



SWCCIP Autumn Newsletter Issue 12: Sept 2008



The SWCCIP's aim is to investigate, inform and advise on the impacts of climate change in South West England and its main focus is on adapting to climate change.

This newsletter will inform you of climate change news and events in the region and beyond. If you would like to receive SWCCIP newsletters in the future please fill in the subscription / registration form on the front page of the SWCCIP website at: www.oursouthwest.com/climate. If you no longer wish to receive future copies, please email swccip@environment-agency.gov.uk with 'unsubscribe' in the title and your name.

For more information on any of these items or the SWCCIP work, visit www.oursouthwest.com/climate.

At a glance...

Events

- **Climate Change – How much are humans responsible for recent climate change? Prof. Frank Chambers (27 Sept, The Gloucester Guildhall, Gloucester)**
- **ENVEC 2008 (2 Oct 08, Winter Garden Pavilions, Weston-Super-Mare)**
- ***Climate Change as a Business Risk* - IEMA workshop (22 Oct 08, Bath University, Bath)**
- **Biodiversity – Adapting to Climate Change Seminar (23rd October 08, Riverside Christian Centre, Exeter)**
- ***Climate Change and Sandy Coastlines* - Jasper Knight (30 Oct 08, University of Exeter, Tremough Campus)**
- ***Ice, Mud and Blood: Lessons from Climates Past* - Chris Turney (27 Nov 08, University of Exeter, Streatham Campus, 6.30pm)**

SWCCIP News

SWCCIP

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- **Regional Developments adapting to climate change: SW Case Studies Needed!**
- **Animated Exeter 2009: SWCCIP support short film on adaptation**
- **Climate Change Action Plan Update**
- **Adaptation Week: 2 – 6 June 08**
- **Marketing and Climate Change business case studies now available**
- **Vulnerability Mapping**
- **SWCCIP Website updates Local Area Agreements: National Indicator 188 "Planning to adapt to climate change"**
- **Local Authority Climate Change Study**

Regional Partner News:

The Environment Agency

- **Be Aware, Be Prepared, Take Action**
- **The Environment Agency Adaptation Strategy 08-11**

Ecclesiastical Insurance

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- **Confirming your details with SWCCIP**
- **South Gloucestershire Council Sustainability Co-ordinator vacancy**

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- **Cutting through the Green Tape: The powers councils have to tackle climate change**
- **Great Global Warming Swindle broke Ofcom rules**

International News

- **Prepare for Global Temperature Rise of 4C, warns top scientist**
- **Global Warming to bring more Intense Rainfall**
- **100 months to stop climate system 'tipping' - sign-up now**

Events in Full:

Climate Change – How much are humans responsible for recent climate change? Prof. Frank Chambers (27 Sept, 10.45-12, The Gloucester Guildhall, Gloucester): In this illustrated talk, Prof. Frank Chambers of the University of Gloucestershire will explore the background science, sources of evidence and controversies that surround climate change. The talk is free and open to all – there is no need to book, just turn up on the day. For further information, contact Frank Chambers on 01452 538366.



ENVEC 2008: SWCCIP Annual Adaptation Event (2 Oct, Winter Gardens Pavilion, Weston-Super-Mare) *making sustainability happen in a changing climate*: Sponsored by GOSW, EDF Energy and the SW RDA and organised in collaboration with SWCCIP and the SW Energy & Environmental Management Groups, ENVEC is the key climate change event in the SW region for 2008. 2008 will be an important year in the challenge to combat climate change through reduced CO2 emissions and adapting to the impacts of a warmer climate and extreme weather events; ENVEC 2008 will help delegates address these issues. Details at:

www.oursouthwest.com/envec.

Climate Change as a Business Risk - IEMA workshop (22 Oct 08, Bath University, Bath):

The IEMA are holding a series of regional workshops to explore the risks of climate change to businesses. Gerry Metcalf and Kay Johnstone of UKCIP will identify the issues surrounding climate change impacts and provide businesses with details of available tools, resources and approaches for adapting. For details and bookings, visit:

www.iema.net/index.php?module=ievents&func=view&startdate=20080805&enddate=20090206&startnum=41&eid=566

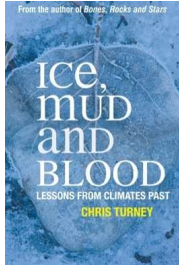
Biodiversity – Adapting to Climate Change Seminar (23 October 08, 10am - 4pm, Riverside Christian Centre, Exeter)

SWCCIP, Biodiversity South West (BioSW) and Natural England are jointly hosting a biodiversity and climate change adaptation seminar on to explore what climate change means for biodiversity in the South West and discuss adaptation principles in more detail: what does adaptation mean and what do we need to do in the South West? The seminar is aimed at all those working within the biodiversity sector, be they site managers or strategy makers. The seminar will provide the opportunity to raise awareness of the impacts of climate change on priority habitats; share knowledge and good practice; challenge the sector to think about key adaptation messages; and identify practical adaptation actions. Booking is essential for this free seminar and places are limited.

To book your place please email Naomi Brookes naomi.brookes@naturalengland.org.uk confirming your name, role, organisation and email address, and any dietary requirements you

may have. For more information contact Alex Webb, SWCCIP Manager, on 01392 442125 or Naomi Brookes, SW Regional Biodiversity Co-ordinator, on 0300 060 0095.

Climate Change and Sandy Coastlines – Jasper Knight (30 Oct 08, University of Exeter, Tremough Campus, 6.30pm): This talk considers two linked components: first, how and why the landforms and sediments of sandy coastlines are sensitive recorders of climate; and second, how these can be used as a smoking gun to detect the first impacts of climate change. To attend this lecture, contact Chris Turney on: c.turney@exeter.ac.uk or tel: 01392 263331.



Ice, Mud and Blood: Lessons from Climates Past – Chris Turney (27 Nov 08, University of Exeter, Streatham Campus, 6.30pm): Author of *Ice, Mud and Blood*, Chris Turney, will explore the dramatic weather events our world has already seen, to consider how we are to approach the future. *Ice, Mud and Blood* will explore the changing climate and the risks facing us today as we continue to drive our planet to new extremes. To attend this lecture, contact Chris Turney on: c.turney@exeter.ac.uk or tel: 01392 263331. Visit Chris' website at: www.christurney.com.

SWCCIP News:

SWCCIP Tourism Sector Group

South West Tourism has recently taken on the lead role for the SWCCIP Tourism Sector Group. As well as working with SWCCIP to relaunch the group, South West Tourism have now become SWCCIP's latest funder by making a pump priming grant of £5000 available to the group for the delivery of its key actions! For more information about the sector visit our website:

<http://www.oursouthwest.com/climate/sr-tourism.htm>

Regional developments adapting to climate change: SW Case Studies Needed!

SWCCIP are seeking case studies of South West developments with climate change adaptation in their design, for the SWCCIP website. If you know of any developments in the region that have adapted to climate change, or would like to submit a case study, please contact swccip@environment-agency.gov.uk or download the template at:

www.oursouthwest.com/climate/news-swccip.htm#s18.

All successful suggestions will be fully referenced in the final document. The deadline for submissions is Friday 5th September 2008, but do contact us if you cannot make this deadline.



Animated Exeter 2009: SWCCIP support short film on adaptation

Animated Exeter 2009, a competition for the best short animated film, will feature a category on adapting to climate change! SWCCIP, Environment Agency and 20:20 Design Agency are sponsoring the category to encourage the development of innovative ways to promote the key messages of climate change. The final film will be shown at the awards

ceremony during the week 13 – 21 Feb 2009. For more information, visit:

www.exeter.gov.uk/animatedexeter

South West Climate Change Action Plan Update

The Climate Change Action Plan for the region was endorsed by members at the Full Assembly meeting in July, with the priorities for regional action and next steps approved. The Action Plan will be formally launched to the region on Wed 3rd Sept 08. The actions are designed to be achievable within the next 3 years, with the emphasis now on delivery. You can download the full action plan, executive summary and technical appendix at the climate change pages of the Regional Assembly's website: www.southwest-ra.gov.uk

document guides Local Authorities towards planning and adopting strategies for adapting to the impacts of climate change. Download the publication at:

www.lga.gov.uk/lga/publications/publication-display.do?id=566301

The Environment Agency Adaptation Strategy 08-11

The Environment Agency has developed an internal climate change adaptation strategy for their buildings and functions until 2011. The strategy will involve carrying out climate change risk assessments and developing adaptation action plans towards developing an agency-wide Adaptation Strategy in 2010. For more information contact:

kylie.russell@environment-agency.gov.uk

Ecclesiastical Insurance

The Summer Floods 2007: One year on and beyond - ABI Report (June 2008)

This report, put together by The Association of British Insurers (ABI), looks at the catastrophic impacts of the 2007 flooding, the insurance industry's response and what the ABI are endorsing for the future. To read the full report, and more information on flooding and insurance, visit:

www.abi.org.uk/display/default.asp?Menu_ID=773&Menu_All=1,773,0&Child_ID=910

More News...

The Our South West Photo Gallery is growing!

The Our South West photo gallery has expanded, with more impressive images of the South West for public use. The photos can be downloaded free of charge for use in publications, power point presentations and more providing the source is acknowledged. Visit the photo gallery at: www.oursouthwest.com/gallery

Confirming your details with SWCCIP

To ensure we have your most up-to-date details, with the sectors you are most interested in, fill in the SWCCIP subscription form at: www.oursouthwest.com/climate

South Gloucestershire Council as Sustainability Co-ordinator Vacancy

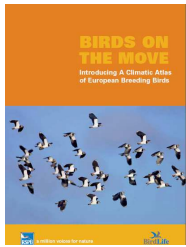
South Gloucestershire Council currently have a vacancy for the Sustainability Co-ordinator. The role is to develop, monitor, co-ordinate and implement corporate policies and actions on environmental sustainability and to take a lead role in securing sustainable development and lifestyles across the organisation and within South Gloucestershire. For an informal discussion please contact Jane Thompson on 01454 863870 or Jess Whiting on 01454 863863. The post reference is P0520/172 and the closing date for applications is 19th September 2008. For more information visit:

http://jobs.southglos.gov.uk/JobDetails.aspx/1979/Sustainability_Coordinator/?snextweeks=-1&Ssimple=&SSectors=-1&SSalary=17&STerm=1&Sdepartment_id=9&SLocations=-1&SSchools=-1&SSubjects=-1&o

National News:

Climate Change Bill Update

The Climate Change Bill will make the UK the first country to have a long term legally binding contract to cut carbon emissions. It sets targets to reduce carbon emissions by at least 26% by 2020 and at least 60% by 2050 with additional focus on climate change adaptation. The bill has now passed through the House of Lords and is in the Commons; discussions will resume after summer. Further information at: <http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2007-08/climatechangehl.html>. The Defra adaptation web portal also includes latest news on the Climate Change Bill: www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/adapt/bill/index.htm



Birds on the Move: A Climatic Atlas of European Breeding Birds

A new atlas, developed by the RSPB, combines field data with climate simulation modelling to map the potential geographical ranges of most European breeding bird species at the end of the 21st century. The atlas provides evidence of the threat of climate change to wildlife and proposes practical ways for preparing for the future. Download the leaflet at: www.rspb.org.uk/Images/birdsonthemove_tcm9-180310.pdf

RSPB summary on Europe's birds facing climate change:

www.rspb.org.uk/news/details.asp?id=tcm:9-180304

English Heritage Web Portal: Climate Change and Your Home

English Heritage has recently launched a website giving advice on the potential impacts of climate change for homes built of traditional construction. The website includes sections on scientific information, climate change impacts and the opportunity to customise the website according to house type. Visit the website at: www.climatechangeandyourhome.org.uk

Defra's 'One Stop Shop' for Adapting to Climate Change

Last month (July 08), Joan Ruddock launched Defra's new online information hub for businesses, planners and others to adapt to climate change. The website provides access to the most comprehensive collection of resources on adaptation, as part of the Government's aim to ensure the UK is prepared for the already irreversible impacts of climate change. The site includes tools, resources, background information and answers to common questions, visit: www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/adapt/index.htm

UKCIP08: Latest Climate Scenarios for UK

In November 2008, The UK Climate Impacts Programme (UKCIP) will be launching its fifth generation of climate change scenarios for the UK. The scenarios will consist of 25km by 25km grid squares covering the whole of the UK, scenarios for the marine environment observations and past and present UK trends. Keep an eye out for UKCIP08 on the UKCIP website at: www.ukcip.org.uk

Cutting through the Green Tape: The powers councils have to tackle climate change

As part of their Putting People First campaign, the Local Government Association and key partners have developed guidance to help Local Authorities tackle current environment legislation in the battle to reduce their carbon emissions. The document highlights key powers Local Authorities can use, signposts tools that can help authorities tackle green tape issues, and offers practical examples of councils that have successfully applied these powers. Download the report at: www.lga.gov.uk/lga/aio/874296

Great Global Warming Swindle broke Ofcom rules

Channel 4 has been criticised for failing to comply with Ofcom rules in its recent documentary 'The Great Global warming Swindle'. The documentary, now available on DVD, received over 265 complaints, including contributor to the film, Dr. Carl Wunsch, who suggested he was misled into thinking the film would convey a balanced selection of viewpoints and describes the film as 'an out-and-out propaganda piece'. Channel four will have to broadcast a summary of the Ofcom findings. Full story at: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/7517101.stm>

International News:

Prepare for Global Temperature Rise of 4C, warns top scientist

Defra's Chief Advisor, Professor Bob Watson, warns the UK to prepare for a 4°C global temperature rise that would have catastrophic effects on a grand scale. The current EU target aims to prevent global temperatures rising above 2 °C, but Watson suggests this is not enough. A 4 °C temperature rise would affect 7 to 300 million people per year from coastal flooding, 20-50% of animals and plants would face extinction and a 30-50% reduction in water availability in

Southern Africa and the Mediterranean. Watson suggests the UK needs to take lead in research on carbon capture and storage (CCS). Full story at:

www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2008/aug/06/climatechange.scienceofclimatechange

Global Warming to bring more Intense Rainfall

Climate scientists warn global warming will bring heavier rainstorms than previously predicted because the atmosphere holds more water as it heats up. Researchers suggest that areas already vulnerable to flooding will be hit hardest by increased rainstorms. Full story at:

www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2008/aug/08/climatechange.flooding

100 months to stop climate system 'tipping' – sign-up now

Experts say we have 100 months left before climate change could reach a tipping point, but disaster can be averted by acting now. Play your part and sign up to '100 months' supported by organisations including Greenpeace, The Soil Association and The Women's Institute, for regular suggestions on what individuals and groups and do to take action:

www.onehundredmonths.org

Hungry for more? Go to www.oursouthwest.com/climate

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