



ICSU
International Council for Science

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Science Highlights

Joint IPCC-WCRP-IGBP Workshop on science activities relevant to IPCC AR5

Over 150 leading scientists gathered in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, on 3-6 March, to discuss the latest developments and prospects in climate change science. Read [media statement](#).

BAMS: The State of the Art of Seasonal Prediction

Outcomes and Recommendations from the First World Climate Research Program Workshop on Seasonal Prediction. Read [the article](#) from the April 2009 issue of BAMS.

Journal of Climate: Water levels dropping in major rivers as global climate changes

Rivers in some of the world's most populous regions are losing water, according to a new comprehensive study published in the May 15 Issue of the Journal of Climate. [More](#).

BAMS: Lessons Learned from IPCC AR4

With the IPCC concluding that climate change is now virtually inevitable, an international panel makes recommendations regarding research and observations that would help improve climate forecasts, assess vulnerabilities and improve adaptation strategies. Read [the article](#) from the April 2009 issue of BAMS.

Global warming: Cuts in Greenhouse Gas Emissions Would Save Arctic Ice, Reduce Sea Level Rise

The threat of global warming can still be greatly diminished if nations cut emissions of heat-trapping greenhouse gases by 70 percent this century, according to a new analysis. [More](#).

MESA: Improving predictability of the South American monsoon system

The WCRP-CLIVAR/GEWEX Monsoon Experiment in South America ([MESA](#)) will focus on understanding the variability of the South American monsoon system to improve its predictability on diurnal to interannual and longer timescales. Read [Implementation Plan](#).

BAMS: Developing know-how on regional climate change research

WCRP and the International Centre for Theoretical Physics held a very successful training workshop for university climate scientists from around the world on the use of climate change simulations. See the [meeting report](#) in the February 2009 issue of BAMS.

New Releases

US guide on Climate Literacy – The Essential Principles of Climate Sciences

The U.S. Climate Change Science Programme has put together a set of guiding principles to help decision makers take actions to reduce climate change and its impacts. [More](#).

Status Report on the Arctic Ocean Observing System - 2008

The integrated Arctic Ocean Observing System (iAOOS) is a pan-Arctic framework designed to optimize the integration of sustained Arctic observing networks. Find [Status Report 2008](#).

Independent Review of WCRP Completed

The report of the 2008 review commissioned by the WCRP sponsors and IGFA is [now available](#).

23 March: World Meteorological Day on Weather, Climate and the Air we Breathe

On the occasion of 'World Met Day', WMO called for special attention to the interaction of weather patterns, climate and air quality. Find [brochure](#).

WCRP Staff News

We welcome Dr Roberta Boscolo in the Joint Planning Staff

Dr Boscolo has been appointed as the WCRP Communication/Scientific Officer. [More](#).

Events

The Joint Scientific Committee for WCRP Focus on Future Directions

At its 30th session, the JSC for WCRP together with representatives of its sponsors and partners discussed recent accomplishments in global climate research and identified opportunities and challenges in advancing climate prediction. See presentation on [WCRP accomplishments](#).

IPCC Special Report 'in prep.': Managing the risks of extreme events and disasters

At its 30th session held 21-23 April in Antalya, Turkey, the IPCC decided to prepare a Special Report on 'Managing the risks of extreme events and disasters'. Find [meeting documents](#).

Lund Workshop: 21st Century Challenges in Regional-scale Climate Modelling

From 4-8 May 2009, leading scientists in regional climate modelling including representatives from the WCRP Task Force on Regional Climate Downscaling (TF-RCD) met in Lund, Sweden, to discuss and develop plans for the science and applications of regional climate modelling. [More](#).

Upcoming Executive Councils of WMO and IOC

WMO will hold the 61st session of its Executive Council at its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, 3-12 June 2009. [More](#).

The 25th session of the IOC Assembly will be held at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France, 16-25 June 2009. WCRP report is on the agenda. [More](#).

GEWEX/iLEAPS Conference, 24-28 August 2009, Melbourne, Australia

WCRP-GEWEX and the IGBP integrated Land Ecosystem-Atmosphere Processes Study are organizing a joint Science Conference and Early Career Workshop in Melbourne. [More](#).

World Climate Conference-3: 31 August-4 September 2009, Geneva, Switzerland

On the occasion of WCC-3, a series of fact sheets on early warning systems related to meteorological, hydrological and climate hazards will be issued. [More](#). WCC-3 will include a scientific policy segment during which the establishment of an international framework for climate services will be discussed. [More](#).

OceanObs 2009: Ocean information for society, 21-25 September 2009, Venice, Italy

The WCRP co-sponsored symposium has extended abstract deadline to 1 July. [More](#).

ICSU Scientific Visioning Meeting for Earth System Research, 29 September-1 October 2009, Paris, France

ICSU is spearheading a process to engage the scientific community to explore options and to propose implementation steps for a holistic strategy on the Earth system research. [More](#).

DIVERSITAS Open Science Conference: 13-16 October 2009, Cape Town, South Africa

The conference is dedicated to the theme: Biodiversity and Society: Understanding connections, adapting to change. [More](#).

2009 SOLAS Open Science Conference: 16-19 November 2009, Barcelona, Spain

The conference invites early-career and senior scientists to present their findings on biogeochemical and physical feedbacks between the ocean and the atmosphere. [More](#).