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News

Expert Team on Climate Change Detection and Indices – Canada, November 14-16, 2006

WCRP-CLIVAR/CCI/JCOMM team plans to provide online access to climate indices, to disseminate data homogenization and indices software, and to develop indices resources including a review paper, guidance materials and workshops. <http://cccma.seos.uvic.ca/ETCCDMI/index.shtml>.

WCRP leads IGOS-Cryosphere Theme and prepares for International Polar Year (IPY)

IGOS Cryosphere (draft [PDF](#)) creates a framework for improved coordination of cryospheric observations plus important recommendations for the IPY activities. <http://igos-cryosphere.org/>

WCRP sponsors another mega event: ESSP Open Science Conference (OSC) in China

The second ESSP Open Science Conference (OSC), held in Beijing, China, in November 2006 on "Global Environmental Change: Regional Challenges", attracted more than 800 scientists, policy makers, practitioners, scholars and stakeholders. www.essp.org/ESSP2006

Joint ESSP project on Global Environmental Change and Human Health launched

In addition to the existing three joint projects of the ESSP (on the global carbon cycle, food systems and water resources), a fourth joint project on Global Environmental Change and Human Health was launched at the OSC in Beijing, China. www.essp.org/en/joint-projects/health.html

ESSP Monsoon Asia Integrated Regional Study (MAIRS) first science plan completed

The International Science Plan of the first ESSP regional effort, the Monsoon Asia Integrated Regional study (MAIRS), was presented at the OSC in Beijing, China. www.mairs-essp.org

Dr. Stephen Schneider lectures at WCRP on "dangerous" climatic change

WCRP was pleased to welcome Dr. Schneider, a key IPCC contributor, to the WMO Secretariat to speak on "Can we define, let alone prevent, 'dangerous' climatic change?" www.climatechange.net

World Has Under Decade to Act on Climate Crisis declares US climate scientist

Leading US climate scientist, Dr Jim Hansen, says the world has less than a decade to take decisive action in the battle to beat global warming or risk irreversible change that will tip the planet towards catastrophe. www.planetark.org/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/39096/story.htm

ESSP partners submit to SBSTA 25 in Nairobi on climate change research gaps

Based on the information provided at the special side event on research needs at SBSTA 24, WCRP, jointly with IGBP, IHDP and DIVERSITAS, submitted a report for discussion in Nairobi at SBSTA 25 identifying gaps in climate research programmes to meet the needs of the Convention. <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2006/sbsta/eng/misc15.pdf>

WCRP Strategic Framework 2005-2015 available in Chinese

Download the framework from http://wcrp.wmo.int/pdf/WCRP_StrategicFramework_Chinese.pdf.

WCRP Annual Report 2005-2006, New Futures: Building on Great Success now available

The WCRP Annual Report ([PDF](#)) chronicles the activities of WCRP from July 2005 to June 2006 including its four core projects (CLIVAR, GEWEX, SPARC and CliC), diverse cross-cutting initiatives and many collaborations. To order a hardcopy, send a request to wcrp@wmo.int.

Increases in sea-level rise confirmed in Summary from WCRP Workshop

Participants of the Workshop on Understanding Sea-level Rise and Variability have recently issued a summary statement that confirms that global mean sea levels are rising almost twice as fast as in the previous century. http://www.icsu.org/9_latestnews/latest_21.html

Networking Workshops with key stakeholders held in Asia, Europe and America

WCRP has now conducted three Workshops with key stakeholders in the Institute of Atmospheric Physics (IAP), Beijing, China; the European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF), Reading, UK; and the National Research Council's Climate Research Committee (CRC), Washington, DC, USA. The JSC will review this report in Zanzibar in March, 2007.

WCRP Director participates in IGFA 2006 Annual Meeting in Montreal, Canada

Dr A. Henderson-Sellers participated in the IGFA Annual Meeting with other ESSP programmes to stress the importance of global change research to key funding agents. www.igfagcr.org

New book on Global Environmental Change and Infectious Diseases available soon

New [book](#) by Dr. R. Sauerborn & Dr. V. Louis examines how human-induced global environmental changes, including climate change, may affect infectious diseases.

Support for developing countries agreed at Nairobi Climate Change Conference

Improved capacity building and technology transfer to better prepare developing nations for the effects of climate change called for at COP12. http://unfccc.int/meetings/cop_12/items/3754.php

Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change

Sir Nicholas Stern, Head of the Government Economics Service and Adviser to the Government on the economics of climate change and development, states in his October 2006 report that the net impact of climate on the global economy will reach \$2.5 trillion per annum. [Full Report](#)

WMO Greenhouse Gas Bulletin states 2005 atmospheric CO₂ levels highest on record

The recently published WMO 2005 Greenhouse Gas Bulletin ([PDF](#)) states that quantities of CO₂ were measured at 379.1 parts per million (ppm), up 0.53 percent from 377.1 ppm in 2004.

Events

WGNE International Verification Methods Workshop, Reading, UK, Jan. 29-Feb. 2, 2007

For more information, visit www.ecmwf.int/newsevents/meetings/workshops/2007/jwgv/.

WGNE Workshop on Systematic Errors in Climate and NWP Models, Feb. 12-16, 2007

For more information, visit www-pcmdi.llnl.gov/wgne2007/.

SOLAS Open Science Conference (OSC), Xiamen, China, March 6-9, 2007

For more information, visit www.solas2007.confmanager.com.

WMO Conference on Secure and Sustainable Living, Madrid, Spain, March 19-22, 2007

For more information, visit www.wmo.int/Madrid07.

New Faces

Welcome to the newest member of the WCRP Secretariat

Valerie Spalding (VSpalding@wmo.int) joined the JPS in early September to work on activities related to the implementation of WCRP's Strategic Framework.