

47th Session of the World Climate Research Programme
Joint Scientific Committee

My Climate Risk

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Online, 27-29/04/2026



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)

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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

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How we work (mostly virtually)

Our network of 'regional hubs'

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



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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 developing a dialogue between philosophers and climate scientists through a reading group
- ✓ Will also develop pedagogical materials with the Education WG

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Key highlights for the Joint Scientific Committee

Workshop on Loss & Damage and wildfires, IPEA, Brasilia, 8-12 Sept 2025

- MCR ECR group partnered with Fundación Avina/BASE Initiative (activists) and Rede Clima (Brazilian policymakers)
- ~40 participants in total, incl. 9 from MCR
 - Preceded by a field trip
 - Live translation English-Portuguese
- A variety of outputs targeting different audiences, including a Comment in *Comm. Earth & Environ.* published in time for COP30 in Brazil



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Key highlights for the Joint Scientific Committee

Workshop on 'Opening up' Earth Observations for Adaptation, ISSI, Bern, 8-12 Dec 2025

- Arose from Philosophy Working Group
- Aimed to identify barriers to openness (including various forms of 'gatekeeping') from the perspective of epistemic justice
- ISSI pays local costs of all participants
- 37 participants in total, incl. 14 from MCR
- Output will be two full-length publications



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Key highlights for the Joint Scientific Committee

Web Resource: An Educator's Guide to Climate Science & Colonialism

The screenshot shows the homepage of the web resource. At the top, there are logos for 'MY CLIMATE RISK EDUCATION WORKING GROUP' and 'WCRP World Climate Research Programme'. Below the logos is a navigation bar with links for 'Home', 'About', 'Learning & Resources', and 'News & Events'. The main content area features the title 'Climate Science and Colonialism: A Resource & Guide' and a welcome message: 'Welcome, Educators!'. A paragraph explains that the resource is based on a 2023 webinar series and provides introductory material, video clips, and suggested questions. A note states 'This is Version 1, ready for pilot testing and feedback.' Below this are four green boxes representing different sections: 'Introduction' (Invitation, Overview & Learning Outcomes), 'A Preparatory Unit' (Orienting Discussion & Background Materials), 'Module 1' (History of Climate Science & Colonialism), and 'Module 2' (Co-production of Knowledge (CPK)). Each box includes a small image related to the section's theme.

- An outcome of the Education Working Group, in collaboration with the MCR Himalayan and Pearl (U Reading) hubs
- Originated in 2023 webinar series

<https://www.mcrededucationworkinggroup.org/cl-sc-colonialism>

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Future plans and priorities

A joint workshop between the MCR Philosophy Working Group and an ad hoc 'Ethics in Climate Adaptation Research' research community, to be held in Nairobi (led by the ICPAC hub) in the last week of May 2026

Completion of the pilot phase of the Climate Science and Colonialism Education Project (Education Working Group)

Completion of various group publications from MCR activities, and of the MCR Special Issue in *Env. Res. Clim.*

A survey of the MCR community on bottom-up approaches in climate science, leading to a journal publication

Development of a joint webinar series with the RfS Robust Information Working Group

A proposal for a joint ISSI workshop with Digital Earths

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Suggestions, issues or challenges

Our most recent MCR virtual General Assembly (three sessions across March-April 2026) started our discussion of how to develop a strategic sunset plan

The regional hub model and bottom-up approach are key strengths that should be preserved

Interdisciplinary collaboration and human-centred engagement are central to MCR's identity

The MCR structure has proven to be effective in entraining new voices from the Global South and from social sciences and humanities

Systematic documentation of methods, impacts, and lessons learned is essential

Integration with the WCRP Academy could present a promising pathway for sustaining MCR's legacy, whilst providing a global reach for the Academy

Strengthened collaboration with other WCRP activities and external partners offers important opportunities

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Thank You



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