

# **Bridging Climate Research Data and the Needs of the Impact Community**

## **Questionnaire climate data needs: introduction**

*Planning climate modeling analysis.* This questionnaire is the first step of a process in which IS-ENES (the infrastructure project of the European Network for Earth System Modeling, supported by the EU's 7<sup>th</sup> framework programme) intends to focus future climate modeling analysis in Europe on the climate data needs of the user community.

*Specifying climate data user needs.* The main climate scenario data users are researchers in the area of climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation (CCIVA). This questionnaire is therefore distributed mainly through the CIRCLE-2 ERA network of the national CCIVA research programmes in Europe (see also <http://www.circle-era.net/> and relevant EU FP7 projects).

*Using of the results of this questionnaire.* The results of this questionnaire will be used as input for the development of the IS-ENES strategy for the coming years and for the organization of an IS-ENES workshop that will tentatively be organized from 13-14 January 2011 in Copenhagen in cooperation with the European Environmental Agency (EEA) and CIRCLE-2. Eventually, this activity can also support the development of the European Clearinghouse on Climate Change Impacts Vulnerability and Adaptation, one of the elements of a new European Climate Change Adaptation Strategy to be developed following the EU White Paper on Adaptation ([http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/adaptation/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/adaptation/index_en.htm)).

*By completing this questionnaire you can influence future climate model analysis in Europe and the way the results will be made available.*

***What is IS-ENES and why does it want to identify user needs?***

- IS-ENES is the infrastructure project of the European Network for Earth System Modeling (ENES, see also <https://is.enes.org/>). ENES coordinates the European climate and Earth system modeling community working on understanding and prediction of future climate change. This community is strongly involved in the assessments of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and provides the model-based climate scenarios on which EU mitigation and adaptation policies are founded.
- IS-ENES involves 19 European climate modeling centers. It will develop a virtual Earth System Modeling Resource Centre (v.E.R.C.), integrating the European Earth system models (ESMs) and their hardware, software, and data environments. The overarching goal of this e-infrastructure is to further integrate the European climate modeling community, to help the definition of a common future strategy, to ease the development of full ESMs, to foster the execution and exploitation of high-end simulations, and to support the dissemination of model results and the interaction with the climate change impact community.
- In 2010, IS-ENES will develop a long-term strategy in which it wants to take into account the climate data needs of the climate change impacts and adaptation research and policy communities. This will ensure that the output of new climate model runs and scenario analysis can be used effectively and consistently by the European research community analyzing impacts of and adaptation to climate change.

***What is CIRCLE-2 and why is CIRCLE-2 interested in supporting IS-ENES?***

- CIRCLE-2 is an ERA network of research managers and funders of 20 national research programmes in Europe in the area of climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation, and 14 collaborating partners, covering 24 countries. CIRCLE-2 will support the development of a common research agenda, fund joint initiatives and calls, and share good practices on adaptation with national and European decision makers, thus contributing to the envisaged EU Clearinghouse on Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation.
- It is in the interest of both national and European (FP7) research projects that climate scenario data from new modeling analyses will be easily accessible in a format that allows effective and consistent use of those data in impacts research and for the preparation of adaptation strategies, plans and measures. Advance specification of the desired climate scenario data output in terms of the selection and definition of specific variables is therefore of the utmost importance.

*What is the objective of this questionnaire?*

- This questionnaire is a first step in defining climate data needs of the impacts and adaptation community. It provides climate change impacts and adaptation researchers, research managers and policymakers with an opportunity to support the development of the longer-term strategy of the European climate modeling community. While this questionnaire will focus primarily on the research community, through interviews and a workshop (see below) also policy makers and policy advisors will be involved.
- The results will not only be used to inform the development of the ENES strategy in the autumn of 2010, but will also serve as input for the organization of a more in-depth discussion between the European climate modeling and impact research communities, including an envisaged workshop to be held from 13-14 January 2011 in Copenhagen. You can express your interest in remaining involved in these activities through the questionnaire.
- Representatives of a number of related EU FP7 projects (e.g., on climate monitoring and EU Climate Services) and the EUMETNET Working Group on Climate Services have contributed to this questionnaire and follow-up activities will be coordinated with these activities, to avoid double work.