

46th Session of the World Climate Research Programme
Joint Scientific Committee

My Climate Risk

Regina R. Rodrigues¹ & Ted Shepherd²

¹Federal University of Santa Catarina, Brazil

² University of Reading, UK & Forschungszentrum Jülich,
Germany



The main goals of My Climate Risk

To develop and mainstream a **bottom-up approach** to climate risk, starting from the decision context and scale, bringing in knowledge from across the breadth of the WCRP



Our challenge in MCR is how to **develop robust methodologies** that do this in a way that empowers local communities and can challenge the apparent 'objectivity' of top-down approaches (cf. Rodrigues & Shepherd 2022 PNAS Nexus)

WCRP

World Climate
Research Programme



WORLD
METEOROLOGICAL
ORGANIZATION



unesco
Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission



International
Science Council

The main goals of My Climate Risk

To build an ecosystem of **communities of practice**, especially in the Global South



This will be a legacy for the WCRP community
Our challenge in MCR is to **build a self-sustaining mycorrhizal network**

This structure means that most of MCR science is **Global South defined and led**, by construction



It also provides a **resilient structure** in a low-funding and politically unstable environment

WCRP

World Climate
Research Programme



WORLD
METEOROLOGICAL
ORGANIZATION



unesco
Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission



International
Science Council

How we work (mostly virtually)

Our network of 'regional hubs'

Our interactions with other parts of WCRP mainly occur through the appropriate hubs



WCRP

World Climate
Research Programme



WORLD
METEOROLOGICAL
ORGANIZATION



unesco
Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission



International
Science Council

How we work (mostly virtually)

Hub Host Institution	Focal Point	Hub Host Institution	Focal Point
1 Ateneo de Manila University (Manila, Philippines)	Daniel Ratilla	11 National Scientific and Technical Research Council (Buenos Aires, Argentina)	Federico Robledo & Natalia Pessacg
2 Australian Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne, Australia)	Mitchell Black	12 Royal Scientific Society (RSS) (Amman, Jordan)	Iain Stewart
3 Centre Régional AGRHYMET (Niamey, Niger)	Abdou Ali	13 South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON) (Pretoria, South Africa)	Nicole du Plessis and Jennifer Veitch
4 Centro de Estudios Avanzados en Zonas Áridas (CEAZA), Chile	Boris Dewitte	14 Universidad Veracruzana (Veracruz, Mexico)	Carolina Ochoa-Martinez
5 Climate Futures, Norwegian Research Centre (NORCE) (Bergen, Norway)	Jesse Schrage	15 University of Cape Town (Cape Town, South Africa)	Chris Jack
6 Faculty of Physics, University of Belgrade (Belgrade, Serbia)	Milica Tosic and Vladimir Djurdjevic	16 University of Manitoba (Winnipeg, Canada)	Julienne Stroeve, Jennifer Lukovich
7 Himalayan University Consortium (Kathmandu, Nepal)	Chi Huyen Truong (Shachi)	17 University of Tsukuba (Tsukuba, Japan)	Van Doan
8 HKUST (The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong)	Alexis Lau	18 University of the West Indies (Kingston, Jamaica)	Tannecia Stephenson
9 IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) (Nairobi, Kenya)	Masilin Gudoshava	19 Walker Institute, University of Reading (Reading, UK)	Ros Cornforth
10 Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) (Pune, India)	Roxy Mathew Koll	20 Yale University (New Haven, Connecticut, USA)	Jessica Seddon
		21 University of Costa Rica (San Jose, Costa Rica)	Ana Maria Duran Quesada

As of May 2025, see updated list at <https://www.wcrp-climate.org/mcr-hubs>

How we work (mostly virtually)

Education Working Group

- ✓ To share or develop training materials between the hubs and strengthen linkages with the WCRP Academy
- ✓ Webinars to gain an understanding of what it means to decolonise climate science and education

Early Career Researcher Group

- ✓ To provide an entry point into MCR for ECRs who are not affiliated with a hub
- ✓ Will help develop MCR methodologies, in collaboration with external partners (Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Centre, BASE Initiative)

Philosophy Working Group

- ✓ To help establish the epistemic foundation of bottom-up approaches
- ✓ Is starting by developing a dialogue between philosophers and climate scientists through a reading group
- ✓ May also develop pedagogical materials with the Education WG

Key highlights for the Joint Scientific Committee

Example of a recent MCR activity:

Webinar and workshop from the MCR Education Working Group, jointly hosted by the Manila and Cape Town hubs

➤ See also the MCR report to JSC-46

A record of all outward-facing online activities, including many recordings, is available at <https://www.wcrp-climate.org/mcr-events-opportunities>



Transdisciplinarity & Colonialism
in Climate Education

12 March 2025 Wed
8:00-10:00 UTC,
10:00-12:00 UTC+2,
16:00-18:00 UTC+8

With Dr. Rowena Azada-Palacios and Alice McClure

Register at: linktr.ee/MCR_ADMU

Is **transdisciplinarity** a means of pushing back against hegemonic approaches?
Or is it itself a product of the long-standing impacts of **colonialism**?

This session, **a webinar and workshop**, will explore the links between the two.

Key highlights for the Joint Scientific Committee



- ✓ In the process of collecting article proposals
- ✓ Open for submissions through the end of 2026
- ✓ Article Processing Charges waived for submissions received in 2025

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CLIMATE

Focus on Bottom-up Construction of Climate Risk Information

Guest Editors

Theodore G. Shepherd, *University of Reading, United Kingdom and Forschungszentrum Jülich, Germany*

Kendra Gotangco Gonzales, *Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines and Australian National University, Australia*

Masilin Gudoshava, *IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre, Kenya*

Jennifer V. Lukovich, *University of Manitoba, Canada*

Anna Sörensson, *University of Buenos Aires/CONICET, Argentina*

Chi Huyen Truong, *International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, Nepal*

WCRP

World Climate
Research Programme



WORLD
METEOROLOGICAL
ORGANIZATION



INTERGOVERNMENTAL
OCEANOGRAPHIC
COMMISSION



International
Science Council

Future plans and priorities

Several in-person activities planned for late 2025/early 2026

Activities in Brazil around COP30
(still under development)

An ECR-led Summer School in the
South Asia/Indo-Pacific region (led
by the IITM hub)

A proposed workshop at ISSI in
Bern on 'Opening up Earth
Observations for climate
adaptation'

A joint workshop
between the MCR
Philosophy Working
Group and an ad hoc
'Ethics in Climate
Adaptation Research'
research community,
broadly mirroring
workshops in Bern
and Paris in October
2024, to be held in
Kenya (led by the
ICPAC hub)

WCRP

World Climate
Research Programme



Suggestions, issues or challenges

Although we mostly work virtually, opportunities for in-person meetings are invaluable for helping to strengthen our mycorrhizal network

An internal WCRP communication platform will help strengthen collaboration across MCR

MCR hubs are proving to be a useful vehicle for entraining a new generation of Global South scientists into other WCRP activities

After trying several formats for our semi-annual General Assemblies, we seem to have settled on one (2-hour sessions with no slides, across three different time zones)

- GA Reports are publicly available on the MCR web site

The rapidly changing international landscape is increasing the importance of decentralized, bottom-up approaches to climate risk management at the local scale

WCRP

World Climate
Research Programme



WORLD
METEOROLOGICAL
ORGANIZATION



Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission



International
Science Council

Thank You

