What is the World Climate Research Programme?

The World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) leads the way in addressing frontier scientific questions related to the coupled climate system — questions that are too large and too complex to be tackled by a single nation, agency or scientific discipline.

Through international science coordination and partnerships, WCRP contributes to advancing the understanding of multi-scale dynamic interactions between natural and social systems — informing the development of policies and services and promoting science education. Most critically, WCRP-supported research provides the climate science that underpins the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including national commitments under the Paris Agreement of 2015, and contributes to the knowledge that supports the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and multilateral environmental conventions.

In 2019, WCRP will embark on the implementation of its new WCRP Strategic Plan 2019-2028 (awaiting final approval). This strategic plan is a reflection of the continued need for fundamental climate science to address the rapidly evolving needs of 'climate science for society'. In particular, the strategic plan places a strong emphasis on collaborative efforts – among different branches of Earth system science, between natural and social scientists, and with civil society and political leadership at every level. To find out more, see the WCRP website:

www.wcrp-climate.org/resources/wcrp-sp











