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SINGAPORE NEWS

Central Data Depository will be set up to study local weather conditions

By Noor Mohd Aziz, Channel NewsAsia | Posted: 01 December 2006 2320 hrs

SINGAPORE: A central depository that records data on Singapore's weather is being set up.

The data will come from schools participating in the National Weather Study Project 2007 and information collected will contribute to research on how the environment is causing climate change in Singapore.

More than 200 schools in Singapore already have their own weather monitoring stations.

Participating schools will submit their projects related to climate change and the environment.



The weather data collected from these schools will then be stored in the depository which will be made available on the internet for research and development purposes.

Dr Lim Hock Beng, Programme Director of IntelliSys at Nanyang Technological University, says the details of the implementation are still quite preliminary.

"It would be similar to the idea of a google map where you may have a centralised data depository and we will provide tools and applications that can access this data in such a way that anyone interested would be able to put their own applications, either through a portal, a website or even a blog," says Dr Lim.

It would also complement the meteorological data of the National Environment Agency.

Grace Chan, a student at Methodist Girls' School, says: "It's going to be really interesting to know how the weather is going to affect us in our daily lives and how the pattern of weather in Singapore is, compared to other places in the world."

The project is a community initiative by Senoko Power, which contributed S\$1 million to provide all participating schools with mini weather stations.

Roy Adair, President and CEO of Senoko Power, says: "This year we are looking at much more of a global content. Climate changes are, after all, one of the significant problems that we face on a global basis.

"So we are looking for students who try to establish the context for their studies, not only about how it affects Singapore and Singaporeans, but also what it means from an international perspective."

This hands-on community project is supported by various government ministries and organisations. – CAN/so