

46th Session of the WCRP Joint Scientific Committee (JSC)

Date: 12-16 May 2025

Update report for the WCRP Joint Scientific Committee

My Climate Risk

1. High-level publications

- Fossa Riglos M. F., Díaz L. B., Hernández V., Sörensson A. A., Osman M., Rivera J., Robledo F., Prudente C., 2024: Climate storylines as a tool for interdisciplinary dialogue on risk decision-making: Analyzing a severe drought in southeastern South America, *Environmental Science & Policy*, doi: [10.1016/j.envsci.2024.103848](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2024.103848).
- Krishnan R., Dhara C., Horinouchi T., Gotangco Gonzales C.K., Dimri A.P., Shrestha M.S., Swapna P., Roxy M.K., Son S.-W., Ayantika D.C., Cruz F.A.T. and Qiao F., 2024. Compound weather and climate extremes in the Asian region: science-informed recommendations for policy. *Front. Clim.* 6:1504475. Doi: [10.3389/fclim.2024.1504475](https://doi.org/10.3389/fclim.2024.1504475).
- Naz, L., Khalid, Z., Ali, A., Haleem, K., Shafaqat S., 2025. Mapping the Climate Risk Landscape of the Diamer–Basha Dam in Pakistan: A Storyline Approach. *Natural Resources Forum*. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/1477-8947.70001>.

General Assembly Reports:

- [WCRP My Climate Risk Fifth General Assembly](#), Oct-Nov 2024. Online
- [WCRP My Climate Risk Fourth General Assembly](#), May 2024. Online.

2. Capacity Building/Education and Training Highlights

- The My Climate Risk Education Working Group (EWG) has developed key initiatives to strengthen training in climate risk assessment. These include a series of seminars on climate science and colonialism, which will be transformed into educational modules for high school and university students. In addition, in collaboration with MCR hubs at the Himalayan University Consortium and the Walker Institute, a pilot is being prepared to test these materials.
- Several training schools have been developed, including the MCR Training School led by IITM in Pune, India. These initiatives seek to train young researchers and decision-makers in climate risk assessment methodologies.
- Ateneo de Manila University Hub: “Systems Thinking for Resilience Planning,” a two-day training and workshop on the fundamentals of systems thinking and its applications for resilience towards climate impacts. Participants were from national government agencies, local government units, the private sector, and the academy.

- Ateneo de Manila University Hub’s webinar series, with participants from the general audience of the Hub:
 - “The Power of Stories and Activism in the Pursuit of Climate Justice,” the first session of the Climate Voices on the Ground: Perspectives from Different Sectors webinar series.
 - “Podcasting Haiyan Afterlivers: Stories from the Ground Zero and Beyond,” the second session of the Climate Voices on the Ground: Perspectives from Different Sectors webinar series.
 - “Households’ Preferences and Willingness to Pay for Renewable Energy Technologies: Contingent Valuation and Choice Experiment Surveys,” the first session of the Climate Research ‘As If People Mattered’ webinar series.
 - “Gendering Climate Change Impacts: Placing Women’s Human Rights at the Forefront,” the second session of the Climate Research ‘As If People Mattered’ webinar series.
 - “Efficient Energy Transition, Science, and Stakeholder Engagement: The Case of Philippine Electricity Policy,” the third session of the Climate Research ‘As If People Mattered’ webinar series.
- Ateneo de Manila University Hub: “No Such Thing as a Natural Disaster,” a two-day training and workshop on climate and disaster literacy and resilience. Participants were from the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) cadets of the Ateneo de Manila University.
- Ateneo de Manila University Hub: “Climate Change Deep Dive,” a half-day training and workshop integrating the fundamentals of climate science, resilience, and systems thinking. Participants were from the private sector.
- The Himalayan Hub (HUC) co-organized “Understanding Risk (UR) Climate Data Field Lab Kathmandu 2024”, in collaboration with University of Toronto, Michigan University, and DRR National Authority of Nepal, in a collaborative learning modality, catering to 120 participants across disciplines and cohorts, producing innovative outputs <https://urfieldlab.com/UR2024/the-outputs/>.
- The Himalayan Hub (HUC) Student Mobility and Exchange Task Force met in Thimphu (Bhutan) and prepared a concept note for “Eco-Leadership Fieldschool: Advancing Resilient Practices in the Hindu Kush Himalaya”, proposing a rotational annual field school hosted by HUC members in Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Nepal, and Pakistan.

2.1 The MCR Education Working Group (EWG):

- Quarterly meetings and monthly online discussions; report to the MCR General Assembly and an MCR-wide survey in late 2024 to explore MCR members’ interests and opinions regarding the intersection of their work with education.
- Creation of the EWG website (nearly complete and planned to be operational by end-February 2025).
- There are three events on preparation this year, of which the first is a collaboration between the Education working group and the Ateneo de Manila Hub (host) and CSAG. This is “Transdisciplinarity and Colonialism in Climate Education,” part of our Climate Science and Colonialism series, on March 12 at 8:00 UTC, registration link: linktr.ee/MCR_ADMU. Conversations with CSAG and HUC on two other events for 2025 are taking place.

3. Linkages with other Core Projects, Lighthouse Activities, Academy, etc.

- Integration with the WCRP Academy has been promoted through the EWG, strengthening climate risk pedagogy.
- The Argentinean Hub interact closely with the GEWEX Hydroclimatological project ANDEX. Hub members are leading the “Joven ANDEX” initiatives and other members of the Hub are involved in the transversal line “Science Underpinning Sustainable Development” and the Integrative Service “Co-production of Knowledge”. Three Hub-members were present at the ANDEX annual meeting in LIMA in May 2024.
- Anna Sörensson (SSG member MCR) is a member of the SSC of Scenario MIP, until November 2023 she was a member of the GEWEX GHP and starting from 1st of January she is a JSC member. C. Kendra Gotangco Gonzales (SSG member MCR) is now also on the JSC.

4. Partnerships with entities outside of WCRP

- The Early Career Researchers (ECR) group has worked with the Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Centre and the BASE Initiative to apply interdisciplinary climate risk assessment methodologies.
- A collaboration has been established with the European Climate Foundation to conduct an attribution study of the extreme heat event in Eastern Europe in July 2024.
- At the University of Belgrade, the Serbian Hub has worked with the Klima101 portal to disseminate climate information through publicly accessible articles.
- The Ateneo de Manila University Hub partnered with SustainabilityPH, a non-profit organization that trains sustainability champions from different sectors. The Hub delivered a workshop on systems thinking, for their “Learn2Lead” program, and covered the fundamentals of systems thinking and its applications for sustainability and resilience.
- The Ateneo de Manila University Hub partnered with MAD Travel, an organization that focuses on education, environmental restoration, and local economies. The partnership covers the organizing of climate negotiation workshops, covering fundamentals of climate science and a simulation of negotiation activities using the En-ROADS tool, allowing participants to navigate the tensions of climate science, climate justice, and vested interests.
- The Himalayan Hub partners with IEEE Geoscience & Remote Sensing Society (GRSS), German Aerospace Center (DLR), Alaska Satellite Facility (ASF, USA), and the Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL, USA) in preparation for a training, to take place in Kathmandu, May 2025.

5. Future Science Directions for JSC consideration (e.g., new groups, activities)

- The recently formed My Climate Risk Philosophy Working Group has started a monthly reading group to explore the epistemological foundations of interdisciplinary approaches in climate risk assessment.
- The implementation of artificial intelligence models in climate risk prediction is being explored by several hubs (Tsukuba, HKUST, IITM, and SAEON), with applications in improving observation systems and identifying extreme events.
- Introduction of CARE Principles for Indigenous Data Governance (Collective Benefits, Authority to Control, Responsibility, and Ethics) to My Climate Risk hubs and community. The Himalayan Hub proposes to host/coordinate a webinar series.

6. New Activities

- Five new hubs have been added in Jamaica, Serbia, Chile, Yale (USA), and Costa Rica strengthening MCR's presence in the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, North America and Latin America. A hub in Senegal is also in process of creation.
- The MCR ECR group has launched a new Slack platform to facilitate interaction between early-career researchers and to foster interdisciplinary collaborations.
- MCR has launched a special issue of the journal Environmental Research: Climate, to foster the development of bottom-up approaches to climate risk assessment (<https://iopscience.iop.org/collections/ercl-250113-756>).
- The Himalayan Hub High Mountain of Asia cross-cutting group released rapid hazard and risk assessments in local languages, for the first time, in India, Nepal, and Pakistan <https://hirisk.org/risk-assessments/> Scientists from country-based universities and local stakeholders contributed to these reports.

7. General

- The need to strengthen coordination between hubs to maximise the impact of My Climate Risk initiatives has been identified. An internal communication platform within WCRP is being built to facilitate collaboration.
- The General Assemblies in 2024 have reaffirmed the commitment to bottom-up approaches, prioritising the participation of local communities and strengthening interdisciplinary and trans-regional collaboration networks.
- Fragility of nations-states and uncertainties experienced in many countries have adverse impact on the productivity of scientists and scholars and their ability to collaborate in-country and between countries. Decline of government funding for research and education poses an eminent risk to the continuity of data generation, monitoring, and research. Colleagues from the Argentina and Himalayan Hubs expressed the need for a review and documentation of the state of data, science, and collaboration in countries in/post conflicts, as parts of climate justice.