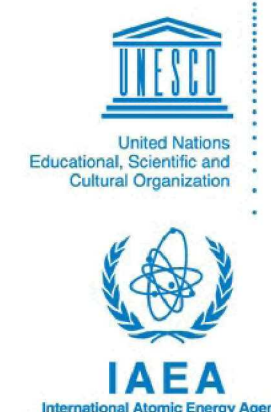




# The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics



## Targeted Training Activity (TTA) on '*Seasonal Predictability in Tropical Regions*'

August 4 - 15, 2008

and

## Workshop on '*Multi-scale Predictions of the Asian and African Summer Monsoon*'

August 11 - 15, 2008

Miramare-Trieste, Italy

### TTA on '*Seasonal Predictability in Tropical Regions*'

August 4 - 15, 2008

The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics - Earth Systems Physics section is organizing its 4th Targeted Training Activity (TTA) entitled '*Seasonal Predictability in Tropical Regions*', with particular emphasis on *capacity-building in seasonal prediction for Developing Countries*.

As an advanced continuation of the previous editions, the 2008 TTA will also focus on seasonal predictability in tropical regions, *with the following aims*:

- Provide an updated overview of current research on the seasonal predictability and associated background knowledge;
- Illustrate the state-of-art operational and experimental activities on seasonal predictions from different institutions world-wide and the availability of such forecasts for developing countries;
- Support knowledge and know-how in the development of seasonal prediction systems for improvement of seasonal prediction activity in developing countries;
- Co-ordinate co-operation between the research and operational groups of the developing countries through laboratory projects set up based on the use of selected datasets from seasonal forecasting centers for regional diagnostics and applications of individual countries.

**PARTICIPATION:** Participants for the TTA will be nominated by representatives of the Targeted Institutions collaborating in the event. No on-line applications will be accepted for this part of the activity.

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### Workshop on '*Multi-scale Predictions of the Asian and African Summer Monsoon*'

August 11 - 15, 2008

The aim of the activity is to review the state-of-the-art regarding *predictions of the South/East Asian and West African summer monsoon systems*, with emphasis on indices of *rainfall anomalies*, over a variety of time-scales.

**The Workshop will specifically address issues such as:**

- for what regions and time window can statistical models provide useful information on monsoon rainfall?
- up to what lead time can the onset of the tropical monsoon systems be predicted by ensemble prediction systems?
- have dynamical forecasts of phenomena such as MJO and tropical cyclones improved?
- what is the skill and reliability of multi-model seasonal forecasts of summer monsoon indices for Asia and Africa?
- can predictions by one-tier coupled models be improved by statistical or dynamical downscaling?
- can monsoon predictions be improved by techniques to reduce the climate drift (and the consequent 'initialization shock') of coupled models?
- is the current level of skill in seasonal forecasts enough for agricultural, hydrological or disease prevention applications?
- how should climate change be taken into account in the design and validation of forecast systems for the tropics?

### **PARTICIPATION**

The activity is open to scientists from all member countries of the United Nations, UNESCO and IAEA. The main purpose of the Abdus Salam ICTP is to help researchers from developing countries through a program based on international co-operation and limited funds are available to support the attendance of such applicants, to be selected by the organizers. The activity will be conducted in English. *Registration is free-of-charge.*

**APPLICATION: WORKSHOP ONLY** The "On-line Application" form can be accessed at:

web form: <https://webform.ictp.it/LOGINS/login.mhtml?smr=1956>

or web page address: <http://www.ictp.it/~smr1956/>

& ICTP agenda page: [http://cdsagenda5.ictp.trieste.it/full\\_display.php?smr=0&ida=a07165](http://cdsagenda5.ictp.trieste.it/full_display.php?smr=0&ida=a07165)

(Please save and upload file attachments in either: RTF format, .doc or .PDF)

Contact Information: Lisa Iannitti, c/o ICTP, Strada Costiera 11, 34014, Trieste, Italy  
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May 2008

### TTA Directors

In-sik Kang (SNU, Korea)  
J. Shukla (IGES/GMU, USA)

Local Organizer:  
J.H. Yoo (ICTP, Italy)

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### Workshop Director

F. Molteni (ECMWF, UK)

Local Organizer:  
A. Tompkins (ICTP, Italy)

**Deadline for  
Requesting funds  
June 15, 2008**