



MCCIP E-news October 2009

News

1. Ocean Acidification: THE FACTS. A special introductory guide for policy advisers and decision makers.

This ground-breaking introductory guide is written especially for policy advisers and decision makers worldwide and is a wake-up call about the double impact on our seas, of climate change and ocean acidification caused by increasing atmospheric carbon dioxide levels.

For the first time an easy to understand guide on this most critical of issues will be simultaneously available in English, French, Spanish, Arabic and Chinese. The guide will be launched on 10th December 2009 at the forthcoming UNFCCC Conference of Parties in Copenhagen.

The guide was produced with financial support from Natural England and EPOCA, and is based on best practice communication approaches pioneered by the UK's Marine Climate Change Impacts Partnership.

<http://www.mccip.org.uk/downloads/OA-guide-promotion-1.jpg>

2. New coastland map could help strengthen sea defences

A new 'Coastland Map' produced by scientists from Durham University and published in the Journal 'GSA Today', charts the post Ice-Age tilt of the UK and Ireland and current relative sea-level changes. According to the map, the sinking effect in the south could add between 10 and 33 per cent to the projected sea-level rises caused by global warming over the next century.

The projections are less than previous estimations for subsidence and could help local authorities to save money on sea and flood defences through the targeting of resources to areas where sea level rises will be greatest. The data and model could also be used in planning for the managed retreat of threatened coastal communities.

<http://www.dur.ac.uk/news/allnews/?itemno=8805>

3. National adaptation strategies in the EU

The Partnership for European Environmental Research (PEER) has published a report comparing national adaptation strategies across the EU. The report –'Europe adapts to climate change: comparing national adaptation strategies' – gives an overview of the current strategies, provides suggestions for the next steps, and identifies priority knowledge gaps.

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/research/newsalert/pdf/165na1.pdf>

Events

4. FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT - 14th biennial Challenger Society Conference on Marine Science. National Oceanography Centre, Southampton (UK). 6 - 9 September 2010.

The 14th biennial Challenger Society Conference on Marine Science will be hosted at the National Oceanography Centre, Southampton (UK) between 6th and 9th September 2010.

The conference will address the major marine science issues of the day under the overarching theme "Ocean Challenges in the 21st Century"

Paul Buckley (MCCIP Secretariat / Cefas) will be chairing a session on 'safe seas in the coming century'.

Abstract submissions and registrations will be taken early in the New Year.

<http://www.challenger2010.org.uk/>

5. The Marine Strategy Framework Directive - Key steps to Implementation, 25th November 2009, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London

The aim of this conference is to update delegates on the progress with the Marine Strategy Framework Directive in particular to cover the consultation on transposing the MSFD, Good Environmental Status and other implementation issues.

<http://www.coastms.co.uk/conferences/425>

6. Scotland Projections in Practice Week - Presented by Scottish Climate Change Impacts Partnership and UK Climate Impacts Programme in association with the Met Office, 16 – 20 November 2009, Edinburgh

These events will provide initial training and guidance to enable you to start using the UK Climate Projections and to assess the risks of climate change. This will kick-start a process which will help establish a user community in Scotland. SCCIP will continue to provide support to users after the events.

<http://www.mccip.org.uk/downloads/Scotland-Projections-in-Practice-Events.pdf>

7. Environment Agency annual conference: Environment '09 – creating the climate for change, 9-10 November, QEII conference centre, London

This year's annual conference is taking place just one month before the vital Copenhagen Climate Summit. It brings together key players with the power and influence to make a difference. Business leaders, politicians and scientists from the UK and abroad will provide insight into the impact of climate change and the likely legislative and business landscape on key environmental issues. From water quality to waste, flood risk to factory emissions, every presentation will focus on providing clear advice and practical solutions for the public and private sectors alike.

The conference will build on many of the themes discussed at the recent annual internal EA Climate Change conference (Climate Change: Challenges and Responses), which firmly put climate change (both adaptation AND mitigation) at the top of the EA agenda. Adaptation plans have been produced for every EA function (many of which are relevant to MCCIP including; marine waters and the coast, flooding and coastal erosion, water quality, conservation and ecology, the Water Framework Directive, and recreation and navigation) highlighting the risks and priorities for further research and development.

http://www.neilstewartassociates.com/sw116/reg_stage1.php

Paul Buckley
MCCIP Secretariat