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Advances in applying climate prediction to agriculture

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Groundnut farmers in Tiruchengodu, Tamil Nadu, India, discuss climate risk with researchers

Photo: Holger Meinke



SPECIALS of Climate Research (CR) present important new information on climate phenomena measured and assessed by closely coordinated group efforts. They concentrate on specific research themes or geographic areas.

CR SPECIAL 16 is based on the results of the Climate Prediction and Agriculture (CLIMAG) program initiated in 1999 by the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP), International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP), International Human Dimensions Programme (IHDP) and Global Change SysTem for Analysis, Research and Training (START).

This SPECIAL reviews recent advances in the application of climate prediction to agriculture in developing countries, which are aimed at improving the use of climate information for the

benefit of smallholder farmers, and enhancing food security. Contributions focus on the prediction of climate fluctuations and their agricultural impacts, as well as on the economics of risk management. They identify a need for improved forecasting, local communication and stakeholder participation, as well as decision-making at the national level.

CR SPECIAL 16 contributes to the enhancement of food security of the world's poor by supporting initiatives that help smallholder farmers to anticipate and adapt to climate extremes.

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