



SWCCIP Spring Newsletter Issue 14: March 2009

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. For more information about SWCCIP and adapting to climate change in the South West, visit www.oursouthwest.com/climate.

If you have been forwarded this newsletter and wish to receive SWCCIP newsletters in the future, please complete the registration form 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.



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Events in Full

Climate Change: Are You Prepared?" - FREE workshops for small businesses (13th – 19th March 2009, Bristol and Plymouth)

SWCCIP are offering a programme of 8 half-day FREE workshops for small businesses in the Agriculture, Construction, Food and Drink, and Tourism sectors. Attending a workshop will help you identify the threats and opportunities of climate change for your business. The workshops will also include a networking lunch and the opportunity to hear about practical examples of climate change adaptation within your business sector. Places are still available - for further details or to book a place visit: www.oursouthwest.com/climate/events.htm

"The Age of Stupid" - The People's Premiere (Sunday 15th March 2009)

Pete Postlethwaite 's new climate movie, "The Age of Stupid", is being launched on 15th March from a solar-powered cinema tent in Leicester Square and, via satellite link-up, at more than 60 UK venues, including the Eden Project and at other SW venues. The whole event will be genuinely green and all profits will go towards the new Not Stupid climate action campaign. For more information and to find out how to book tickets, visit: www.ageofstupid.net/premiere.

Local Action on Climate Change conference (Thursday 26th March 2009, London)

The 4th annual Local Action on Climate Change conference will address crucial strategy and practical guidance. The national event is designed for local authorities and key delivery partners responsible for delivering National Performance Indicators 185 – 188. For further details see:

www.capitaconferences.co.uk/OurConferences/LocalGovernment/Climate+Change+Mar+09.htm

May Day Network event and C+ Carbon Positive Awards (Friday 1st May 2009, Bristol)

Business in the Community are holding a May Day event from 9.30am-4.30pm at Bush House, Prince Street, Bristol to celebrate the South West C+ Carbon Positive awards. There will be workshops, a number of speakers and a marketplace of stall holders to help delegates achieve the Prince's May Day Network's 6 carbon pledges. SWCCIP will be hosting an information stall, so we look forward to seeing you there! For more information about the Prince's May Day Network visit: www.bitc.org.uk/events/may_day_09.html

The South West C+ Carbon Positive awards are now open for entries, with the closing date for applications as 31st March 2009. The awards recognise businesses, organisations and community groups who are taking positive action in their battle against climate change. For more information go to: www.bitc.org.uk/media_centre/news/the_south_west_c.html

SWCCIP News

Marketing and Climate Change Programme – Group 2 summary leaflet now available

Following the success of the first group of businesses involved in the Marketing and Climate Change Programme (jointly run in 2007/8 by the Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM), SWCCIP and Horizon South West), a second group of workshops was run between January and July 2008. Workshops dealt with the science of climate change, business processes, managing change, products and services development, communications and customer relationships. A summary leaflet is now available on the Business and Utilities pages of the SWCCIP website at: www.oursouthwest.com/climate/sr-business-utilities.htm. Case studies highlighting the actions taken to adapt to climate change by participating businesses will also be available on the same page soon.

New SWCCIP case studies

SWCCIP have produced a set of 5 South West 'developments adapting to climate change' case studies, which demonstrate how climate change adaptation measures can be incorporated into new designs. The case studies highlight key adaptation measures taken in the developments, the benefits of adapting, and how barriers to implementation were overcome. These are available now on SWCCIP's Housing and Construction webpage:

www.oursouthwest.com/climate/sr-housing-construct.htm



Photo: Cricklepit Mill, Devon Wildlife trust



A new biodiversity and climate change adaptation case study; National Trust's managed retreat and wetlands project at Mansands, is also available at

www.oursouthwest.com/climate/sr-biodiversity.htm

Photo: Mansands managed retreat project, National Trust

SWCCIP's 'Climate Change Farm' video now on YouTube

A short video from SWCCIP was put on YouTube on 23rd January. In the video 'Climate Change Farm', Mark Diacono shows how he has adapted Otter Farm in Devon to climate change. By growing produce that was once seen as marginal, such as almonds and olives, he demonstrates the new opportunities that are becoming available to farmers in the South West. To view the video go to: http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=IhZISsj_ge4

Tourism and Climate Change Adaptation DVD

SWCCIP, in association with South West Tourism, are currently in the process of producing a DVD about tourism and climate change adaptation in the South West. The DVD will include case studies of tourism business that have taken action to adapt to climate change. It is due to be completed by April and we hope to make it available online. Look out for further information on the Tourism and News pages of the SWCCIP website.

Adaptation Week

Following the success of the June 2008 Adaptation Week, SWCCIP are hoping to hold a 2009 Adaptation Week around World Environment Day on 5th June, which will include a number of climate change adaptation events across the region. Look out for further details on Events page of the SWCCIP website in the coming months.

Regional and Partner News

New Biodiversity South West website launched

The Biodiversity South West partnership has now launched its website, which contains details of the partnership and its work, as well as a wealth of information and resources about biodiversity issues in the region. The climate change pages include the presentations and workshop outputs from the 'Biodiversity and Climate Change Adaptation' seminar, which was jointly run by SWCCIP, Biodiversity South West and Natural England in October 2008. The website is: www.biodiversitysouthwest.org.uk.



South West Climate Change Action Plan (SWCCAP) progress

The South West Climate Change Action Plan 2008-2010 (SWCCAP) was adopted in July 2008 by a number of regional partners. The Action Plan contains a range of actions required to support the region in adapting to and mitigating the impacts of climate change. Progress against the actions is now being collated and monitored. The SWCCAP e-Newsletter, which highlights actions and progress within the SWCCAP, can be found at www.southwest-ra.gov.uk/ngcontent.cfm?a_id=4778. The focus of the Action Plan is now on delivery through 2009 and 2010.

Avoiding Dangerous Climate Change - Met Office Report 2008

The Met Office has published its 'Avoiding Dangerous Climate Change' report, which was produced for the UNFCCC conference of the Parties in December 2008. The report includes latest evidence and information about climate change and projections, highlighting emerging science issues that could make climate change more dangerous than previously expected. To read the report go to: www.metoffice.gov.uk/climatechange/policymakers/policy/cop14.pdf

Met Office launches new climate products

A range of new and enhanced climate products is now freely available on the Met Office web site. These include some new regional climate maps and regional climate descriptions. The products can be found at: www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate/uk/new.html

National News

UKCP09 dummy data set now available

A dummy data set for the UK Climate Projections (UKCP09, formerly UKCIP08) is now available. If you are interested in receiving these data please contact Paul Bowyer at UKCIP paul.bowyer@ukcip.org.uk

New business adaptation resources

'Adapt your business to the effects of climate change' is an online guide developed by Business Link. It covers advice on integrating climate change plans into business strategy, insurance issues, some practical steps and a specific focus on the agriculture, tourism and construction sectors. The guide can be found at:

www.businesslink.gov.uk/bdotg/action/layer?r.l1=1079068363&topicId=1081658406&r.l2=1079363464&r.s=sm

'Climate Adaptation Resource for Advisors (CLARA)' is a web-based resource from UKCIP specifically aimed at the business support community to assist them in providing advice to SMEs on climate change impacts and adaptation. It includes guidance on making the business case for preparing for climate change and the type of advice that could be required, along with delivery resources and links to lots of background information. www.ukcip.org.uk/clara



Government Response to the Pitt Review – new flood forecast centre

On 17 December 2008, the Secretary of State published the government's response to the Pitt Review on the 2007 summer floods and announced a new warning centre to help protect people and businesses from flooding. The £7.7 million flood forecasting centre, run by the Met Office and Environment Agency, will improve the country's ability to predict and respond to flooding by providing a single national forecasting and alert service. The Government Response also includes an action plan, which can be found at:

www.defra.gov.uk/enviro/fcd/floods07.htm

Insurance and Climate Change

The Association of British Insurers (ABI) has recently published 'Climate Adaptation: guidance on insurance issues for new developments' (ABI 2009). The report offers advice for developers, planning authorities and people buying new properties on building and buying new developments that are resilient to the impacts of climate change. It outlines how insurers will assess whether new developments are climate resilient and will help to ensure that affordable property insurance can continue to be offered. To download the guidance visit:

[www.abi.org.uk/DocumentVault/AdaptionStrategyfinaldraftupdated21stJan - formatted2 5.pdf](http://www.abi.org.uk/DocumentVault/AdaptionStrategyfinaldraftupdated21stJan-formatted25.pdf)

The new ABI strategy for 2009, 'Preparing the UK for Climate Change' is also available, from: www.abi.org.uk/BookShop/ResearchReports/Climate%20Adaptation%20Guide%20Final.pdf

Scottish study on landslides, climate change and roads.

The Scottish Road Network Landslides Study, published last autumn, considers the possible impacts of climate change on the potential for landslides in Scotland. The report includes recommendations for establishing a monitoring network and an action plan to minimise disruption from landslides. Available at: www.transportscotland.gov.uk/reports/publications-and-guidance/road/j10103-00.htm



International News

Carbon dioxide emissions and irreversible climate change.

Writing in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, climate scientists have warned that the longevity of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere means that many of the effects of climate change are irreversible. Further details of the report can be found in UKCIP's Climate Digest at: www.ukcip.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=214&Itemid=482

European urban adaptation project

Green and Blue Space Adaptation Strategies for Climate Change in Urban Areas and EcoTowns (GRaBS) is a new Europe-wide project, led by the UK's Town & Country Planning Association (TCPA). The project aims to help 10 European cities plan for the effects of climate change. Academic leadership for the project is being provided by the University of Manchester. For more information see the following press releases:

http://www.tcpa.org.uk/press_files/pressreleases_2008/20081215_GRaBS_PR2.pdf

<http://www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/news/display/?id=4285>

International adaptation on Google Earth

As part of weADAPT, a network of organisations collaborating on climate change adaptation, The Stockholm Environment Institute is working with Google Earth to map worldwide climate adaptation work onto Google Earth. The 'Adaptation Layer' allows users to find the locations and types of adaptation projects being conducted around the world. For more information, go to www.weadapt.org

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

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SWCCIP is funded by the following organisations



SOUTH WEST
Regional Assembly



GOVERNMENT OFFICE
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southwesttourism
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