



## Science Highlights

### Exploring the Predictability of Decadal Climate

A series of experiments with a multi-model ensemble of four coupled ocean-atmosphere models used in **CMIP5** show that the main source of skill in forecasting temperature on decadal time scales is the trend forced by rising greenhouse gas concentrations. The authors of the **recently published article in Clim.Dyn.**, state that the ocean initial state contributes to prediction skill in some regions, but variations, such as aerosols concentration, are as important for decadal forecasting.... [read more](#)

### CORDEX-Africa Initial Results on Precipitation Climatology

The first set of simulations in the CORDEX-Africa project have been analyzed with the aim to assess the ability of ten regional climate models (RCMs) to reproduce the precipitation climatology over Africa. In a **paper published in Journal of Climate** that shows the annual cycle of precipitation for different regions of Africa quite accurately, the authors concluded that the present set of RCMs can be used to provide useful information on climate projections over Africa... [read more](#)

### Latest Results from Climate Modelling and Analysis

A workshop was convened at the International Pacific Research Center (IPRC), University of Hawaii, USA, on 5-9 March 2012, by the **WCRP Working Group on Coupled Modelling (WGCM)** to provide scientists an opportunity to present their latest findings from analysis of the multi-model data sets resulting from the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project Phase 5 (CMIP5).... [read more](#)

### The WCRP Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project (GeoMIP)

**GeoMIP** is an endorsed community coordinated project as designated by the **WCRP Working Group on Coupled Modelling (WGCM)**. GeoMIP attempts to address the question, "What are the expected climate effects of geoengineering?" by organizing geoengineering simulations that are synergistically built upon the **CMIP5** experiment framework. The first suite of GeoMIP experiments concentrates on Solar Radiation Management (SRM) schemes.... [read more](#)

### The Paleoclimate Modelling Contribution to CMIP5

The Paleoclimate Modelling Intercomparison Project (**PMIP**) focuses on the analysis of general circulation models, specifically to test the models for future climate projections. The paleoclimate simulations in **CMIP5** also offer the opportunity to use the same models in different configurations and thereby to increase our understanding of the relationship between climate feedbacks, or climate variability and teleconnections, with the background climate change... [read more](#)

### A Global Drought Information System (GDIS)

From 11 to 13 April 2012, the **WCRP Global Drought Information System (GDIS) Workshop** took place on the premises of ESA-ESRIN in Frascati, Italy. This workshop focused on the steps necessary to develop a GDIS that builds upon the extensive world-wide investments already made in developing drought monitoring and risk management, and short term climate prediction capabilities... [read the workshop outcomes](#). The Global scientific

and end-user communities found a place to meet and listen to each other's stories.... [read the blog](#)

### **Priorities for Reanalysis Research**

The [4th WCRP International Conference on Reanalysis](#) was held on 7-11 May 2012 in Silver Spring, Maryland, USA. There were 244 attendees from 26 countries of which 24 were students and 55 early career scientists. The conference provided the worldwide community with the opportunity to review and discuss the major observations and modeling research associated with reanalysis. The conference ended with a panel discussion on "Agency Priorities: An Open Panel Discussion" with representatives from DOE, EC, ECMWF, ESA, JMA, NASA, NOAA and NSF... [read more](#)

## **News**

### **Secondment Opportunity for the Post of Director of CLIVAR IPO**

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a secondment with the WCRP and the UK's National Oceanography Centre (NOC) for the position of Director of the International CLIVAR Project Office (ICPO), located at NOC's Southampton headquarters. The secondment period will be until 31 March 2014. Closing date: 14th June 2012.... [read more](#)

### **20 Years of SPARC Success**

The 19th Session of the SPARC Scientific Steering Group took place at ETH (Swiss Federal Institute for Technology) Zurich on 7-10 February 2012. One highlight of the event was the celebration of the [20th anniversary of the project](#) and the opening of the SPARC International Project Office (IPO) in Zurich. All previous Co-chairs, Directors of IPO, project office managers, and WCRP Joint Planning Staff liaisons to SPARC attended that celebration... [read more](#)

### **Observe, Understand and Predict Changes in the Arctic Sea Ice**

The Arctic Sea Ice Working Group of the WCRP [Climate and Cryosphere Project](#) held a workshop at the National Snow and Ice Data Center to discuss ways to improve our ability to observe, understand, and predict changes in Arctic sea ice through internationally coordinated activities. More than 40 researchers from 10 countries attended the workshop. The group included field experimentalists, remote sensing specialists, and sea ice and climate modelers.... [read more](#)

### **U.S. Earth-Observing Vision at Risk, Report Says**

A recent report from the U.S. National Academies' National Research Council (NRC) cautions that the U.S. Earth observation programme continues to deteriorate. Aging satellites are being replaced too slowly, the report concludes, and by 2020 the country may have only 25% of its current observing capacity. Antonio Busalacchi, Chair of the WCRP Joint Scientific Committee, is a member of the NRC committee issuing the report that urges for an overarching national strategy of Earth Observation... [read more](#)

### **The MedCLIVAR Program and Network**

Climate models indicate that the Mediterranean region is expected to become warmer and drier by the end of the century. To help scientists better understand these changes, the [Mediterranean Climate Variability and Predictability \(MedCLIVAR\)](#) program was established to foster multidisciplinary studies that integrate atmospheric, marine, and terrestrial climate components at time scales ranging from paleo-reconstructions to future climate scenarios.... [read recent article in EOS](#)

### **WMO New Strategy for Climate Services**

The International Innovation magazine published an exclusive interview with Mr Jeremiah Lengoasa, Deputy Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization. The article outlines WMO's new strategy for the proposed Global Framework for Climate Services... [read more](#)

### **New U.S. Strategic Plan for Global Change Research**

The U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) released its new National Global Change Research Plan 2012-2021: A Strategic Plan for the U.S. Global Change Research Program. The Plan is built around four strategic goals: "Advance Science, Inform Decisions, Conduct Sustained Assessments, and Communicate and Educate". The Plan builds on the Program's strengths in integrated observations, modeling, and information services for science that serves societal needs.... [read more](#)

### **From the Planet Under Pressure to Rio+20**

WCRP was a co-sponsor of the [Planet under Pressure Conference](#) that took place in March 2012 in London, UK. More than 3000 delegates attended the conference, making it one of the largest gatherings of global change scientists leading up to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil ([Rio+20](#)). A Conference Statement was developed and published at the Planet under Pressure conference based on the presentations and discussions... [read the State of the Planet Declaration](#).

### **IHDP Wealth Report: Measuring Progress Toward Sustainability**

The International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change ([IHDP](#)) will launch the Inclusive Wealth Report 2012 (IWR 2012) at the Rio+20 Conference in Brazil... [read more](#)

### **UNEP Invites Comments on PROVIA**

One of [PROVIA](#) (Programme of Research on Climate Change Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation) activities is the revision of guidance on assessing Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation (VIA) to climate change. The first [full draft of this revision](#) is now available and the author team lead by Richard Klein (Stockholm Environment Institute) is inviting experts and non-experts to review it. Comments should be sent to Dr Cynthia Rosenzweig ([crosenzweig@giss.nasa.gov](mailto:crosenzweig@giss.nasa.gov)) **by 30th June**.

## **Newsmakers**

### **New Director of CliC IPO**

The World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) welcomes Dr Jenny Baeseman as the new Director of the [Cryosphere and Climate Project \(CliC\)](#) International Project Office that is hosted by the [Norwegian Polar Institute](#) in Tromso, Norway. "We are fortunate to have Jenny as a member of CliC and WCRP", said Dr Ghassem R. Asrar, the Director of WCRP. Dr Baeseman assumed the post of CliC IPO Director in April 2012.... [read more](#)

### **Awards and Recognitions to WCRP Affiliated Scientists**

WCRP is proud that many of its affiliated scientists get recognitions worldwide for their scientific contributions and leadership. Among those Sandrine Bony, Co-chair of [WGCM](#), received the 2012 AMS Bernhard Haurwitz Memorial Lecturer and Carolina Vera, [JSC](#) member and officer, received the 2012 Emilio Caimi prize. [Go to the awardees list with citations](#).

## Publications

### Climate Science and Services

In a recent paper published in Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability, WCRP describes the Programme strategy and approach for providing tailored climate information in a timely and effective manner on global, regional, and national levels, and in response to the needs of different economic sectors such as agriculture and food production, water resources management, disaster risk management, and human health, energy and transport, among others, is key to the success of the Future Earth and GFCS initiatives... [read the article](#)

### GEWEX News and CLIVAR Exchanges: Not to Be Missed

The latest issues of the two outstanding publications [CLIVAR Exchanges](#) and [GEWEX News](#) describe exciting results from the activities of the two Projects. [GEWEX News](#) focuses on Reanalyses and their application in climate research. This issue anticipates the upcoming 4th WCRP International Conference in Reanalyses that will be held in USA in May 2012. The [CLIVAR Exchanges](#) provides an overview of the research activities and projects in the four major Ocean Basins.

## Upcoming WCRP Sponsored Events

[64th Session of WMO Executive Council](#), 25 June - 3 July 2012, Geneva SWITZERLAND

[SPARC workshop on the Brewer-Dobson circulation](#), 25-29 June 2012, Grindelwald, SWITZERLAND

[4th AMMA International Conference](#), 2-6 July 2012, Toulouse, FRANCE

[1st Session of the WCRP Modeling Advisory Council](#), 16 July 2012, Beijing, CHINA

[1st Session of the WCRP Data Advisory Council](#), 16 July 2012, Beijing, CHINA

[33rd Session of the WCRP Joint Scientific Committee](#), 16-20 July 2012, Beijing, CHINA

[Workshop on Decadal and Multi-decadal Variability in Pacific and Indian Ocean](#), 4-7 September 2012, Qingdao, CHINA

[International Workshop on Interdecadal Variability of the Global Monsoon](#), 10-12 September 2012, Nanjing, CHINA

[1st Pan-Global Atmosphere System Studies \(GASS\) Science Meeting](#), 10-14 September 2012, Boulder, USA

[Tropical Atlantic Variability Meeting and PIRATA-17 Meeting](#), 10-11 September 2012, Kiel GERMANY

[3rd International Conference on Earth System Modeling](#), 17-21 September 2012, Hamburg, GERMANY

[15th Session of WCRP WG on Seasonal to Interannual Prediction](#), 24-26 September 2012, Hamburg GERMANY

[16th Session of WCRP WG on Coupled Modelling](#), 24-26 September 2012, Hamburg GERMANY

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