



## Upcoming WCRP Conferences

### Africa Climate Conference

WCRP and the African Climate Policy Center will hold a major in Arusha, Tanzania, 15-18 October 2013. The main objective is to define and drive an African agenda for future climate research that will inform adaptation decisions. All interested researchers and practitioners working on the African climate are invited to register and submit an abstract. Some financial support is available for participation of young scholars, especially from Africa. Deadline for abstract submission is 31st May 2013... for more information please visit the [conference webpage](#)

### International Conference on Regional Climate - CORDEX 2013

WCRP in partnership with the [European Commission](#) and [IPCC](#) is organizing an international conference on regional climate with a particular emphasis on the [CORDEX](#) initiative. The conference will take place on 4-7 November 2013 in Brussels, Belgium. Some financial support is available for participation of young scholars, especially from developing and emerging economies. Deadline for abstract submission is 1st April 2013... for more information please visit the [conference webpage](#)

### Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean: Developing, Linking and Applying Climate Knowledge

The conference will take place on 17-21 March 2014 in Montevideo, Uruguay. The main goal is to identify ways to overcome limitations in the chain of knowledge connecting basic and applied climate science to informing policy and decision makers. This will imply building interdisciplinary capacity, fostering the participation of decision and policy makers, climate and social scientists and key intermediary institutions. It is also expected that the conference contributes to further develop the emerging provision of regional climate services... [read more](#)

## Science Highlights

### Tropical Ecosystem in a Changing Climate

A recent publication by Peter Cox, member of [WMAC](#) and [IGBP](#), and coauthors shows how sensitive biological systems are to changes in climate. The study, published in Nature magazine, indicates that tropical rainforest will release about 50 billion tonnes of carbon for each degree Celsius of warming in the tropics. However this carbon release is counteracted by the positive effects of carbon dioxide fertilization on plant growth so that overall forests are expected to continue to accumulate carbon... [read the article](#)

### Datasets for Developing Indices of Climate Extremes

The [CLIMDEX Project](#) aims to produce a suite of in situ and gridded land-based global datasets of indices representing the more extreme aspects of climate. Indices are derived from daily temperature and precipitation data using the definitions recommended by the CCI/CLIVAR/JCOMM Expert Team on Climate Change Detection and Indices ([ETCCDI](#)). The project also aims to develop software tools to allow users to access the resulting datasets via a web interface... [for more information click here](#)

## **CLIVAR-GEWEX Africa Climate Research Network**

The [CLIVAR-GEWEX Africa Climate Panel](#) has launched a database that aims to strengthen the network of climate scientists in Africa and to serve as an effective way of communicating relevant news and opportunities. Join now the network and create your profile by [clicking here](#)

## **CORDEX Has 13 Domains... and Growing**

[CORDEX](#) development and progress are now showcased on its new and informative [webpage](#).

The CORDEX flyer, recently published, provides description of Regional Climate Downscaling and its use in climate change adaptation and impact assessment... [read more](#)

## **Latest U.S. National Academies of Sciences Report on Arctic Sea Ice**

The report "Seasonal-to-Decadal Predictions of Arctic Sea Ice: Challenges and Strategies" finds that in the past six summers, sea ice cover has shrunk to its smallest in three decades. The composition of the ice is also changing, now containing a higher fraction of thin first-year ice instead of thicker multi-year ice... [read more](#)

## **The Role of Science in Climate Services**

The second International Conference on Climate Services held in Brussels, Belgium, in September 2012 covered a wide set of issues, opportunities and challenges relating to climate services enterprise concept. The agenda included the contribution of international research programmes... see the conference [report](#) and [presentations](#)

## **Climate and Vector-Borne Diseases Symposium in Africa**

Readily accessible, high quality climate data can be extremely useful to health planners, as they can help understand current distributions of some diseases – notably those involving a biological vector – and are fundamental to the accurate forecasting of future outbreaks. The forthcoming [4th Annual East African Community Health & Scientific Conference](#), 27-29 March 2013, in Kigali, Rwanda, brings together researchers at the cutting edge of efforts to understand the relationships between climate and vector-borne diseases in Africa... [read more](#)

## **News**

### **WCRP Science Grand Challenges**

We are pleased to share with you the latest drafts of the WCRP Grand Science Challenges papers resulting from the deliberations of the [WCRP Joint Scientific Committee](#) and based on consultation with climate research community and WCRP sponsors, stakeholders and affiliate network of scientists during past several years... [read more](#)

### **UN Focus on Droughts**

A High-level Meeting on National Drought Policy is held in Geneva, Switzerland, on 11-15 March 2013. The scientific segment of the week-long conference, organized by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) aims to inform on expected increase in frequency, area and intensity of droughts due to climate change and to facilitate practical and proactive policies at the national level to make drought-prone countries more resilient... [read more](#)

### **GCOS Workshop on Climate Observations for Climate Adaptation**

The German Meteorological Service ([Deutscher Wetterdienst](#), DWD) hosted a workshop from 26-28 February 2013 to discuss special requirements for climate observations in support of climate adaptation activities. The workshop was convened by the Global Climate Observing System ([GCOS](#)), the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission ([IOC](#)) of UNESCO and the United Nations Environment Programme ([UNEP](#))... [read more](#)

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## **US National Climate Assessment Available for Review**

The US National Climate Assessment Development and Advisory Committee (NCADAC) has released the Third National Climate Assessment Report for public comment. The draft report is available for [download](#), both as a single document and by chapters. The public comment period for the report will run January 14-April 12, 2013. All comments must be submitted via the online comment tool available [here](#)

## **GEC Directors Participate in Planning and Implementation of Future Earth**

The Chairs of Scientific Committees and Directors of the four international Global Environmental Change (GEC) research programmes, [DIVERSITAS](#), [IGBP](#), [IHDP](#) and WCRP, met in London, UK, on 14-15 January 2013, to discuss transition of Earth system Science Partnership into the [Future Earth](#): Research for Global Sustainability. The International Council for Science and its Alliance ([ICSU](#)) of partners are supporting and guiding this transition, with active engagement of the GECs... [read the newsletter](#)

## **Earth System Modelling Conference Report is Now Available**

In September 2012, 476 scientists from 27 countries participated in the Third International Conference on Earth System Modelling (ICESM) in Hamburg. The main focus of the 67 oral and 298 poster presentations, was on Earth System Modelling. The conference was jointly sponsored by the WCRP, the Max Planck Institute for Meteorology (MPI-M) and the EU-Project COMBINE.... [read more](#)

## **WMO Provisional Annual Statement on Global Climate - 2012**

The years 2001–2011 were all among the warmest on record, and, according to the World Meteorological Organization, the first ten months indicate that 2012 will be no exception despite the cooling influence of La Niña early in the year. The statement also highlights the unprecedented melt of the Arctic sea ice and multiple weather and climate extremes which affected many parts of the world... [read the statement](#)

## **The Journey to Planet Earth TV Series - Extreme Realities**

The next Journey To Planet Earth series will explore the link between extreme weather events, climate change and national security issues including the political, economic and scientific implications of Hurricane Sandy... [watch the trailer](#)

## **Science and Policy: WCRP at COP-18 Side Events**

The WCRP participated in the scientific and technical side events organized by the [GEO](#) and [ESA](#) at COP-18 in Doha, Qatar. The theme was improving scientific knowledge and addressing societal needs... [read more](#)

## **Newsmakers**

### **Welcome to WCRP New Members**

WCRP welcomes the new leaders and members of its Joint Scientific Committee, Councils, international projects' Scientific Steering Groups, Working Groups and Panels. We take this opportunity to thank the members rotating off and welcome new members... [see the complete list](#)

### **Prof. Yanda is now Prestigious Mwalimu J. Nyerere Chair at University of Dar Es Salaam**

Professor Yanda, a member of the [WCRP Joint Scientific Committee](#), was recently appointed as the Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Professorial Chair in Environment and Climate Change at the University of Dar Es Salaam. Professor Yanda has worked extensively in environmental and climate change related studies in East Africa and Tanzania... [read more](#)

## Publications

### First Issue of the CORDEX Newsletter

This biannual newsletter aims to connect the CORDEX groups and their activities across the world, to keep interested readers informed on current progress and activities, future plans and to serve a portal for accessing preliminary results... [go to the publication](#)

### Assessment of the Cloud Data Products for Climate Studies

The GEWEX evaluation of the overall quality of the global, long-term cloud data products has been recently published. The need for periodic assessments of long-term observational records is a requirement to ensure consistent, well calibrated and documented data products. It is imperative that the long-term products be compared with more recent state-of-the-art science and technology products to assess not only their fidelity, but their quality in light of increasingly accurate measurements... [read the report](#)

### GEWEX Radiative Flux Assessment Completed

The GEWEX Radiation Panel (GRP) carried out an evaluation of the overall quality of available global long-term radiative flux data products at the top-of-atmosphere and the Earth surface. The results are reported in two parts. [Volume 1](#): results, recommendations and conclusions; [Volume 2](#): various details and supplementary information

### Report of the 15th Session of WCRP Working Group on Seasonal to Interannual Prediction ([WGSIP](#))

The full report of the three-day meeting of the WCRP Working Group on Seasonal to Interannual Prediction held in Hamburg, Germany, on 24-26 September 2012 is now available [here](#)

### Report of the 16th Session of WCRP Working Group on Coupled Modelling ([WGCM](#))

The WCRP Working Group on Coupled Modelling held its annual meeting in Hamburg, Germany, 24-26 September 2012. The full report of the meeting discussions is now available [here](#)

### More WCRP Reports

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

## Upcoming WCRP Sponsored Events

[GODAE/WGNE Workshop: Short- to Medium- Range Coupled Prediction for Atmosphere-Wave-Sea-Ice-Ocean: Status, Needs and Challenges](#), 19-21 March 2013, Washington DC, USA

[WCRP Regional Workshop on Stratosphere-Troposphere Processes and their Role in Climate](#), 1-3 April 2013, Kyoto, JAPAN

[18th Session of GCOS/WCRP Atmospheric Observation Panel for Climate \(AOPC\)](#), 2-5 April 2013, Geneva, SWITZERLAND

[1st Session of WCRP Working Group on Regional Climate](#) (WGRC), 6-7 April 2013, Vienna, AUSTRIA

[4th WGNE Workshop on systematic errors in weather and climate models](#), 15-19 April 2013, Exeter, UNITED KINGDOM

[SPARC DynVar & SNAP Workshop](#), 22-26 April 2013, Reading, UNITED KINGDOM

[The International Satellite Cloud Climatology Project, ISCCP 30th Anniversary Conference](#), 22-24 April 2013, New York, USA

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[Terrestrial Water Cycle Observation and Modeling from Space Innovation and Reliability of Data Products,](#)  
26-30 April 2013, Beijing, CHINA

[20th Session of the CLIVAR Scientific Steering Committee](#), 6-9 May 2013, Kiel, GERMANY

[International Workshop on Seasonal to Decadal Prediction](#), 13-15 May 2013, Toulouse, FRANCE

[34th Sessions of WCRP Joint Science Committee Meeting](#), 27-30 May 2013, Brasilia, BRAZIL

2nd Session of WCRP Modelling Advisory Council, 27 May 2013, Brasilia, BRAZIL

[International Workshop on Ice sheet/ocean/atmosphere interactions in Greenland - Challenges to improving observations, process understanding and modeling](#), 3-7 June 2013, Boston, USA

[7th Conference on BALTEX](#), 10-14 June 2013, Oland, SWEDEN

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