

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF
METEOROLOGICAL AND HYDROLOGICAL SERVICES**

INVENTORY OF DECISION SUPPORT TOOLS

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
Sector	Leisure and Sports
Sub-sector	Water sports
Tool Name	Lightning Webpage
Tool Description	The Lightning Webpage provides automatic site-specific alert of thunderstorms to users.
Weather, Climate or Water inputs	Real-time lightning data
Specific weather, climate, water data required	Cloud-to-cloud discharge, cloud-to-ground discharge, number of lightning strikes
Spatial resolution	Point data (about 100 m)
Temporal resolution	1 minute
Delivery methodology	Data transmitted through the Lightning Location Network.
Frequency of data requirement	Updated every minute in the Hong Kong Observatory's server
Other	Nil
Detailed Tool Description	The Lightning Webpage provides audio and visual alerts to users when lightning activity is detected within a region centred at the user's pre-defined location. There are a maximum of 3 range rings for user's selection of alarms, each with different alarm tones.
Spatial resolution	Regional areas
Temporal resolution	5 minutes
Delivery methodology	Real-time data displayed on a dedicated webpage on the Hong Kong Observatory's website for the public and on a password-protected website for special users.
Frequency of provision	As required.
Other	Nil
Benefits of tool application	The tool facilitates monitoring of thunderstorms in the vicinity of the user's area of interest and serves as a supplement to the Thunderstorm Warning. This serves to alert people to the

	potential threat of thunderstorms in various parts of the territory. It triggers users to take appropriate protective actions and facilitates users' planning of outdoor activities such as hiking, water sports and paragliding.
Possible future advances	To include GIS information and other meteorological data such as radar data on-the-fly with a view to enhancing user friendliness of the tool.
Comments	Nil
URL	Nil
Others	Nil