



e-zine N° 13 – March 2009

Science Highlights

WCRP 2007-2008 Accomplishment Report: Climate Research in Service to Society

The WCRP Annual Report chronicles WCRP accomplishments in 2007/2008. Download the report ([PDF](#)) or request hard copy from the WCRP secretariat: wcrp@wmo.int.

First WCRP Regional Climate Projections Workshop held in Toulouse, France

From 11-13 February, around 50 specialists in regional downscaling and modelling met to assess available downscaling techniques and regional/sectoral needs. [Report](#); [presentations](#).

WMO-ICSU International Polar Year Ceremony, Geneva, Switzerland, 25 February

These days, the official IPY concludes with a release of early results from international polar science and a legacy outlook. IPY (2007-08) boosted international research at the poles. [More](#).

Year of Tropical Convection (YOTC): Database of high-resolution forecasts available

ECMWF has made the database of high-resolution forecasts from YOTC, an initiative of WCRP and the World Weather Research Programme, available to the research community. [More](#).

WCRP-CLIVAR Spain network discusses Climate in Spain: Past, Present and Future

From 11-13 February, the CLIVAR-Spain community met in Madrid, Spain, to determine current understanding of climate variability and change in the Iberian Peninsula. [More](#).

WMO El Niño update: La Niña-like conditions weakening in first half of 2009

The tropical Pacific will most likely return to neutral conditions by March-May 2009. [More](#).

Call for contributions: Commemorative issue of Ocean Modelling

CLIVAR prepares a special issue dedicated to the life & achievements of Dr Killworth. [More](#).

World Meteorological Day 2009 focus on air quality and its effects on human health

On 23 March, the World Meteorological Organization with its 188 Members will celebrate World Meteorological Day around the theme: Weather, climate and the air we breathe. [More](#).

Travel grants available for CLIVAR Workshop on Ocean Mesoscale Eddies, Exeter, UK

Applicants for the [workshop](#) in April 09 should contact [Ms Anna Pirani](#); deadline is 15 March.

First issue of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) newsletter published

GCOS news 1/09 welcomes Dr Carolin Richter as new Director of the GCOS Secretariat. [More](#).

Welcome & Congratulations

Welcome to the new members of the WCRP steering groups

The WCRP Joint Scientific Committee and other steering groups gained new experts. [Article](#).

Professor Le Treut appointed as the new Director of IPSL, France

Hervé is a member of the WCRP-JSC and leads the Anthropogenic Climate Change activity.

2009 AMS Sverdrup Gold Medal for Dr Christopher Fairall

Christopher is Chair of the WCRP Working Group on Surface Fluxes. [More](#).

Dr Michael Kurylo receives 2008 Hillebrand Prize

Michael is ex-officio member of the WCRP-SPARC Scientific Steering Group. [More](#).

Professor Gordon McBean appointed as a Member of the Order of Canada

Gordon was Chair of the WCRP Joint Scientific Committee from 1988-1994. [More](#).

New Releases

BAMS: Revolution in climate prediction is both necessary and possible

The declaration issued at the World Modelling Summit for Climate Prediction has been published by WCRP leading scientists in BAMS ([more](#)). See Summit report: [WCRP No. 131](#).

PNAS: Irreversible climate change due to carbon dioxide emissions

The [study](#) led by former IPCC WG1 Co-chair, S. Solomon, shows that current climate change driven by increases in CO₂ concentration is irreversible for 1'000 years after emissions stop.

Report: Third Meeting of WCRP Observation and Assimilation Panel, Boulder, Sept 08

The meeting focussed on the quality and continuity of climate data records. [WCRP 10/2008](#).

Acting on Climate Change: The UN System Delivering as One

The [UN report](#) promotes a more coordinated approach to the challenges of climate change.

Nature: Evidence of warming of the Antarctic ice-sheet surface

A new [study](#) reveals for the first time significant warming well beyond the Antarctic Peninsula.

WMO-IUGG science assessment on the effects of aerosols on rain- and snowfall

The analysis of temporal and spatial trends in precipitation indicated a relation to changes in atmospheric dynamical processes rather than changes in cloud-aerosol microphysics. [More](#).

Special Issue: Hydrological Effect of a Shrinking Cryosphere

The [review](#) was prepared by WCRP-CliC and the Water and Climate Impacts Research Centre.

Review of Geophysics: State of the Antarctic and Southern Ocean Climate System

The comprehensive publication reviews the state-of-Antarctica over the past millennia. [Article](#).

U.S. assessments on climate change impacts on coasts and the high latitudes

Two recent U.S. reports prepared for policy-makers focus on sea-level rise and coastal communities ([report](#)) and on rapid climate changes in the Arctic and high latitudes ([report](#)).

IOC-UNESCO declaration and report on Ocean Acidification

On 30 January, leading marine scientists called for immediate action by policy-makers to reduce CO₂ emissions sharply, so as to avoid severe damage to marine ecosystems. [More](#).

Latest News from WCRP Activities and Projects

Issued recently: CLIVAR-Vamos ([No. 48](#)), Journal of Climatology - Special Issue: Climate Extremes ([Vol. 29:3](#)), SPARC ([No. 32](#)), SOLAS ([No. 8](#)).

Events

Registration Open: International Lund RCM Workshop, Lund, Sweden, 4-8 May 09

Register for '21st Century Challenges in Regional Climate Modelling' before 15/03. [More](#).

Call for abstracts: GEWEX/iLEAPS Conference on Energy & Water Cycle Research

From 24-28 August 09, WCRP-GEWEX and the IGBP Integrated Land Ecosystem-Atmosphere Processes Study hold a joint Science Conference in Melbourne. Submit abstract by 15/03. [More](#).

NCAR Colloquium on Marine Ecosystems and Climate, Boulder, CO, USA, 2-14 Aug. 09

Applications to this WCRP co-sponsored Advanced Study Program are due by 31 March. [More](#).

OceanObs '09: Ocean information for society, Venice, Italy, 21-25 Sept. 09

The WCRP co-sponsored symposium invites for abstract submission by mid March. [More](#).