# Launch of Data Collection or Production Centre for World Weather Information Service

The Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) announces that the Data Collection or Production Centre (DCPC) for the World Weather Information Service (WWIS) has moved to the operational phase.

The WWIS at <a href="http://worldweather.wmo.int">http://worldweather.wmo.int</a> is a web site operated by HKO on behalf of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). It serves as a centralized source on the Internet of the official weather information issued by the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs). By April 2014, a total of 166 WMO Members are supplying weather forecasts or climatological data for showing on the WWIS. As an integral component of the WMO Information System (WIS), the DCPC for WWIS serves three major functions:

- Provide online services for global users to search and access the official weather forecasts and climatological information for cities around the world collected under the WWIS programme.
- Offer subscription service for users to automatically receive weather information of their interest. The information is encoded in XML format to facilitate further data processing.
- Provide metadata of the weather information available at the DCPC for WWIS to the Global Information System Centres (GISC) under the WIS framework to enable searching of weather information through the GISC's Discovery, Access and Retrieval (DAR) services.

From the DCPC for WWIS portal (<a href="http://dcpc.worldweather.org">http://dcpc.worldweather.org</a>), users can search for weather forecast and climatological information products currently available under the WWIS programme. They can request direct access to the most recent issues of the products or set up a subscription to get the products delivered once they arrive at the DCPC (please refer to the user guide in the Appendix). The web portal is open to all participating NMHSs of the WWIS programme.

For more information about the service of DCPC of WWIS, please contact Mr. CHAN Sai-tick, Forecast Systems Division, Hong Kong Observatory at email: dcpc@hko.gov.hk.

## **Data Collection or Production Centre for the**

#### **World Weather Information Service**

#### Introduction

The Data Collection or Production Centre (DCPC) for the World Weather Information Service (WWIS) operated by the Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) is a component of the World Meteorological Organization Information System (WIS). It manages and disseminates official weather forecasts and climatological information for worldwide cities supplied by the respective National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs).

WIS is a coordinated global infrastructure for all World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Programmes to meet the requirements for routine collection and automated dissemination of data and products, as well as data discovery, access and retrieval (DAR) services for all weather, climate, water and related data produced by centres and Member countries in the framework of WMO.

WWIS is a web site (<a href="http://worldweather.wmo.int">http://worldweather.wmo.int</a>) operated by the HKO on behalf of WMO. It was launched in 2002 to serve as a centralized source on the Internet for user to access official weather information issued by NMHSs. With the weather information collected under the WWIS programme, the DCPC for WWIS generates the corresponding data and metadata in conformance with WMO's standards to provide DAR services. In addition, the DCPC offers subscription service for user to receive selected weather information automatically.

#### Services of the DCPC for WWIS

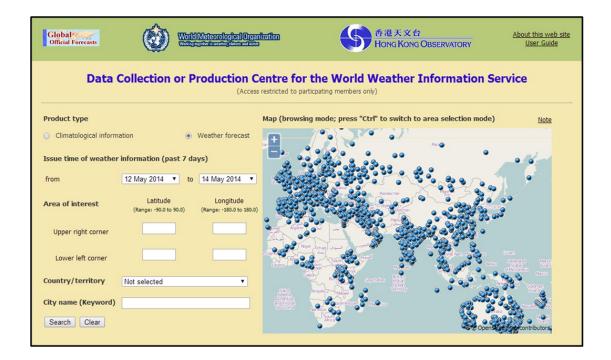
The DCPC for WWIS has three major functions:

- Provides online services for global users to search and access the official weather forecasts and climatological information for cities around the world;
- Offers subscription service for users to automatically receive weather information of interest. The information is encoded in XML format to facilitate data manipulation; and
- Provides metadata of the weather information available at the DCPC for WWIS to other systems such as the Global Information System

Centres (GISCs) of the WIS for users to search for weather information via the GISC's DAR services.

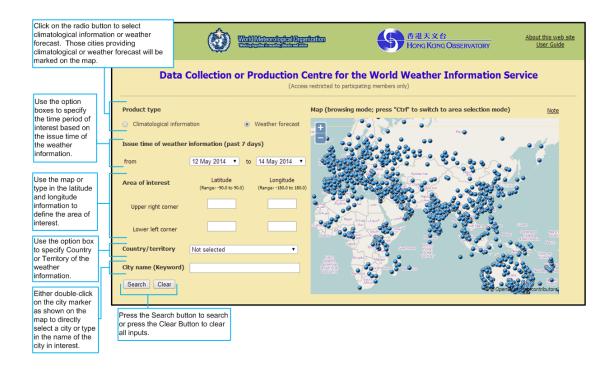
## Overview of the DCPC for WWIS

The DCPC for WWIS consists of a database, application programs and the front-end graphical user interface. The graphical user interface enables Internet users to search and browse the weather information presented in tabular form. Besides, official world city forecasts and climatological information encoded in standard XML format are published by the DCPC for WWIS to enable subsequent data exchange between computer DCPC The for **WWIS** systems. portal available http://dcpc.worldweather.org on the Internet. A sample of the webpage is given below.

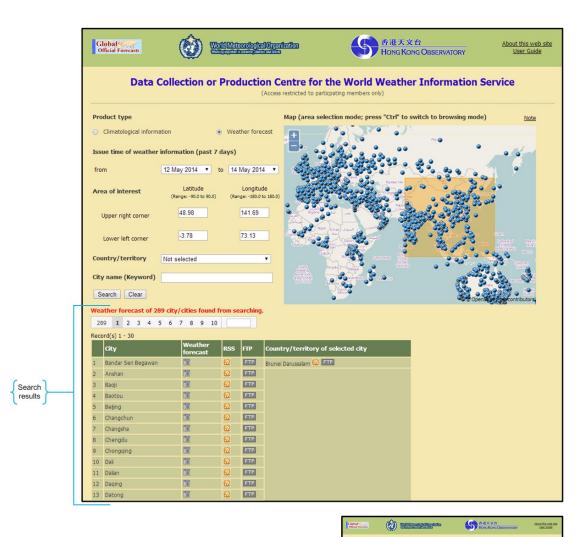


#### 1. Search and access

Users can use the web-based graphical user interface to search the product catalog and browse the weather information therein. Detailed steps are given below.



After entering the searching criteria, the search results are listed as shown in the figures below:



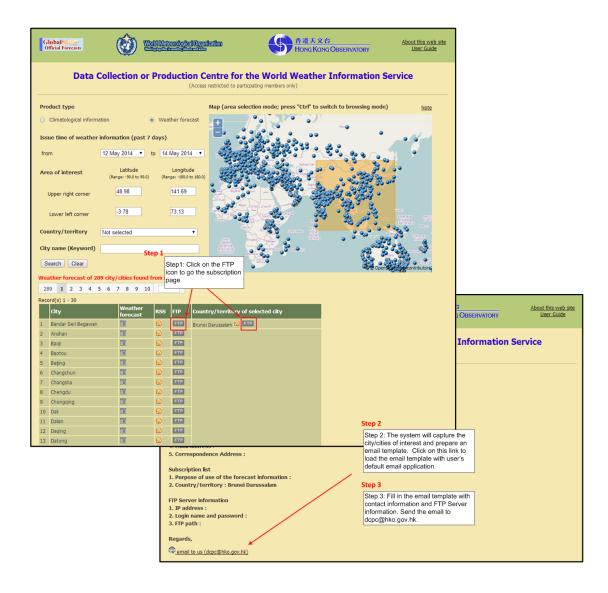


The weather information is also available in RSS document. The RSS document can be read using RSS reader.



## 2. Product subscription

Through the web-based graphical user interface, users can browse the weather information of interest and subscribe to the information. The weather information will be encoded in XML format and disseminated to the users automatically. Please refer to the figure below.



Upon receipt of the email from a user via the subscription service, the HKO will arrange automatic dissemination of the requested weather information to the FTP server of the user.

For enquiry or feedback on the DCPC service, please contact Mr. Chan Sai-tick at email: dcpc@hko.gov.hk.

Prepared by Hong Kong Observatory May 2014