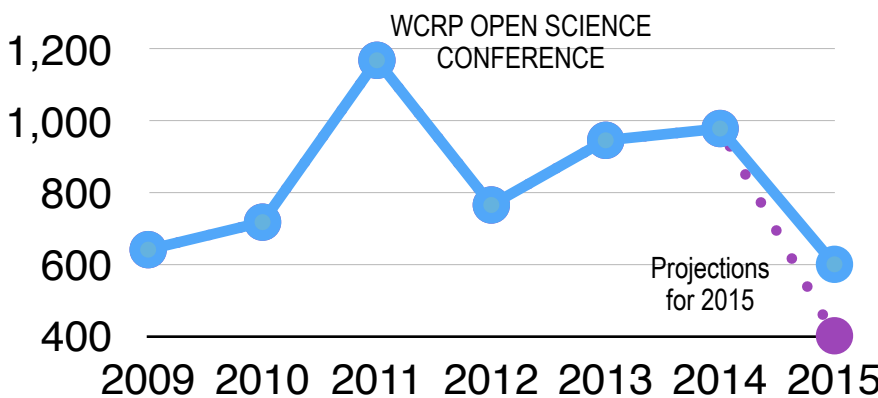


**WCRP 2015 Anticipated Funding - Impacts**

For WCRP 2015 represents a year of 'drought'. All activities of WCRP, as they focus on heat, water and carbon across ocean, land, atmosphere and ice, experience severe financial stress. In our responses we emulate natural ecosystems: minimize, delay, conserve. If the drought continues we recognize only negative consequences that extend to WMO, nascent climate services, IPCC assessment processes and partner research programmes including the World Weather Research Programme and Future Earth.

The figure below shows annual WCRP-wide activity expenditures (in 1000s of CHF) from 2009. These expenditures cover training workshops, conferences, summer schools, panel and committee meetings, reports and general travel across all WCRP projects, working groups and grand challenges.



Funding projections for 2015 fall below all prior years and represent deficits of 40 to 60% from 2014. We project a slight overall drop in contributions and reduced salary 'breakage' but the biggest impact and uncertainty in 2015

remains the USA contribution. We need CHF 200K from the USA in 2015 to remedy a 400K worst-case projection and stimulate overall contributions back toward 800K.

In 2015 we maintain full support for CMIP6. Otherwise international project offices, working groups and grand challenges absorb roughly 50% cuts in allocated funds. In practice one of every two workshops, half of all anticipated summer schools and a majority of travel and support allocations simply stop. Two WCRP projects propose the unprecedented step of suspending face-to-face steering committee meetings for one year.

These impacts occur as new leadership, fresh ideas and urgent tasks - including an extremely challenging focus on near-term (seasonal to decadal) climate predictability - emerge across WCRP. In particular the WCRP grand challenges gain prominence as guiding principles throughout climate science: as the structural background for CMIP6, the organizing themes for multiple conferences and as priority topics for partner programmes.

More than satellites or supercomputers, climate research and WCRP depend on enthusiastic volunteers who build and sustain the international climate community. They plan, coordinate, stimulate and communicate, with no compensation and little recognition. The international resources they manage and allocate come almost solely through WCRP. Without those resources, and particularly when their creativity and dedication run into funding dead ends, they understandably and rapidly lose interest. That loss of confidence and commitment represents the biggest potential impact of the present drought.