

Report to the WCRP Joint Scientific Committee

My Climate Risk

1. Highlights achieved since JSC-43

- *Expansion of network of hubs.* In order to achieve the desired bottom-up approach, My Climate Risk will mainly operate through autonomous regional hubs, collaborating organically. At JSC-43 we presented our initial network of 8 regional hubs. Whilst these included all continents outside Antarctica, it was acknowledged that there was something of an extratropical bias in the geographical coverage. Our stated goal was to expand the network in parts of the world that are underrepresented within WCRP, with a particular focus on the Global South. Since then we have added 5 hubs:
 - Centre Régional AGRHYMET (Niamey, Niger)
 - IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) (Nairobi, Kenya)
 - South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON) (Pretoria, South Africa)
 - Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) (Pune, India)
 - University of Tsukuba (Tsukuba, Japan)

Note that the SAEON and IITM hubs are also part of the CLIVAR Atlantic and Indian Ocean Region Panels and the new Marine Heatwave Research Focus, so this provides a direct collaboration between MCR and CLIVAR. The current list of MCR hubs can be found at <https://www.wcrp-climate.org/mcr-hubs>. Discussions are currently underway concerning potential new hubs in the South Pacific, Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and northern South America/Central America.

- *Second MCR General Assembly.* In order to ensure equal participation from around the world, our pan-MCR meetings (known as General Assemblies) are entirely online. We held our Second MCR General Assembly from 21-23 November 2023. The report is available here: [WCRP My Climate Risk Second General Assembly](#). The meeting consisted of 4 two-hour sessions, with two scheduled for the Eastern Hemisphere and two for the Western Hemisphere. In each case, the first of the two sessions was hub-led and open to all hub members, with the different hubs sharing their activities and experiences, while the second session was restricted to members of the MCR General Assembly (SSG members, hub representatives, ex-officio members, WCRP Secretariat, and invited guests). Although the first of these sessions was found to be very valuable, it was felt that it would be better in future to decouple such events from the General Assemblies, so that they could span different sets of time zones and thereby allow different sets of hubs to interact. The third MCR General Assembly has been scheduled for 16 May 2023, and will consist of just 2 two-hour sessions, scheduled for the two hemispheres.
- *Establishment of Education Working Group.* It has become apparent that education and training are intimately linked to advancing the MCR research agenda. Accordingly, an MCR Education Working Group has been established, led by MCR SSG member Vandana Singh, to share or develop training materials between the hubs, and strengthen linkages with the WCRP Academy. The group held an initial meeting on 15 March 2023. Its first step will be to gain an understanding of what it means to decolonize climate science and education.
- *ADMU Webinar series during boreal autumn 2022.* The Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU) hub held two webinar series in boreal autumn 2022. The first series was titled “Climate Voices on the Ground: Perspectives from Different Sectors”, and consisted of three webinars. The second series was titled “Climate Research 'As If People Mattered'”, and consisted of four webinars. Recordings

of all the webinars are available here: <https://www.ateneo.edu/ais/mcr/events>. It is hoped that each of those themes — the first on climate stories, the second on research methodologies — will be developed into hub-led MCR publications. Preliminary discussions are underway.

- *ADMU Webinar on open science.* To help promote the WCRP Open Science Conference in Kigali with its region, the ADMU hub held a webinar on “Open Climate Science: A Panel Discussion on the Meanings and Practice of Open Science” on 15 February 2023, which included speakers from other MCR hubs. The recording is available from the link provided in the previous item.
- *Publication of Storying Climes book.* The publishing workshop organized by the Himalayan University Consortium (HUC) hub’s Environmental Humanities Thematic Working Group in October 2021, and co-sponsored by WCRP, led to an edited book published by Routledge in April 2023, entitled “Storying Multipolar Climes of the Himalaya, Andes and Arctic”. Two of the chapters are authored by MCR SSG members, links to which are available here: <https://www.wcrp-climate.org/mcr-events-opportunities>

2. Planned science initiatives and major events

- *Argentina hub Webinar series.* The Argentinian National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET) hub will host a series of four Webinars over austral winter 2023, reflecting on the different perspectives the physical and social sciences have concerning four central concepts: risk, storylines, co-development, and multiple lines of evidence. The webinars will have simultaneous Spanish-English translation.
- *Argentina hub publication.* The Argentina (CONICET) hub will submit a paper to *Global Environmental Change* on interdisciplinary storylines, resulting from their interactions over the past year.
- *WCRP Open Science Conference.* The MCR hubs are running a Learning Lab side event at the OSC in Kigali, entitled “Democratizing climate science: making it meaningful at local scales”, led by MCR SSG member Anna Sörensson who is also the focal point for the Argentina (CONICET) hub.
- *Adaptation Futures Conference 2023.* The MCR hubs will convene a session at AF2023 (2-6 October 2023 in Montreal, Canada) entitled “All Eyes on 'My Climate Risk': Q-Storming towards Collective Pathways to Adaptation Action, from Local to Global”, led by Rosalind Cornforth who is the focal point for the Walker Institute hub at the University of Reading.
- *Walker Institute hub.* The Walker Institute hub has embedded MCR methodologies in recent funding bids, is exploring interactions with the AGRHYMET and HUC hubs, and is planning a Webinar series for boreal autumn 2023.

3. Active or planned collaborations with other Core Projects, Lighthouse Activities etc.

We expect the collaborations between MCR and other parts of WCRP to mainly occur at the hub level, based on the particular interests of each hub (e.g. members of the Argentina hub are involved in the GEWEX ANDEX RHP). However, a few higher-level collaborations are mentioned here.

- *CLIVAR:* As noted earlier, two of the recently added MCR hubs are (together with MCR co-chair Regina Rodrigues) part of the CLIVAR region panels and new Research Focus.
- *Safe Landing Climates:* With the SLC LHA we are exploring the possibility of a joint hub in the South Pacific with a focus on sea-level rise.

- *CORDEX*: Erika Coppola from CORDEX and MCR co-chair Ted Shepherd are collaborating on a pilot study to incorporate storyline approaches within the CORDEX protocols.
- *RIfS*: There is agreement in principle to initiate a Working Group with RIfS (and potentially other partners) on epistemological issues in climate risk, involving philosophers of science, and including how to navigate across the 'rational-social dichotomy'. This is yet to move forward.

3a. Requests for the WCRP Academy to support your training activities?

- We would turn this around: the Walker Institute hub would be happy to co-host a bank of shared training resources on the Walker Academy portal (with auto self-logins as needed) if helpful.

4. Partnerships with projects outside WCRP

- As with the collaborations with other parts of the WCRP, we expect these partnerships to mainly occur at the hub level, based on the particular interests of each hub, since they are best placed to know the appropriate partners for what they are doing. However we are happy to have interested external partners participate in our General Assembly in an ex-officio capacity.
- *SERA*. The Societal and Economics Research Application (SERA) Working Group of the World Weather Research Programme (WWRP) is now represented in an ex-officio capacity on the MCR General Assembly, with designated representatives for the Eastern and Western Hemispheres.
- *WWRP*. The World Weather Research Programme as a whole is also represented in an ex-officio capacity, in addition to *SERA*.
- *WASP*. The World Adaptation Science Programme is now also represented in an ex-officio capacity.

5. Issues and challenges:

- *Recommendations or proposals, including any proposed changes to the structure of the Core Project, Lighthouse or other activity.* No recommendations for changes. Our structure is innovative and is functioning as we envisaged.
- *How do you see your community evolving, e.g., activities coming to an end or new ones starting?* Our community and network are evolving well and as planned. All our activities are new and have started recently.
- *List any advice you request from, or questions that you have for, the JSC (including any additional funding requests you might have at this stage).* We would like to request extra funds to facilitate the attendance of members of MCR hubs at the WCRP Open Science Conference.
- Time constraints on everyone's side are a challenge for voluntary activities.