

Invitation to join an online seminar between World banks and WMO from IFMS

(International Forum for Met Societies <https://ifms.org>)

ANNOUNCING A WEBINAR ON PPA COLLABORATION INITIATIVE OF WBG WMO

Dear IFMS Members and Associate Members,

IFMS is holding a Webinar as follows:

Subject: WBG's and WMO's PPA Initiative – Public, Private & Academic Collaboration for strengthening the Weather Enterprise

Date & Time: May 15, 2020 at 8:00 am EST (New York Time) to cover all time zones of the world. Presenters: Dr. Jack Hayes (IFMS GWE Committee-Chair) & Dr. Vladimir Tsirkunov (WBG-GFDRR) All interested member and associate member societies and their members are invited to attend.

All attendees must Register by completing the form available on the following website: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_59o0YnHzRyyktUkwzic09g Participation information will be sent to all registered members.

Since capacity (number of people who can join the Webinar) will be limited, you are advised to register as early as possible.

BACKGROUND:

As you might know, both World Bank Group (WBG-GFDRR) and WMO are promoting collaboration between Public, Private and Academic (PPA) sectors. As you might have seen from our IGM-06 Report (also available on www.ifms.org) WMO passed the Resolution related to PPA Collaboration in Cg18 in June 2019.

A summary of PPA Collaboration will appear in our forthcoming Newsletter – NL05 in early May and I am attaching it to this email so that you can understand the value of this Webinar.

The article is written by our very well-known Council Member Dr. Jack Hayes who is heading IGWE Committee of IFMS as its Chair. He participates in all meetings of WBG ((GWEF) and WMO (OCP) and is very knowledgeable in this Initiative. He will be joined by Dr. Vladimir Tsirkunov - Lead specialist and the team leader of Hydromet Program of the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) of the World Bank Group. Dr. Tsirkunov is heading the GWE Initiative on behalf of GFDRR-WBG.

Since PPA Collaboration is important part of the modus operandi from now on, we wish to keep our members informed and assist them in understanding this fairly novel idea which is taking strong roots in the Global Weather Enterprise.

Both WMO and WBG hold meetings in various Conferences which can be attended by only those who can afford to travel to those meetings. For most people, the best way is through a series of Webinars, which is what IFMS is offering to WMO and WBG to educate all our member societies and even National Hydro Met Services (NHMS).

Please spread this message to all your members including those from NHMSs.

Happy Earth Day: A message from one of our members Uruguayan Met Society (Amigos del Viento) is attached.

All the best, Harinder Ahluwalia

Dr. Harinder P. S. Ahluwalia, Eng.

President - IFMS

Web: www.ifms.org

Email: ha@info-electronics.com Phone: 1-514-421-0767 Ext. 222

Fax: 1-514-421-0769

Cell: 1-514-497-8658

Please stay safe from COVID-19. Please practice all safety advice.

=====

New Zealand weather and climate news

Courtesy of MetService Library

MetService mentions

Wairarapa plane crash: 'Experienced, dedicated, hugely valued' Aerowork pilot dies

New Zealand Herald

MetService reported the weather this morning was good for flying, with clear skies and light winds recorded. The plane the man crashed was a ...

Weather: 'Good weather recipe' for North Island's Anzac weekend, 'pair of pesky fronts' hit south

Newshub

Metservice forecasts "cloudy mornings" but "fine afternoons" this weekend, which is both the long Anzac weekend and Kiwis' last in lockdown.

Wellington City Council wants formal debrief on 6m waves in Owhiro Bay

New Zealand Herald

Metservice meteorologist Andy Best said at the time the waves, which came on a fine, calm day, were caused by a storm further off the coast

Your weather: Chilly morning clears to fine day, three month outlook predicts little rain for dry upper ...

New Zealand Herald

MetService meteorologist Andrew James said the central plateau was the coldest part of North Island overnight with a frost settling in parts of ...

Rain won't break Northland's drought, but it helps

New Zealand Herald

MetService meteorologist Mmathapelo Makgabutlane said there had been some decent amounts of rain across the region this week, but not enough.

Christchurch residents wake to unusually chilly temperatures for April

Stuff.co.nz

According to MetService data, the coldest temperature ever recorded in Christchurch during April was -4C in 1979. Ashburton and Oamaru got down to ...

MetOcean

Warmest oceans on record could set off a year of extreme weather

The Australian Financial Review

El Nino "depends on contrasts, as well as absolute values of sea-surface temperatures", according to Kevin Trenberth, a scientist at the National Center ...

Assessing El Niño's impact on fisheries and aquaculture around the world

Phys.Org

El Niño is widely known as a climate pattern that begins over the Pacific Ocean but wreaks havoc on ecosystems in land and water far away from its ...

NIWA

Bushfire Smoke Continues Trip Around World

A blob of smoke from the Australian bushfires is continuing to circle the globe almost four months after it formed.

WMO

Coronavirus pandemic will drive carbon emissions down 6%, meteorological group says

WDRB

... emissions are expected to fall 6% this year because of the coronavirus pandemic, according to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

ECMWF

How to optimise mathematical methods to model the stratosphere

ECMWF

Early in her training in mathematics, Inna Polichtchouk developed an interest in atmospheric dynamics. Her expertise is now helping ECMWF to get a ...

Extreme weather (and other news) – Australia and the Pacific

Invest 90E Could Become First April Eastern Pacific Tropical Depression on Record Well South of ...

Satellite imagery shows thundershowers continue to become better ... in the Eastern Pacific Basin in reliable records since weather satellites began ...

Get ready to FREEZE: Polar blast is set to hit Australia next week bringing blizzards, heavy ...

Daily Mail

Weatherzone meteorologist Hannah Wilson told Daily Mail Australia that low temperatures will also hit the southern capital cities

Extreme weather (and other news) – Asia and the Middle East, Africa

Virus-hit Asian nations brace for double disasters as extreme weather looms

As the season of monsoons, heat waves and cyclones hits, many Asian and Pacific Island nations fear being stretched too thin

Normal monsoon over South Asia: SASCOF

The Indian Express

SASCOF is a consortium of meteorologists and hydrological experts from South Asian countries, including Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal, ...

Robust storms threaten flooding, strong winds over India and Bangladesh

AccuWeather.com

AccuWeather Senior Meteorologist Dave Houk notes that, "Kolkata, which had a hot, dry first half of the month has picked up showers and thunderstorms ...

Normal monsoon likely; Bay of Bengal area set to get below-normal rains: WMO-led forum

Times of India

... season (June-September) as a whole over “most parts of South Asia”. The weather forum, however, giving a broad indication of its geographical ...

Extreme weather (and other news) – Americas and Europe

Rising seas could make U.S. coastal flooding a daily peril by 2100

In coming decades, what are now twice-a-century coastal floods could become much more frequent - and costly

Stormy pattern to bring flash flooding to parts of Spain, France

AccuWeather.com

AccuWeather Meteorologist Tiffany Fortier expects that rain totals into Wednesday will reach 50-100 mm (2-4 inches) across far northeastern Spain ...

Germany heading toward drought amid coronavirus crisis: forecaster

Deutsche Welle

A leading meteorologist has warned that if heavy rains don't arrive soon, Germany could face its second drought in two years. Showers are forecast, but ...

April 2020 provisionally sunniest on record for UK

Although many of us have seen a marked change in the weather today the provisional early statistics show that for the UK as a whole it has been the sunniest April on record (figures dating back to 1929).

Satellite Data Shows Amazon Rainforest Is Drier And Could Be At Risk For Fires

CleanTechnica

Brazil's Center for Weather Forecasting and Climate Research (CPTEC) shows in its climate models that there is no indication of above-average rain ...

International news and research

Meteorologists say 2020 on course to be hottest year since records began

The Guardian

The Met Office is more cautious, estimating a 50% likelihood that 2020 will set a new record, though the UK institution says this year will extend the run ...

Researchers Claim Rainfall Triggered Kilauea Eruption, but Others Remain Skeptical

Heavy rains may have put pressure on the Hawaiian volcano's underground plumbing, setting off its major 2018 eruption

Last year was Europe's hottest on record, even without El Nino: scientists

Reuters

The scientists said last year's record temperatures came even though there was no El Nino – a weather pattern that typically leads to higher ...

University of Bristol joins world-leading alliance to advance weather and climate science

EurekAlert (press release)

... which brings together some of the world's best researchers to forecast extreme weather and its societal implications as well as develop innovative, ...

University of Bristol joins world-leading alliance to advance weather and climate science

University of Bristol

The University of Bristol is today joining forces with the Met Office, together with UCL, to expand and transform an alliance which will strengthen the UK ...

Advertising/promotion

Why Keeping Track of the World Weather Can Take Your Small Business a Notch Higher

News Credits

Thanks to predictive weather analytics offered by Coovun, this is something you no longer have to worry about since it is essential for making quick ...

Art/s

How one artist in isolation is keeping his head in clouds

Mirage News

... off the Himawari weather satellite, run by the Japan Meteorological Agency. ... "The project uses Landsat and Himawari satellite data to investigate ...

Aviation

Coronavirus: Air New Zealand has 'busy' Saturday night but holds little hope for Level 3

Air New Zealand enjoyed its "busiest night for some time" on Saturday but things are not expected to be much better for the airline when New Zealand moves to alert level 3.

Air NZ 777 fleet grounded for a year

Air New Zealand is grounding passenger flights on its Boeing 777 flights until April next year, as it plans for a slow gradual entry back into international travel.

Coronavirus: Air ambulances rule NZ's empty skies while Covid-19 grounds private jets

The big planes that usually rule New Zealand's skies have all but disappeared during the coronavirus lockdown, but there are still some smaller dots moving about on the radar.

New Zealand's shrinking national carrier

Air New Zealand is scrambling to save costs as it fights to remain alive in a world where few are now flying.

Regional airline facing rough landing if it can't qualify for aviation support package

TVNZ

In the last year, it's moved around 120,000 people around the country. ... But in a statement, Transport Minister Phil Twyford told 1 NEWS they want to ...

International passenger numbers at Auckland airport drop 95 percent

Auckland Airport says international passengers numbers have dropped more than 95 percent in the first 20 days of April over the year earlier.

Air NZ to drop two international routes

Air New Zealand will not resume operation of its suspended Auckland to Buenos Aires and Los Angeles to London routes because of the impact of Covid-19.

Fly me to the Moon

Gisborne Herald

Rocket Lab staff working from home in Mahia are planning a flight to the Moon on top of donating face masks and hand sanitiser to the local iwi during ...

OSU receives NASA award to study weather for drones

Oklahoman.com

... OSU's expertise and preeminence in unmanned systems, particularly in the area of unmanned aircraft for weather and meteorological applications," ...

Business/Insurance

CIO to CEO: Dave Thompson heads Nelson AI Institute

An updated list of ICT executives recently appointed into a new chief information officer role at organisations in New Zealand

Simple steps could help reduce aviation accidents

Tech Xplore

Flight into inclement weather remains a significant cause of aviation fatalities, particularly for small aircraft, according to a recent study. Two major ...

Coronavirus: Budget 2020 may be time to look beyond Covid-19 'relief' and towards recovery

Stuff.co.nz

Transport Minister Phil Twyford indicates there will be no reprioritisation of spending away from roading, though. "We aren't considering changing any ...

Climate change / global warming

Can New Zealand's climate policy survive Covid-19?

The country's economic rebuild must deliver a more climate-friendly New Zealand than it currently is, Climate Change Minister James Shaw says.

Earth Day 2020 Special: Climate Change and Policy

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, and on this occasion, Springer would like to present selected research and blogs written by key opinion leaders on the topic of Climate Change and Policy. All articles and chapters are freely accessible through the 20th May, 2020. [Read curated content here](#)

Covid-19 / Business

Travel to New Zealand likely to re-open with 'natural partner' Australia

New Zealand will likely be the first country Australians will be able to visit after Covid-19 restrictions are eased, Australia's home affairs minister Peter Dutton says.

Iconic companies emerge out of every major crisis - so it will be with Covid-19

Stuff.co.nz

So did Kiwi icons Xero, Rocket Lab, PowerbyProxi, and Lanzatech. Chief executive and founder of Rocket Lab Peter Beck. Will a new Beck emerge .

Hawke's Bay forestry gets back into gear as Government works to improve things for the road ahead

One of the lockdown's hardest hit industries will get into gear on Tuesday, which will mean many in the Bay heading back to work.

Free Online Training To Help Organisations And Their Staff Thrive During COVID-19

Recruiting expert Hays has launched a free online training portal designed to help employers and teams grow the skills they need to function effectively and thrive in the face of Covid-19.

Pandemic recovery guide: Be as digital as possible, ensure succession planning for key execs

How organisations can take a phased approach to coronavirus pandemic recovery

Covid-19 / Wellbeing

[Caring For Community To Beat Coronavirus Echoes Indigenous Ideas Of A Good Life](#)

Scoop.co.nz

The New Zealand Treasury's Living Standards Framework, launched in late 2018, recognises that living well consists of many dimensions, including ...

Energy and Mining

[New Zealand Institute For Minerals To Materials Research - New Website Launch](#)

New Zealand Institute for Minerals to Materials Research is proud to present our new website, www.nzimmr.co.nz and our subdomain www.labs.nzimmr.co.nz

History

[Stockholm Meteorological Station](#)

Atlas Obscura

One of the world's oldest, continuously operating meteorological stations sits on a hill in Stockholm.

[Rewriting the stories of the Pasifika Coastwatchers](#)

First person - How Willie Cuthers set out to challenge foundational narratives of his ancestors and gain formal recognition for all WWII Pasifika coastwatchers.

Infrastructure

[Otago Uni pitching \\$325m worth of projects](#)

The University of Otago is pitching for five “shovel-ready projects” collectively worth more than \$325 million to start construction in the next year.

[Coronavirus: Key construction, transport projects set to resume in capital](#)

As Wellington prepares to head into alert level 3, work is set to get under way on several key transport and construction projects for the region.

Rural broadband network gets \$15m investment

The government has allocated up to \$15 million to improve rural broadband capacity.

Guidelines For No-regrets Infrastructure Stimulus

“The economy and jobs are the priority for the May budget, but post budget the Government must accelerate discussions on the long-term vision, principles and larger investments required to transform the country into the new New Zealand,” says Infrastructure NZ CEO Paul Blair.

Lightning

Lightning Research Flashes Forward

Eos

GLM is the most recent lightning detection instrument to go online in what is ... and repurposing them into exceptionally sensitive lightning detectors.

Outdoor recreation

Skifields may open under Alert Level 2

A few days after snow blanketed the region’s mountains, winter sports enthusiasts in the Queenstown Lakes received the strongest indication yet they could be hitting the slopes in June.

Covid 19 coronavirus: Preventable drownings up, but surf life saving rescues down

New Zealand drowning numbers might be up, but cooler ocean temperatures and the Covid-19 lockdown also led to a 20 per cent drop in rescues this season, Surf Life Saving NZ says.

Satellites and radar

52 ideas that changed the world - 45. Geosynchronous satellites

The Week UK

The first geosynchronous satellite was launched in 1963 and, according to Nasa, they are now used to provide weather satellite images and to ...

All-Weather Image Data Put to the Test

Datanami

A satellite constellation equipped with the all-weather radar promises to deliver accurate, timely data. The multispectral imagery released by SpaceNet ...

On-the-fly filtering system improves weather sat image alignment

Tech Xplore

The satellite position, the orientation of the satellite, and the mirror of the ABI shift around constantly. The latter is especially troublesome when Earth ...

Transport/roading/shipping/freight

Coronavirus: Awakino Gorge twin bridge bypass project to restart

A multi million dollar state highway project in Taranaki is set to restart when the coronavirus alert level 4 is downgraded a level on Monday April 27 at 11.59pm.

Innovation and technologies and AI

Altair and Cylc Take Weather Prediction by Storm

insideHPC

... for weather forecasting and climate modeling. Major weather and climate centers around the world use HPC technology to power numerical weather ...

IBM's The Weather Channel app using machine learning to forecast allergy hotspots

TechRepublic

But artificial intelligence (AI) innovation from IBM's The Weather Channel is ... innovative and intuitive new experiences for the users of the Weather ...

Doosan Mobility Innovation Completed Contactless Drone Delivery to Remote Islands Without a ...

Financial Post

TruWeather Solutions provided accurate maritime weather and wind data using their micro-model. As pharmacy or post office, the official channel for ...

Could Machine Learning Replace the Entire Weather Forecast System?

HPCwire

... down into observations, data assimilation, numerical weather forecasting, and post-processing and dissemination. Across those areas, he explained ...

Journal and articles online

Adventure Magazine April 2020

April is always our survival issue - seems fitting this year.
How to survive an eruption, survive Everest, survive a Great White encounter and more.

<https://www.yumpu.com/en/document/read/63201345/adventure-magazine-april-2020>

=====

Welcome to AMS News You Can Use.

Each week, we send out a sampling of recent news and items of interest in meteorology and related fields, as covered by various media outlets.

After over four decades on the air, WBZ meteorologist Barry Burbank is retiring

Boston.com - April 25, 2020

After over four decades of forecasting the weather in New England, WBZ weatherman Barry Burbank is retiring, the station announced Friday.

Hurricanes Are Reshaping Evolution Across the Caribbean

The New York Times - April 27, 2020

A new study of lizards in countries struck by hurricanes suggests cataclysmic weather can reshape entire species.

How the First Earth Day Happened

The Weather Channel - April 21, 2020

What ended up as the Earth Day now celebrated worldwide was spearheaded by a U.S. senator and a scruffy group of organizers who ended up entraining millions of Americans into their cause.

State Climatologist Office is a weather resource, service for the public

Penn State News - April 21, 2020

The Pennsylvania State Climatologist office, located in 606A Walker Building on the Penn State University Park campus, provides the commonwealth with various data, including long-term historical weather observations, hourly averages of weather data, and detailed weather information for several Pennsylvania cities.

NASA catches formation and final fate of Eastern Pacific's Tropical Depression 1E

EurekAlert! - April 27, 2020

The Eastern Pacific Ocean's hurricane season may not officially start until mid-May, but the first tropical cyclone of the season formed over the weekend of April 25 and 26.

The Summer Of 2020 In The U.S. Will Be Abnormally Warm. How Will That Impact The Coronavirus?

Forbes - April 27, 2020

NOAA predicts a warmer than normal summer as the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic continues.

Lightning Research Flashes Forward

Eos - April 24, 2020

A greater understanding of lightning mechanisms is spurring the development of more accurate weather forecasting, increased public health precautions, and a more sophisticated understanding of lightning itself.

A Satellite Look Back at 50 Years of Earth Day

WeatherNation - April 26, 2020

In celebration of Earth Day, let's take a look at just how far geostationary satellite technology has come since 1970 by looking at full-disk imagery taken every 10 years since the holiday's inception.

Spotting air pollution with satellites, better than ever before

ScienceDaily - April 22, 2020

Researchers have devised a method for estimating the air quality over a small patch of land using nothing but satellite imagery and weather conditions. Such information could help researchers identify hidden hotspots of dangerous pollution, greatly improve studies of pollution on human health, or potentially tease out the effects of unpredictable events on air quality, such as the breakout of a global pandemic.

How Satellites And Machine Learning Are Being Used To Detect Plastic In The Ocean

Forbes - April 27, 2020

New research shows that satellite data analyzed with a machine learning algorithm can detect ocean plastic with up to 100% accuracy.

+++++

Weather Eye from John Maunder

<https://www.sunlive.co.nz/blogs/14612-solar-activity-and-next-maunder-minimum.htm>

=====

Thanks to our regular contributors

+++++