



Science Highlights

A 25-Year Global Temperature Data Record

The launch of the Special Sensor Microwave/Imager (SSM/I) on board the Defense Meteorological Satellite Program's (DMSP) Fram Space spacecraft in June of 1987 marked the beginning of a nearly continuous 25-year record of high-quality global microwave based atmospheric temperature observations... [read more](#)

The "Year" of Tropical Convection (YOTC): Latest Results

[YOTC](#) - a joint WCRP and [WWRP/ThorpeX](#) coordinated research programme involving observing, modeling and forecasting of organized tropical convection - highlights its latest accomplishments in three articles in the [August issue of BAMS](#)

Subseasonal - Seasonal Predictability: Weather and Climate

Prof. Julia Slingo, chief scientist of the United Kingdom MetOffice and member of the WCRP Joint Scientific Committee, gave a compelling presentation on subseasonal to seasonal climate prediction at the 64th WMO Executive Council in May 2012. [See her presentation](#)

Seamless Prediction of Seasonal to Decadal Climate

Despite their differences in timescale, climate processes and decisions relevance, the seasonal and decadal prediction systems have common priorities and elements. Affiliated WCRP scientists make the case for better coordination of research of seasonal to decadal climate prediction.... [read more](#)

BALTEX Celebrates 20th Anniversary

The Baltic Sea Experiment ([BALTEX](#)) was founded in 1993 to study the hydrological cycle and energy exchange between the atmosphere and the land surface for the Baltic Sea region, including rivers and lakes. BALTEX is the only [GEWEX Regional Hydroclimate Project](#) (RHP) with an oceanographic focus... [read more](#)

The Role of Stratosphere in Climate System

The emerging datasets from stratospheric-resolving models in the [CMIP5](#) and the Historical Forecast Project ([Strat-HFP](#)) are a major step forward in quantifying the role of the stratosphere in the observed record and future climate change. The [SPARC DynVar](#) activity is coordinating this effort... [read more](#)

ESA Releases a 30-years Soil Moisture Data Set

The [Climate Change Initiative \(CCI\)](#) Soil Moisture project announced the public release of the Essential Climate Variables (ECV) soil moisture data set. This soil data set is a part of the ESA CCI ... [read more](#)

Improving Hurricane Forecasts

Researchers from North Carolina State University, including Dr. Fredrick Semazzi a member of WCRP Joint Scientific Committee, have developed a new method for forecasting seasonal hurricane activity that is 15 percent more accurate than previous techniques... [read more](#)

Latest Report on Himalayan Glaciers Thickness

In a study published in the Nature Magazine, scientists assembled new datasets from Earth-observing satellites and found that glaciers in the Hindu Kush–Karakoram– Himalaya region (HKKH) lost 12 gigatonnes of mass per year over the period 2003–08, thinning much faster than previously reported.... [read more](#)

The Extreme Events in a Changing Climate

A collection of articles published in the [July 2012 issue of BAMS](#) examines the extreme weather climate events of 2011. The articles show the importance of understanding the interplay of natural climate variability and anthropogenic climate change on the extreme events.... [read the contributions](#)

Latest Progress on Predicting El Nino-Southern Oscillation

The real-time ENSO prediction skills based on 20 models (12 dynamical and 8 statistical) demonstrate a gradual improvement of ENSO predictions in the last decade. The most comprehensive dynamical models are found to be better able to predict ENSO than simpler dynamical models or statistical models... [read more](#)

News

WMO Sub-Seasonal to Seasonal Prediction Initiative

[WMO](#) through a partnership between [WWRP/ThorpeX](#) and WCRP, is launching the Sub-seasonal to Seasonal Prediction Initiative with the aim to evaluate the potential predictability of sub-seasonal events, with special emphasis on high-impact weather events... [read more](#)

CORDEX South-Asia Workshop

The Indian Express published an article on the [CORDEX training workshop](#) that took place on 15-18 October 2012 in Pune, India. This training workshop was the first step in developing a core team of Asian researchers to assess the utility of regional climate projections through hands-on training... [read the article](#)

“There is no Planet B” says K. Trenberth at Public Lecture in Sydney

The [Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Climate System Science](#) invited Kevin Trenberth, [GEWEX](#) Chair, to give a public lecture at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia. Kevin Trenberth argued that climate change will manifest through weather extremes... [read more](#)

DACA - 2013: Call For Abstracts

The [IAMAS](#) and [IACS](#) Associations of the [IUGG](#) invite the international scientific community to their joint 2013 Assembly - the [Davos Atmosphere and Cryosphere Assembly 2013](#), 8-12 July, Davos, Switzerland - to discuss latest developments in Air, Ice and Process Interactions... [read more](#)

Next SPARC General Assembly

[SPARC](#) is organizing a [General Assembly](#) for January 2014 in Queenstown, New Zealand. Since SPARC has recently extended its focus into the troposphere, the 2014 [General Assembly](#) will be the first time that its expanded community will meet. An important goal of this event is to ensure that [SPARC](#) continues to identify synergies between its current and future activities with a major focus on serving SPARC stakeholders... [read more](#)

First Session of WCRP Data and Modeling Councils

The first sessions of the newly formed WCRP Modeling Advisory Council (WMAC) and the WCRP Data Advisory Council (WDAC) were held on 16 July in Beijing, China, prior to the 33rd session of WCRP Joint Scientific Committee. The meetings provided an opportunity to examine the respective modeling and data efforts across WCRP and its affiliated partners... [read more](#)

Send news for e-zine No 25 (January 2012) to wcrp@wmo.int

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Future Earth Launched at Rio+20

The International Council for Science launched the new 10-year international initiative on global environmental research for sustainability at the [Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development](#) in Rio de Janeiro on June 14, and shortly afterward at a very well attended [side event](#) of the Rio + 20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development.... [read more](#)

The China-WCRP Climate Symposium

A joint China-WCRP symposium on climate preceded the [33rd Session of the WCRP Joint Scientific Committee](#), with the aim to explore the synergistic activities between the Chinese science community and the WCRP for the future.... [read more](#)

Newsmakers

Kevin Trenberth Receives of the International Prize for Water

The Chair of the [GEWEX](#) Steering Committee, Dr. Kevin Trenberth, and his team have been awarded the 5th Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz Surface Water Prize. "Their ground-breaking work on the effects of climate change on the global hydrological cycle will provide tremendous guidance for future planning" says the Prize Council... [read more](#)

Roger Barry is the New Director of the CLIVAR IPO

WCRP welcomes Prof. Roger Barry as the new director of the project [CLIVAR](#) that is hosted by the National Oceanography Centre in Southampton UK. "We are delighted to have Roger's expertise and experience serving CLIVAR and WCRP", said Dr. Ghassem R. Asrar, the Director WCRP.... [read more](#)

Australian Academy Elects John Church as a Fellow Member

Dr. John Church, former [WCRP JSC](#) chair, was recently elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science. This prestigious recognition acknowledges John's pioneering work on ocean heat uptake and sea-level rise. In addition his multidisciplinary work remains a model of the application of oceanographic information to biological fisheries issues... [read more](#)

Antonio Busalacchi is Featured by the American Association for the Advancement of Science

The [American Association for the Advancement of Science \(AAAS\)](#) interviewed Antonio Busalacchi, chair of the [WCRP Joint Scientific Committee](#) and also AAAS member... [read more](#)

David Karoly is Appointed Board Member of the Australian Climate Change Authority

WCRP congratulates Prof. David Karoly who has been recently appointed member of the board for the Climate Change Authority in Australia by the Australian Minister for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency. Prof. Karoly is member of the WCRP JSC since 2011.... [read the media release](#)

Obituaries

Founder and Only Chair of BSRN, Dr. Dutton, Died in October 2012

Dr. Ellsworth Dutton, founder and only chair of the Baseline Surface Radiation Network (BSRN), passed away on October 11, 2012. Dr. Dutton's long chairmanship of BSRN began in 1992 and he has guided the project to become the world's premier source of surface radiation observations. BSRN is a contributing network to the the WMO Global Atmospheric Watch (GAW) Program and was designated in 2004 as the Global Baseline Surface Radiation Network of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS)... [read more](#)

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Former JPS member Margaret Lennon-Smith dies at 52

It is with the deepest sorrow that we announce the untimely death of Ms Margaret Lennon-Smith on 14 July 2012, at the age of 52. Margaret joined WCRP in 1998, where she quickly became a much-valued staff member. She will be remembered fondly by her colleagues, by all those she worked with in the extended WCRP family and by the scientists she helped to get to WCRP meetings with great kindness, perseverance and good humour. We miss her dearly.... [read more](#)

Publications

A Book on ACSYS Scientific Accomplishments

A new book edited by Peter Lemke and Hans-Werner Jacobi on the history of the WCRP Arctic System Study (ACSYS) has been published recently. The ACSYS project was fundamental in raising the awareness of the role of the Arctic in the global climate system.... [read more](#)

Free e-book on River Basins and Change

The [Global Water System Project](#) of Earth System Science Partnership has published an e-book based on the major contributions to the conference "The Global Dimensions of Changes in River Basins: Threats, Linkages and Adaptations" held in December 2010. This publication is available to all interested in water related topics free of charge... [download the book](#).

Latest CLIVAR Newsletter Focuses on African Climate

The latest issue of Exchanges focuses on some major projects and activities in Africa that are linked to the CLIVAR Africa Climate Panel interests.... [download the Newsletter](#)

WCRP Reports

Some reports from the recent WCRP meetings and workshops can be found [here](#).

Upcoming WCRP Sponsored Events

[Earth Observation and Cryosphere Science](#) 13-16 November 2012, Frascati ITALY

[Regional SPARC Workshop with Focus on Southern Hemisphere and South America](#) 26-27 November 2012, Buenos Aires ARGENTINA

20th Session of SPARC Scientific Steering Group 27-30 November 2012, Buenos Aires ARGENTINA

[CLIVAR/GSOP Ocean Synthesis and Air-Sea Flux Evaluation Workshop](#) 27-30 November 2012, Woods Hole USA

[6th Session of CLIVAR/GSOP Ocean Synthesis and Observations Panel](#) 30 November - 1 December 2012, Woods Hole USA

[Energy, Water and Climate Change - Building Bridges Between Europe and MENA](#) 10-12 December 2012, Nicosia CYPRUS

[3rd Workshop on the Evaluation of ENSO Processes on Climate](#), 21-23 January 2013, Hobart, AUSTRALIA

[Click Here](#) to view the full list of WCRP-related events

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