

Climate Information Services in Hong Kong and Their Applications in Urban Living

T C Lee
Senior Scientific Officer, Hong Kong Observatory
Hong Kong, China

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Abstract

Weather and climate have an impact on people's everyday life in many ways and shape the socio-economic development and infrastructure characteristics of societies. With the setting up of its first observational post way back in 1883, the Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) has been making meteorological measurement for over 130 years in Hong Kong. The advent of the automatic weather station network in mid-1980s has further expanded the areal coverage, and now with nearly 30 years of observation behind us, local climate statistics at enhanced temporal and spatial resolution can also be gradually established. In view of the potential benefits in applying such information intelligently, HKO has successfully cultivated close partnerships with a diversity of stakeholders to enhance its climate services in recent years. This presentation provides an overview of the climate data resources in Hong Kong and highlights some examples on the use of climate information in some urban living aspects, including urban planning, infrastructure design, building energy saving, public health, thermal comfort, and relevant public education activities.