



## Marine Climate Change Impacts Partnership

Dear MCCIP news subscriber,

The MCCIP website has recently been updated with new marine climate change news and events. Below is a brief summary of the new items that have been added. For more details on all of the items listed below, simply go to [www.mccip.org.uk](http://www.mccip.org.uk) and go to the relevant links in the 'news and events' box on our homepage. Please note that the material presented in MCCIP news does not necessarily reflect the views of MCCIP.

- **[The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change tasked with assessing the state of the climate has been giving some serious thought to where most of its efforts should be focused in the next few years](#)**

At a three-day meeting in Nairobi this week, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) made a few important decisions, including what the topics for its next "special reports" should be. Climate impacts at 1.5C, the oceans and cryosphere, and food security will all be getting special treatment in the next few years. The IPCC also confirmed that it will be "updating" its strategy for talking to policymakers, public and the media, a recognition that it needs to be better at communicating its findings to the outside world.

- **[Next steps for UK climate change adaptation: developing the 2017 Climate Change Risk Assessment](#)**

With the Committee on Climate Change preparing to submit its final evidence to government ahead of the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment in January 2017, this seminar will discuss the policy priorities for climate change adaptation and planning in the next five-year cycle. The seminar will take place in Central London on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016. It will be chaired by Rebecca Pow MP. Areas for discussion will include amongst others: Assessing the long-term climate outlook for the UK and Findings of the Adaptation Sub-Committee (with Professor Lord Krebs, Chair, Adaptation Sub-Committee, Committee on Climate Change).

- **[Record annual increase of carbon dioxide observed for 2015](#)**

The annual growth of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> during 2015, above three parts per million per year, was the largest ever recorded at the Mauna Loa Observatory in Hawaii, said climate researchers Wednesday. Independent observations by NOAA's Earth System Research Laboratory and by Scripps Institution of Oceanography show that not only did 2015 have the largest increase, but also that the annual increase was larger than two ppm for each of the last four years, another first. The large increase is partially due to the current El Niño weather pattern that leads to different patterns of temperature and precipitation over very large areas, affecting plant growth and respiration of ecosystems. The previous high point of annual CO<sub>2</sub> growth occurred in 1998, also a strong El Niño year.

- **[Arctic sea ice extent breaks record low for winter](#)**

With the ice cover down to 14.52 million square kilometres, scientists now believe the Arctic is locked onto a course of continually shrinking sea ice. A record expanse of Arctic sea never froze over this winter and remained open water as a season of high temperatures produced deep and likely irreversible changes on the far north. Scientists at the **National Snow and Ice Data Centre** in the US say that the sea ice cover attained the lowest winter maximum since records began in 1979.

- **[Climate forecasts underestimate sea-rise impact of Antarctic thaw](#)**

Sea levels could rise 50 cm more this century than had been expected, according to a new study which has found that Antarctic ice will melt faster than previously thought. Climate scientists said the most recent United Nations report on the effects of global warming had underestimated the rate at which the ice covering the continent would melt. That report, issued in 2013, said the worst case of man-made climate change would mean a sea-level rise of between 52 and 98 cm by 2100. The new study suggests the real rise could be 1.5 meters. The findings have been published in the journal Nature [DeConto and Pollard, 2016; doi:10.1038/nature17145].

**News stories:** If there are any relevant news items or events that you would like to highlight on the MCCIP website please contact Susana Lincoln at [office@mccip.org.uk](mailto:office@mccip.org.uk). New items will be added to the website next month.

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