

**Press Release** 28.02.2007

## **1000 Climate Experts Now Using Greenhouse Warming Simulations**

Today, 28 February 2007, the 1000<sup>th</sup> person registered to use the world's most complete collection of global warming data from climate models. The data include both simulations of past climate and projections of the future climate.

This archive was initiated by World Climate Research Programme scientists working on coupled climate modelling in response to a request from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to consolidate predictions made for the IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report.

The Coupled Model Intercomparison Project 3 (CMIP3) is about 10 times larger than previous data bases for climate model output.

The data users comprise nearly 900 separate sub-projects on such diverse topics as African Monsoon variability, drought in Australia, hydrology in the Mekong River, Pacific Island climate change detection, Arctic contribution to sea-level rise, and anthropogenic impact on Antarctic oceanography.

CMIP3 is by far the largest undertaking of its kind to date resulting in over 200 papers in scientific journals already and many more in preparation.

The first instalment of the IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report on the science of climate change (released on 2 February 2007) noted the utility of this unprecedented effort by remarking: "A major advance of this assessment of climate change projections compared with the TAR [Third Assessment Report 2001] is the large number of simulations available from a broader range of models."

CMIP3 continues to register users for a variety of climate science and climate impact assessment projects beyond those reported by the IPCC.

Any non-commercial use of the data is welcome. Prospective users should consult the PCMDI's home page at <http://www-pcmdi.llnl.gov> and the Earth System Grid web portal at <http://esg.llnl.gov/portal>.

The Program for Climate Model Diagnosis and Intercomparison (PCMDI) in Livermore, California, volunteered to archive and organize the data under the auspices of the US Department of Energy's Office of Science, taking advantage of its climate data base management experience from other projects sponsored by the Office of Science, including the Atmospheric Model Intercomparison Project, and the WCRP's Coupled Model Intercomparison Project. These projects have aided in the understanding of climate model simulations and led to model improvements.

The data base now includes over 32 terabytes of output from the latest generation of climate simulation models. No less than 23 different models developed at 19 research institutions in Australia, Canada, China, Denmark,

France, Germany, Japan, Norway, Russia, the UK and the USA are represented in the data base.

The World Climate Research Programme facilitates international climate research to determine the predictability of climate and the effect of human activities on climate. Its Working Group on Coupled Modelling leads the development of coupled ocean/atmosphere/land models used for climate studies on longer time-scales.

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