

Climate Services – Assessing Success

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Process Metrics

- The NCS has:
 - An effective leader at the highest possible level of government
 - Sufficient authority to allocate resources, direct research and operations.
 - A clear, authoritative voice for information
 - A well-articulated strategic plan (goals and implementation)
 - A functioning peer review process that involves all appropriate stakeholders
 - A strategy for setting priorities and allocating resources among programs and partners
 - Mechanisms in place that facilitate broad use and understanding of its products and results



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Input Metrics

- The applications/products have a sufficient research foundation and link to human interests to be useful and effective in decision-making.
- There is a sufficient commitment of resources (people, financial, infrastructure) to ensure that the mission can be carried out.
- There is sufficient commitment of resources to promote unanticipated discoveries/products, investigate competing ideas, and foster innovation.
- There is sufficient commitment to the foundations: (a) a robust climate observing system, and (b) high spatial resolution climate model development and application.
- The program leverages existing federal and non-federal resources and capabilities.



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Output Metrics

- The products and results of the NCS are accessible, credible and useful
- The products and results of the NCS satisfy a broad range of needs, from regions and sectors to assessment and synthesis
- The NCS includes a broad and diverse community of engaged users
- The infrastructure has been created that promotes and supports the mission of the NCS
- Stakeholder-based assessments demonstrate the utility of NCS products and services in informing management and promoting effective decisions
- New results and new products are communicated to an appropriate range of stakeholders



Outcome Metrics

- The NCS has promoted new avenues of research and discovery that has resulted in new and useful products or services
- The NCS has provided new knowledge (e.g. linkages between climate and human endeavors, increased understanding of uncertainties)
- The NCS has resulted in more consistent and reliable climate predictions, increased confidence in our ability to utilize information, and facilitated more effective decision making
- Research results have become operational products
- The institutional and human capacity to provide and utilize climate information has increased because of the NCS
- The measurements, analysis and products are being utilized for a wide variety of applications and decisions



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Impact Metrics

- The public understanding of climate and climate impacts has increased
- The NCS has benefited society – by enhancing economic vitality, protecting life and property, and promoting environmental stewardship and sustainability
- The NCS has informed policy and demonstrably improved decision-making across a broad spectrum of regional, sectoral, national and global domains



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