

Updating the CMIP6 data license

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Based on discussions in the WGCM Infrastructure Panel (WIP) and the IPCC Task Group on Data Support for Climate Change Assessments (TG-DATA)

ShareAlike

- CMIP6 data is published with the **Creative Commons - Attribution - ShareAlike (4.0) License**;
- This License, sometimes referred to as "copyleft" or "viral", requires all users CMIP6 to use the same license in all products which contain significant contributions from the CMIP6 data;
- This license is designed to prevent commercial exploitation of CMIP6 data;
- There is concern within the IPCC that this will place limitations on the way in which the 6th Assessment Report is published.

ShareAlike

- The ShareAlike license is intended to prevent unwelcome commercial exploitation of data. For example, it prevents tech giants from launching a commercial CMIP6 product in ways which might undermine the visibility and interests of the data providers;
- It also inhibits other forms of commercial activity:
 - Publication in the Earth System Science Data (ESSD) journal. ESSD will not accept papers containing "ShareAlike" data;
 - Inclusion in educational material: text books are usually produced on a commercial basis and licensed to prevent distribution of free copies;
 - Use in many climate impacts and adaptation portals, databases etc run by small consultancies.

Recommendations to WGCM

- 1. Agree in principal to grant the IPCC exemption from the "ShareAlike" element of the CMIP6 data license;

And

- 2. Look into establishing a light-touch waiver mechanism for education, consultancy and scientific publication.

OR

- 3. Remove "ShareAlike" clause, making the data available under the **Creative Commons - Attribution** license.