMES)
- 13:20 Presentations (NHMS and RCC Pune)
- 14:00 Discussion on updated SASCOF-29 Forecast-Winter season (Dec-Feb)
- 14:15 Pre-Consensus Forecast Presentation
- 14:30 Discussion on draft consensus statement
- 15:00 Closing Remarks