

Regional Seminars: Linking Science to Services

Translating advances in ENSO research to operations in Latin America and the Caribbean

English/Spanish interpretation available

Register at: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_aluq_hiJQjuiOr45J9EnNA

Session title	Translating advances in ENSO research to operations in Latin America and the Caribbean
Date and Time	Thursday, 3 July 2025 09h00-11h00 Costa Rica 11h00-13h00 Barbados, Chile 10h00-12h00 Panama, Peru 12h00-14h00 Argentina, Brazil 15h00-17h00 UTC
Motivation	<p>Our understanding of the dynamics of the El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) has greatly advanced over the recent decades. However, many of these developments are slow to be adopted by operational communities across the world, and particularly across Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). Operational ENSO forecasting and subsequent seasonal products do not necessarily incorporate or reflect the evolving science and understanding of ENSO and its regional impacts.</p> <p>To address this gap, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI), and the University of Colorado have jointly organized a series of online workshops/exchanges/webinars. The goal of these activities is to accelerate the translation of recent scientific advances in ENSO dynamics and prediction to inform operations. These activities will focus on supporting operational communities in LAC – a region where these research advances could increase societal resilience to climate variability and change.</p>
Key objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Present the implications of ENSO predictability asymmetry and discuss how this affects the accuracy, reliability, and interpretation of ENSO forecasts in operational contexts. 2. Share the experiences and challenges faced by WMO Regional Climate Centers in developing and disseminating seasonal forecasting, highlighting lessons learned and areas for improvement. 3. Identify concrete opportunities to strengthen collaboration and knowledge exchange between the research and operational communities in Latin America and the Caribbean, with the aim of improving climate services and enhancing regional resilience.

Target audience	Scientists, operational forecasters, and technical staff of regional centers and National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) from Latin America and the Caribbean.
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Agenda

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Time UTC	Topic/questions for the panelists	Presenter/panelist:
Moderator: Rodney Martinez, WMO Representative for North America, Central America, and the Caribbean		
15:00-15:10	Introduction and Opening Remarks	Dr. Anna Stewart Executive Director of IAI Mr. Julián Báez Director of WMO Regional Office for the Americas Dr. Pedro DiNezio University of Colorado Boulder
15:10-15:25	Is climate change affecting ENSO monitoring and prediction? Monitoring ENSO in a Changing Climate – A relative Niño index	Michelle L'heureux NOAA Climate Prediction Center
15:25-15:40	Should the Indian Ocean be included in forecasts? Impact of the Indian Ocean variability on South American climate	Marisol Osman Departamento de Ciencias de la Atmósfera y los Océanos, Universidad de Buenos Aires
15:40-15:55	Is La Niña easier to predict than El Niño? Asymmetries in the predictability of El Niño and La Niña	Pedro DiNezio University of Colorado Boulder

15:55-16:10	When and where does Coastal Niños matter most? Challenges in understanding and predicting coastal Niño	Cristian Martinez-Villalobos Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez, Chile
16:10-16:50	How has the skill of regional forecasting changed over time? Perspectives on operational matters from WMO Regional Climate Centers & Open Discussion	Cédric Van Meerbeeck WMO Regional Climate Center for the Caribbean (CIMH) Felipe Costa WMO Regional Climate Center for Western South America (CIIFEN) Laura Aldeco WMO Regional Climate Center for Southern South America (SIISA)
16:50-17:00	Closing remarks and next webinar	Anna Stewart Executive Director of IAI