



Scottish Climate Change Impacts Partnership Mailing: February 2010

January Projections in Practice Events – videos and presentations now available



Two further Projections in Practice events took place at the end of January. The events, held in partnership with the Health, Wellbeing, Emergency & Rescue Sectors and the Highland Council provided initial training and guidance to enable organisations to start using the UK Climate Projections and to assess the risks of climate change.

Presentations from the events can be downloaded from the [SCCIP website](#). Videos from The Highland Council event are also available to view [online](#).

The UK Climate Change Risk Assessment



Under the Climate Change Act 2008, there is a duty to lay a report before Parliament containing an assessment of the risks to the UK of the current and projected impacts of climate change to 2100. This report is referred to as the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (UKCCRA.) The first report is due by 26th January 2012 with subsequent reports issued at five yearly intervals.

The CCRA will provide the first UK Government assessment of the risks posed by climate change to things which have social, environmental and economic value at UK, national and regional levels.

Your involvement

This first Climate Change Risk Assessment needs your input:

- To point the team to the major relevant evidence you know about; and
- To tell the team what you need, so the report is relevant and builds upon work already done.

More information

More information about the project can be found [here](#).

New group to lead Scotland's public sector in cutting emissions



The Scottish Government

A new group to lead Scotland's public sector in cutting carbon emissions has met for the first time. The Scottish Government and COSLA are joining forces to identify and promote the actions needed across the public sector to meet Scotland's ambitious climate change targets. The group will also provide a crucial link between the public and private sectors.

Climate Change Minister Stewart Stevenson and Councillor Alison Hay, COSLA Spokesperson for Regeneration and Sustainable Development, are co-chairing the group which will include members from a wide range of public bodies. The Convenor of the 2020 Climate Delivery Group will sit as an observer. Read the full Scottish Government press release [here](#).

The Climate Change Behaviours Research Programme 2009-2011



The Scottish Government is developing a programme of research on climate-related behaviour change, the 'Climate Change Behaviours Research Programme' (CCBP), as originally introduced in Chapter 5 of [Conserve and Save: A Consultation on the Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Scotland](#). Led by the Rural and Environment Analytical Services Unit (REAS), this programme features 17 projects, both in-house and commissioned, that investigate across 5 themes, as follows:

- Key Behaviours
- Individuals, Households, Communities
- The Workplace
- Communication and Engagement
- Knowledge Transfer and Exchange

The overall aim of the Programme is to inform the development and delivery of policy to address climate change.

As part of this the Scottish Government is hosting a conference on behaviour change in June (date to be confirmed) with the title, 'What Works in Behaviour Change'. Papers are currently being sought for a variety of sessions including 'energy efficiency', 'drivers and levers for change', 'changing habits, practices and social norms over the long-term', among others. For more information on any of the above contact Jonathan Waite (jonathan.waite@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

Facing up to Climate Change Inquiry



The Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) has launched a national schools competition on how climate change will affect the lives and livelihoods of people in their own local areas. Part of its major inquiry into *Facing up to Climate Change*, the competition invites primary and secondary school children to produce a poster and 5 minute DVD on how climate change will affect the lives and livelihoods of people in their own local area. The competition is being supported by former weather forecaster Heather Reid, with a prize fund of

£5,000 available between primary and secondary schools in the north, centre and south of Scotland. More information can be found [here](#).

As part of the evidence gathering for the inquiry a public debate and discussion is being held at the Town & County Hall, Town House, Union Street, Aberdeen on Wednesday 3 March 2010, from 6-8pm. The event will start with a presentation by Professor David Sugden FRSE, Chair of the Inquiry, which will be followed by a discussion and public debate with the public and a panel of local stakeholders. Before the event there will be an opportunity to visit exhibition stands on display from a range of bodies and organisations. Further information about the event and inquiry can be found [here](#).

The Prince's Mayday Network



In association with Business in the Community

Founded in 2007 by HRH Prince Charles, Duke of Rothesay, the Mayday Network is the largest collection of businesses and organisations that have made a commitment to take action on climate change and to influence others to do the same. Joining the network is completely FREE and easy to do, so join now and you can make a real difference to the environment and your bottom line.

By joining the network, your business will:

- Gain access to the variety of support offered by our partner organisations;
- learn from best practice case studies from other businesses in the network;
- use our communications to profile your climate change successes to business peers and stakeholders;
- receive regular updates about key government policies that may affect your business, and feed into government consultations that impact your business;
- receive weekly news updates relating to the most important environmental stories making the news in Scotland; and
- Participate in practical workshops and events which bring key leaders from government and business together.

For more information, and to join the network, please visit www.sbcscot.com/mayday

Crichton Carbon Centre – Carbon Management Course



Carbon Management has become one of the defining issues of the 21st century – setting the agenda for Governments and organisations alike. The Crichton Carbon Centre's 2 day workshop provides a concise yet comprehensive introduction to the subject, equipping delegates with the core knowledge and practical skills needed to develop and implement a robust carbon management strategy within their own organisation. The next course with spaces available is on the 28th & 29th April 2010. Please visit www.carboncentre.org for further details and then contact j.mcquarrie@carboncentre.org

Two key climate change conferences



Conference: 5th March 2010, Edinburgh

After Copenhagen: The new climate change, carbon and energy challenges for Scotland and the UK

Keynote Speakers: Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP and Stewart Stevenson MSP

Chair: Evan Williams, Al Gore's "The Climate Project" UK

Click [here](#) to find out more about this conference

Conference: 22nd March 2010, Edinburgh

Carbon Counting: How to measure, manage and minimise your carbon footprint to reduce carbon emissions and reduce cost

Keynote Speaker: Stewart Stevenson MSP

Click [here](#) to find out more about this conference

Lecture: The Arctic and the greenhouse effect



**UNIVERSITY OF
STIRLING**

**Professor Philip Wookey, School of Biological & Environmental
Sciences**

**The Arctic and the greenhouse effect
University of Stirling
Wednesday 3 March**

Media stories have made us aware that the Arctic is warming rapidly and the survival of certain Arctic species is at risk. However we are less aware of other, more serious, consequences. The Arctic is a key component of the climate system, as the ice and snow cover reflects incoming solar energy, thereby reducing warming; the vegetation, soils and sediments of Arctic land are also strongly linked with the climate system through fluxes of 'greenhouse' gases. Many of the couplings and linkages between the Arctic and the world climate system have 'feedback' elements to them which can both reinforce warming or dampen it, presenting a major problem for humankind.

Professor Wookey's lecture will outline the critical importance of recognising when these processes are out of balance, since this is central to our understanding of how the earth system will both respond and contribute to climate change. More information can be found [here](#).

IPCC Errors: Facts and Spin



"Currently, a few errors –and supposed errors– in the last IPCC report ("AR4") are making the media rounds – together with a lot of distortion and professional spin by parties interested in discrediting climate science. Time for us to sort the wheat from the chaff: which of these putative errors are real, and which not? And what does it all mean, for the IPCC in particular, and for climate science more broadly?" Read more from RealClimate [here](#).

Clarifying climate change messages



A cold winter in the UK doesn't mean long-term global climate change is over, says the Met Office's Richard Betts, but how do we communicate these fundamental messages? How can we ensure the science of climate change is not misunderstood and misused? Here, Dr Betts discusses the issues scientists face in communicating the science. See [Dr Betts' article](#)

Sell the Sizzle. The New Climate Message



In this new guide by Futerra Sustainability Communications, it is argued that climate change is no longer a scientist's problem; it's now a salesman's problem. Government spokespeople, climate campaigners and business advertisers are called upon to stop selling visions of hell. Instead we must all create and sell a new vision of a 'low carbon heaven'.

Find out more and download this guide [here](#).

Global Climate Change and Health

Link between climate change and child health: call for more research

UN researchers highlight the need to develop better ways to measure the impacts of climate change on children's health. They suggest more attention be given to impact analysis of different social groups and ages, as well as nutrition. The new review of literature published up until 2009 summarises what is currently understood about global climate change and its link to child health. More information can be found [here](#).

Managing infectious disease under climate change

Health experts have called for a proactive, joined-up approach to public health in Europe under a changing climate. A recent study has examined the evidence for the influence of the climate on infectious disease and proposes a new integrated network for environmental and health data. More information can be found [here](#).

Please get in touch if you would like more information about the services and support available to you.

For all enquiries and newsletter stories please email: sccip@sniffer.org.uk.

Julian Holbrook, SCCIP Manager

Anna Beswick, SCCIP Public Sector Officer

Lorraine FitzGerald, SCCIP Private Sector Officer

Joe Hagg, SCCIP Science Officer