



MCCIP E-news January 2009

News

Scotland's first climate change adaptation framework published

On 8 December, the First Minister announced the publication of Scotland's first Climate Change Adaptation Framework. The Framework presents a national, coordinated approach to ensure that Scotland understands the risks and opportunities climate change presents and is adapting in a sustainable way. It sets out the overarching model for adapting to climate change in Scotland and contains summaries of climate change adaptation in key sectors.

Over the coming year, the Scottish Government and the Scottish Climate Change Impacts Partnership (SCCIP) will host events looking at adaptation across the key sectors in the Framework. Information about these events will be published, when available.

www.scotland.gov.uk/AdaptationFramework

New synthesis report published on 'Impacts of the Oceans on Climate Change'

A new 150-page scientific synthesis report has been published looking at the impacts of the oceans on climate change. This major new report, published in the journal 'Advances in Marine Biology', brings together thinking from 30 leading researchers, builds on discussions with over 100 other scientists, and includes contributions from MCCIP steering group members. The report takes a global perspective on marine ecosystem impacts and examines potentially critical positive feedback effects on climate change from the oceans. The report also highlights the priority need for an extensive ocean observing system to better understand such feedbacks and help improve their representation in climate change models, which may presently underestimate their importance.

http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B7CTC-4XM49V5-6&_user=10&_rdoc=1&_fmt=&_orig=search&_sort=d&_docanchor=&_view=c&_acct=C000050221&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=10&md5=8e12ac4a9218da5387bfd18d4961baa3

'A climate of suspicion' – Nature editorial on the need for sophisticated climate communication strategies

With climate-change sceptics waiting to pounce on any scientific uncertainties, researchers need a sophisticated strategy for communication.

Climate science, like any active field of research, has some major gaps in understanding, yet the political stakes have grown so high in this field, and the public discourse has become so heated, that climate researchers find it hard to talk openly about those gaps. The small coterie of individuals who deny humanity's influence on climate will try to use any perceived flaw in the evidence to discredit the entire picture. So how can researchers honestly describe the uncertainty in their work without it being misconstrued?

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v463/n7279/full/463269a.html>

Scientific Synthesis Report: Impacts of Ocean Acidification on Marine Biological Diversity.

On 14th December 2009 at Copenhagen, The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity released a major study, *Scientific Synthesis of the Impacts of Ocean Acidification on Marine Biological Diversity*.

The launch of the study, which was prepared in collaboration with the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), was a major event to mark Oceans Day during the current climate change negotiations in Copenhagen and highlights the direct link between climate change, ocean health, and human well-being.

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/press/2009/pr-2009-12-14-marine-en.pdf>

Met Office: Noughties' confirmed as the warmest decade on record

The first decade of this century has been, by far, the warmest decade on the instrumental record. New figures released show that — despite 1998 being the warmest individual year — the last ten years have clearly been the warmest period in the 160-year record of global surface temperature, maintained jointly by the Met Office Hadley Centre and the Climatic Research Unit at the University of East Anglia.

Similar results are revealed in the independent analyses made by the United State National Climatic Data Center and NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies. These figures highlight that the world continues to see global temperature rise, most of which is due to increasing emissions of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, and clearly shows that the argument that global warming has stopped is flawed.

<http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/corporate/pressoffice/2009/pr20091208b.html>

New model for estimating ship emissions to guide policy

EU-supported research has established a new model to calculate air pollution emissions from ships. Its calculations could create a database that lists emissions per ship type and size as well as by country.

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/transport/ships.htm>

UKCP09 training development – help needed!

UKCIP is looking for discrete, stand-alone examples of how some of the UKCP09 products are being used. These will help us to develop additional training courses to teach users how to produce, interpret and work with more advanced outputs from the UKCP09 User Interface. A new intermediate level course will include: PDF plots, joint probability plots, underlying data; and storm surge. We would like to incorporate some stand-alone examples to help learners understand how to use these UKCP09 products. If you have already worked successfully with any of the above outputs and would like to share your experience please get in touch with Malcolm Chandler by 28 January, on 07540 667295 or 01865 285717 (Mon-Weds)
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