



OUTCOMES FROM THE STUDENTS AND ECS LUNCH MEETING.


On Thursday 20th of March, the students and ECS that participated at the WCRP Conference on Latin America and the Caribbean had a meeting during lunchtime to discuss on how they can contribute to the main conference objective while they continue to develop their own careers.

Regarding the Conference overview:

- Uruguay came out as a good example on how to articulate climate information developed by the scientific community and the user needs, as well as its use within the governmental decision-making process.
- The diversity of the speakers was highlighted, although the lack of representatives of the operational centers and governmental agencies was also pointed out.
- It would be interesting to perform a complimentary activity to foster communication and discussion between the different components of the decision-making network, making the young scientists part of this kind of meetings.



On the main challenges in the development of Climate Services

- Articulation between the research centers and the stakeholders needs to be further investigated. Social researchers, and those of other disciplines as well, might come in really useful to fill the existent gap between the scientific community and stakeholders.
 - Different activities to show the advantages of the use of climate information might be useful to stakeholders. In order to perform this activities, the advice of capacitated people is critical.
 - The possibility of developing products for Climate Services is reduced because of the constant need of publishing results on basic climate science journals. Therefore, a change of paradigm within the climate community is needed.
 - We need to stop thinking uncertainty as a negative attribute of climate information. It does and will always exist, so we don't need to project that on the users negatively. We need to train them so as to accept and deal with the limitation of the information we can provide.
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On the role of students and ECS in the development of Climate Services

- Currently, internships or postdocs at operational centers do exist (e.g., Postdoc Applying Climate Expertise, PACE program from the UCAR). However, we don't always get that information just out of ignoring it. Therefore, we thought about creating a network to distribute information on this opportunities, as well as to keep in touch on this issues.
- A workshop centered on how to deal with the user problematic would be useful so as to incorporate that perspective on our current formation.

