PROJECTED PERIOD ANALYSIS (2013-2100)

Projected Temperature:

- The State is anticipated to face an increase in temperature under all scenarios for all projected time periods.
- The increments in the long term under mild and extreme scenario are limited to 2.2°C and more than 3.5°C respectively.

Scenarios	Time Period			
	Near Term (2013-2040)	Mid Term (2041-2070)	Long Term (2071-2100)	
RCP 2.6	0-1.5°C			
RCP 4.5	0.9-1.7°C		1.3-2.2°C	
RCP 6.0	0.7-0.8°C	1.4-2.5°C		
RCP 8.5	0.7-0.9°C	1.4-2.2°C	>3.5°C	

Projected Precipitation:

- An increase in rainfall is projected to be about 3-7% in the near term, 3-6% in the mid-term and 5-
- **13%** in the long term under various scenarios.
- The central region, which already receives very high
- precipitation, is projected to face even higher rise.

	Time Period		
Scenarios	Near Term (2013-2040)	Mid Term (2041-2070)	Long Term (2071-2100)
RCP 2.6	40-300 mm	30-180 mm	78-180 mm
RCP 4.5	50-160 mm	80-190 mm	95-350 mm
RCP 6.0	92-287 mm	45-178 mm	120-270 mm
RCP 8.5	100-269 mm	86-212 mm	181-420 mm

CLIMATE VULNERABILITY HOT-SPOTS







Precipitation based Vulnerability Index



- Two indices, Temperature based Vulnerability Index and Precipitation based Vulnerability index, were developed based on the observed mean, projected changes in climate and projected frequencies of extreme events in order to identify the regions that are vulnerable to climate change hazards.
- Climate vulnerability hot-spots are those regions which are more susceptible to changes in climate. Based on severity of the vulnerability index, the indices were categorized as mild (0 to 0.4), high (0.4 to 0.7), and extreme (0.7 to 1).
- Temperature Vulnerability Hot-spots: East Jaintia Hill, West Jaintia Hills, and some parts of East Khasi Hills & Ri-Bhoi are at high risk of temperature based hazards.
- Precipitation Vulnerability Hot-spots: South West Khasi Hills, West Khasi Hills, some parts of East Khasi Hills, South West Garo Hills & West Garo Hills are at high risk of precipitation based hazards.

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Identification of Climate Vulnerability Hot-spots in Meghalaya using High Resolution Climate Projections





Department of Science & Technology Ministry of Science & Technology Government of India



OBSERVED PERIOD ANALYSIS (1981-2012)

OBJECTIVE

- Understanding the impacts of observed climate variability on hydrologic variables (rainfall, air temperature, and evapotranspiration) in Meghalaya
- Evaluating changes in observed climate and extreme events (droughts, floods, and heat waves) in Meghalaya for the period of 1981-2012 using the high-resolution datasets
- Providing an assessment on the future changes using high resolution dynamically and statistically downscaled projections from the CMIP5 and CORDEX-south Asia regional climate models
- Providing observed and projected future climate gridded data at high resolution (~5-10 km) for each district in Meghalaya, that can be used for vulnerability assessment and policy making

DATA USED

OBSERVED (1981-2012):

- For temperature, data from Sheffield et al. (2006) at 0.25 degree resolution was re-gridded to 0.05 degree resolution.
- For precipitation, Climate Hazards Group Infra-Red Precipitation with Station (CHIRPS) data at 0.05 degree resolution rescaled using IMD and APHRODITE precipitation to 0.25 degree resolution.

PROJECTIONS (2013-2100):

- Projected climate data were obtained from Coupled Model Intercomparison Project 5 (CMIP5). Out of the 40 CMIP models, 5 best model were selected (viz. CCSM4, GFDL-ESM2M, NorESM1-M, NorESM1-ME & MIROC5).
- The final resolution after applying bias correction for all the products was 0.05 degree resolution.

Observed Temperature:

- The State has experienced a **steady increase in the average temperature** during the past three decades (1981-2012) which clearly indicates that climate change is a reality and is happening now.
- The rate of annual temperature increment being 0.031
 °C per year poses a serious challenge.
- In the years 1991 and 1992 a drop in temperature below normal was observed, but for rest of the observation period, temperature increased consistently up to 1°C between 1981 and 2012.
- The **rate of increase** in temperature **varied spatially** with the South-eastern part having experienced a slower rate as compared to the rest of the State.



Observed Precipitation:

- The State received an annual average rainfall of 4085 mm of which 72% occurs during June-September.
- The average annual rainfall has an increasing trend of 11.56 mm per year.
- There is a **high spatial variability** in rainfall as central part of the State received **4000-8000 mm** while rest of the State experienced relatively moderate rainfall.
- Though there is a **steady change in precipitation levels**, the districts of West Khasi Hills, South West Khasi Hills & East Khasi Hills **shows very high precipitation levels as well as higher rise in intensities**.

Climate Change Projections

- Future projections of both rainfall and temperature for different time period under four representative concentration pathways (RCP 2.6, RCP 4.5, RCP 6.0, RCP 8.5) scenarios were considered.
- The time period of evaluation was divided into near term (2013-2040), mid term (2041-2070), and long term (2071-2100).
- All the projected changes are relative to the **baseline climate data** (1981-2012).

Projection Challenges

- **Reliability** of climate models
- Uncertainty (climate models, climate scenarios, and impact models)
- Observations (spatial & temporal resolution)
- Downscaling & Bias correction (Statistical vs. Dynamical)





Extreme Temperature Events:

The number of hot days and nights dropped between the period 1990-1994, while cold days and nights increased. However, 1995 onwards, **the number of hot days and nights has an increasing trend** while that of cold days and nights has a declining trend.

This trend signifies a consistent warming of the region.

