

CARIBBEAN INSTITUTE FOR METEOROLOGY AND HDYROLOGY



Programme for Building Regional Climate Capacity in the Caribbean

ASSISTANT CLIMATE FORECASTER

TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

1. INTRODUCTION

Climate change and increasing climate variability and their potential impacts have boosted society's demand for tailored climate products and services. The delivery of critical climate services related to climate change and climate variability in a sustained timely manner requires computational power, model research and know-how, IT expertise, interpretation capabilities and national, regional and international collaborations.

The programme Building Regional Climate Capacity in the Caribbean is being funded by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), delivered by World Meteorological Organization and implemented by the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH). The funding will assist the CIMH in building its institutional and regional capacity to sustainably deliver climate services to the Caribbean region in order to become the WMO designated Regional Climate Centre (RCC) for the Caribbean.

2. ABOUT THE CARIBBEAN INSTITUTE FOR METEOROLOGY AND HYDROLOGY

The CIMH is an Institution of the Caribbean Community and the technical Organ of the Caribbean Meteorological Organization. The mandate of the CIMH is to assist in improving and developing the Meteorological and Hydrological Services as well as providing the awareness of the benefits of Meteorology and Hydrology for the economic well-being of the CIMH member states. This is achieved through training, research, investigations, and the provision of related specialized services and advice.

In achieving its mandate, the CIMH has established an affiliation with the University of the West Indies where its primary responsibility is the delivery of the B.Sc. programme in Meteorology in the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences. The CIMH is also recognized by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) as:

- The WMO Regional Training Centre in the Caribbean for Meteorology and Hydrology and related disciplines.
- A Regional Instrument Centre for the Caribbean.
- Centre of Excellence in Satellite Meteorology Training;
- The WMO Regional Climate Centre for the Caribbean.

In addition, the CIMH is a repository for the climate data from CMO Member States. The CIMH is also an important Caribbean centre for research and development related to Meteorology, Hydrology, Agro-Meteorology and Climate in the Caribbean. The CIMH is active in such areas of hydrological risk impacts forecasting and agricultural risks forecasting. The CIMH has strong collaborations with other Regional Institutions, national organizations in CMO Member States and the international community

3. DESCRIPTION

The CIMH is seeking to recruit an **Assistant Climate Forecaster** to support the Caribbean Climate Outlook Forum (CariCOF)'s efforts in developing and delivering operational climate forecasts across multiple timescales.

4. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The successful candidate will work in a team conducting multi-disciplinary training, research and development to support:

- Assist in the monthly delivery of region-wide operational seasonal climate forecasts within the framework of CariCOF by running statistical and dynamical climate model experiments;
- Set up and upgrade downscaled, statistical and dynamical climate modelling capacity for the Caribbean at the Institute in support of sub-seasonal and seasonal climate forecasting and long-term climate change projections capacity within the framework of CariCOF;
- Assist in the automation of CariCOF's operational seasonal forecast system.

The successful candidate will also be required to conduct regional and international travel.

5. PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Candidates applying for the position should have a graduate degree (M.Sc. or higher) specializing in climate modelling, climate science, computer science or a related discipline. The candidate has a proven track record (with at least post-doctoral or 5 years experience with a Master's degree in a research or operational environment) in setting up and running statistical or dynamical climate models, pre- and post-processing, analysing and visualising model output.

The successful candidate should have a proven track record of climate forecasting using statistical or dynamical climate models. Knowledge of programming and scripting for integration of model output in spatial databases and automation of forecasting procedures is a pre-requisite.

Preference will be given to a candidate who has a demonstrated ability of setting up a regional dynamical climate model.

6. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The successful candidate should be performance driven through independent as well as collaborative and synergetic research, demonstrate excellent coordination and communicational skills as well as experience in small/mid-scale project funding acquisition.

It is expected that the successful candidate will be familiar with:

- Processing of large datasets with spreadsheet/database software;
- GIS and spatial analysis tools; and
- Scientific principles of climate variability in the Caribbean.

Prior work experience in the Caribbean related to the core disciplines related to this project would be an asset.

The successful applicant must have written and verbal skills in the English language. Knowledge of Spanish and/or French would be an asset.

7. REMUNERATION & BENEFITS

The appointment will be at either the Graduate or the Post-Doctoral Researcher scale of the University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus, Barbados depending on the academic background and experience of the candidate. The ideal candidate should be early in his/her professional career. However, mid-career professionals will be considered. A non-contributory medical plan is being offered.

8. DEADLINE

The deadline for applications is **5th September, 2014**. Enquires and applications (curriculum vitae, certificates, list of publications, short outline of research and development ideas, and the contact information for two professional referees) should be addressed to:

David A. Farrell, Ph.D., P.G.
Principal
Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology
Husbands
St. James
Barbados

Or via email to hrdept@cimh.edu.bb with **BRCCC-2014 Assistant Climate Forecaster** in the Subject Line

9. DURATION

The full-time position is available for **a minimum of 2 years** (starting as soon as possible) and may be prolonged subject to candidate's performance and funding availability.

10. PLACE OF WORK

The candidate is expected to reside in Barbados during the period of employment under the project. The CIMH is an equal opportunity employer.