

What is the GFCS?

Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) is a comprehensive Framework that has been designed to mainstream climate science into decision-making at all levels and help ensure that every country; Nigeria inclusive and every climate-sensitive sector of society is well equipped to access and apply the relevant climate information.

GFCS Vision:

"To enable better management of the risks of climate variability and change and adaptation to climate change, through the development and incorporation of science-based climate information and prediction into planning, policy and practice on the global, regional and national scale."



The Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) accelerates and coordinates the technically and scientifically sound implementation of measures to improve climate-related outcomes at national, regional, and global levels. As a framework with broad participation and reach, GFCS enables the development and application of climate services to assist decision-making at all levels in support of addressing climate-related risks.

The implementation of GFCS has five components:

- [Observations and Monitoring](#)
- [Climate Services Information System](#)

- [Research, Modelling and Prediction](#)
- [User Interface Platform](#)
- [Capacity Development](#)

GFCS focuses on developing and delivering services in five priority areas, which address issues basic to the human condition and present the most immediate opportunities for bringing benefits to human safety and wellbeing:

- [Agriculture and Food Security](#)
- [Disaster Risk Reduction](#)
- [Energy](#)
- [Health](#)
- [Water](#)

It is a worldwide partnership of governments and organizations that produce and use climate information and services. It seeks to enable researchers, producers, and users of information to collaborate to improve the quality and extent of climate services universally, particularly in developing countries.

The GFCS is after building on continued improvements in climate forecasts and climate change scenarios to foster access to the best available climate data and information. The drive for this is hinged on the fact that climate information in user-friendly formats is needed by planners, vulnerable communities, policymakers, and investors to enable them to prepare for likely trends and alterations. Hence, quality data from national and international databases on variables like temperature, rainfall, wind, soil moisture and ocean conditions are needed by the afore mentioned groups as well as long-term historical averages of these parameters including maps, risk and vulnerability analyses, assessments, and average projections and scenarios.

Suffice it to add that user's requirements differ, so depending on their needs, these data and information products may be combined with non-climate data, such as agricultural production, health trends, population distributions in high-risk areas, road, and infrastructure maps for the delivery of goods, and other socio-economic variables. The objective is to strengthen efforts to prepare for new climate conditions and to help people adapt to the impact of these new climate conditions on water supplies, health risks, extreme events, farm productivity, infrastructure placement, etc.

The Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet) is to a large extent cooperating with United Nation (UN) agencies, regional institutions, governments agencies, and researchers towards expanding the production, distribution, and use of relevant and up-to-date climate information by combining expertise and resources as expected by the GFCS. This partnership has enabled proper dissemination of

data, information, services, and best practices towards building greater capacity for managing the risks and opportunities of climate variability and change and for adapting to climate change.

“Within six years, GFCS aims to have facilitated access to improved climate services around the world; within 10 years, services will have been provided to all climate-sensitive sectors. The results will be an effective global partnership for identifying and meeting user needs for climate information; the effective application of climate observations, socio-economic data, models, and predictions to solving national, regional and global problems; a system for transforming data into information products and services to inform decision making; and increased capacity around the world for producing and using climate services” (World Meteorological Organization [WMO], n.d.).

The GFCS implementation plan guides the development of the information resources that are so urgently needed for building climate resilience and preparing adaptation plans. The demand for climate services has been identified and this demand is ensured to be met through access to scientific information. The priority sectors identified by GFCS are health, water, energy, food security and agriculture, and disaster risk reduction. Gladly, NiMet through the Climate Services unit is complying by proficiently servicing these priority areas.