



Climate SouthWest'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 Climate SouthWest and adapting to climate change in the South West, visit [www.oursouthwest.com/climate](http://www.oursouthwest.com/climate).



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## Events in Full

### 'Water, water everywhere..?' – Win 5 National Trust family days out and a water butt in Climate SouthWest's photo competition! Deadline Extended to 19 February 2011.

Climate SouthWest has recently simplified the photo competition brief and extended the deadline for this year's photo competition, and is inviting you to submit photos that demonstrate positive actions to manage and celebrate water.

The competition is a great opportunity to demonstrate photographic skills and win one of four prizes on offer. Photos could include examples of how we are, affected by either extreme wet or dry weather in our day to day life.

Entries are now invited under two categories:



**Wet**



**Dry**

The top prize is 5 Family Day Out Passes with the National Trust, the main sponsor of the competition, plus a water butt kindly provided by Bristol Water. As well as a prize for the overall winner, there will be 2 prizes of a £50 voucher for the best photo in each category (sponsored by Bristol Water), and a £50 voucher for the best photo taken by an Under-16.

For more information and to enter your photo in the competition, download the brief and entry form here: [competition brief and entry form](#)



You can also follow the competition on Twitter: [@PhotoContestSW](#)



ClimateSouthWest



#### ■ Climate Week (12-18 March 2012)

Climate SouthWest will be holding another week of activities in parallel with the second national Climate Week from 12th to 18th March 2012. Climate Week is a supercharged national campaign to inspire a new wave of action on climate change. It culminates with thousands of events and activities taking place nationally throughout the week. Showcasing real, practical ways to combat climate change, the campaign aims to renew our ambition to create a more sustainable, low-carbon future.



Climate SouthWest will be holding a number of activities and events; including announcing the winners of the photo competition, and hosting our third joint workshop with the SW Sustainable Health project (<http://sustainablehealthsw.org.uk/about-us>) focused on adaptation within new health and local authority structures.

Look out for more details about Climate SouthWest Climate Week events on our website in the New Year: [www.oursouthwest.com/climate](http://www.oursouthwest.com/climate) . For more information on national Climate Week events visit: [www.climateweek.com](http://www.climateweek.com)

■ **Business Resilience and Climate Change workshop (Exeter, 7<sup>th</sup> February 2012)**

In conjunction with Business in the Community, Climate SouthWest are inviting businesses to a half day workshop aimed at highlighting the effects of extreme weather on businesses, particularly small businesses who do not have the resources readily available to cope with extreme conditions or events. The workshop will look at what preparations should be made, what are the barriers to action, and how to deal with extreme weather/climate related business interruptions. Taking action to increase resilience is critical to the long term sustainability of your business. Incorporating these issues in business resilience and continuity plans will ensure your business can react positively to a business interruption and will be in a far better position to prevent, survive, prosper and gain an advantage over your less prepared competitors.

Further details will be available shortly on [www.bitc.org.uk/south\\_west](http://www.bitc.org.uk/south_west) and [www.oursouthwest.com](http://www.oursouthwest.com) . For further information, please call the Business in the Community Bristol Office on 0117 930 9380 or email: [southwest@bitc.org.uk](mailto:southwest@bitc.org.uk)

■ **2012 Constructing Excellence South West Built Environment Awards (December 2011 – February 2012)**

Constructing Excellence South West and the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) are now inviting entries for the 2012 Built Environment Awards. The entry deadline is 29th February 2012. Whatever the role of your organisation, for example, client designer; contractor; small local contractor; or supply chain; there is an award category that is applicable to your work. The entry process is straightforward and can take as little as an hour. It is free to enter, and it is a great way to showcase the work of your organisation and team. Winners at the regional level automatically go forward to the national finals. To find out more and download the application pack visit [www.buildsw.org.uk/awards](http://www.buildsw.org.uk/awards)

■ **Go Green Week 2012 (nation wide 6 to 11 February 2012)**



Organised by People & Planet, this is an annual national week of action on climate change in schools, colleges and universities and will take place from 6 to 11 February 2012. Students hold a week of activities to raise awareness every February and launch Going Greener projects.

Find out more at <http://peopleandplanet.org/gogreenweek>

■ **Planet Under Pressure conference (London, 26 to 29 March 2012)**

This conference will provide a comprehensive update of the pressure that this planet is now under. It will discuss solutions at all scales to move societies on to a sustainable pathway and will provide scientific leadership towards the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development - Rio+20. Find out more at <http://www.planetunderpressure2012.net/index.asp>



## Climate SouthWest News

■ **Climate SouthWest staff changes**

At the end of September, Climate SouthWest said goodbye to Becca Eastman, the partnership's Project Officer, but we welcomed Virginie Ba to Climate SouthWest in October. Virginie will be working for the partnership until the end of March 2012 and can be contacted in the following ways, email: [virginie.ba@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:virginie.ba@environment-agency.gov.uk) or telephone: 01392 352230.

■ **Construction in a Changing Climate: building for resilience**

Climate SouthWest successfully launched its new DVD 'Construction in a Changing Climate: Building for Resilience' at a conference in Bristol on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2011. The event, chaired by

Lesley Seymour from Future Foundations, was attended by over 60 delegates. A range of speakers including Professor Bill Gething, WSP/Built Ecology, Swindon Council and Wessex Water talked about how they had integrated climate change adaptation in to their building and design work. The presentations, in both PDF and filmed formats, from the conference are freely available at [www.buildsw.org.uk/climate\\_change](http://www.buildsw.org.uk/climate_change) .

The DVD, produced in partnership with Future Foundations and Constructing Excellence South West, is also available to download for free at: <http://www.buildsw.org.uk/node/406> . The case studies featured in the DVD highlight how adaptation has been integrated into the development, design and master planning phase, as well as in on site construction and retrofitting projects across the South West. Hard copies of the DVD are available on request. If you would like a copy please email [climatesw@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:climatesw@environment-agency.gov.uk)

#### ■ **Preparing to Prosper: building resilience to change Conference**

Climate SouthWest, supported by the SW Tourism Alliance, held a conference on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2011 at the Met Office in Exeter to help those working in the Tourism look at why preparing for changes in our weather and climate is increasingly important for the tourism industry. The event was chaired by Malcolm Bell, Visit Cornwall and was attended by over 40 delegates. Speakers from the Visit England, Met Office, Climate SouthWest, Ecclesiastical Insurance, South West Water, the National Trust, CoaST, University of Plymouth and Futerra presented on a range of issues including risks and opportunities of climate change, weather services, business case studies, tool to help and good communications.

Information and presentations from the day will be available on Climate SouthWest's website in the New Year. In the meantime, why not take a look at the range of useful tools Climate SouthWest and its partners have produced for tourism businesses available from our website: <http://www.oursouthwest.com/climate/tools.htm#>



## Regional and Partner News

### Living with a Changing Coast (LiCCo)



Living with a Changing Coast (LiCCo) is a new 3 year project led by the Environment Agency South West with funding from the European INTERREG IVA Programme. The Environment Agency is working with UK partners including the National Trust, Dorset and Devon County Councils and a range of French Partners

including the Conservatoire du Littoral.

The project aims to improve engagement with coastal communities and stakeholders affected by climate change across seven pilot coastal sites. Within the South West the focus is on the Exe Estuary and Poole Harbour in order to improve public understanding of Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) strategy messages and Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) policies covering the next 20, 50 and 100 year time periods. In particular the project will help communities to be involved in developing options to manage increasing flood risk caused by rising sea levels.

The project consists of 5 linked work packages covering baseline data collection (of social, environmental and economic indicators), developing & sharing best practice, communicating findings and influencing subsequent coastal change policy and delivery. For more information please contact Jane Lavick, Principal Engagement Officer (Exe Estuary) on 01392 446268, email [jane.lavick@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:jane.lavick@environment-agency.gov.uk)

### ■ New flood defence scheme for Teignmouth gets the go ahead

Environment Agency plans to build a flood defence scheme to protect the Back Beach area of Teignmouth were unanimously approved by Teignbridge planning committee at its meeting on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. In 2004, a scheme was rejected by the local community due to adverse visual impact and restricted access to the quays and the Agency has worked with the community to address these issues in the latest proposals. The newly revised £4 million scheme is designed



to minimise flood risk to 413 properties. The proposals include new flood defence walls, building on top of existing walls, using existing property frontages to increase protection and inclusion of new flood gates. [http://www.teignmouth-today.co.uk/News.cfm?id=37436&headline=Wave%20of%20support%20for%20%E2%80%98R](http://www.teignmouth-today.co.uk/News.cfm?id=37436&headline=Wave%20of%20support%20for%20%E2%80%98Rolls-Royce%E2%80%99%20flood%20defence%20plan)



### ■ Flooding event in Bridgwater

Part of the Flood Defence wall at West Quay in Bridgwater collapsed due to flooding on the night of the 4<sup>th</sup> November 2011. Negotiations for repair are underway between Sedgemoor District Council, Defra and the Environment Agency. In the mean time the Environment Agency's Operation delivery team set up temporary flood defences to protect the town for the high tide. [www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-)

[england-somerset-15778117](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-somerset-15778117)

### ■ An alarming new threat is facing England's seas

Over the past two years Devon Wildlife Trust has worked with a whole range of groups including fishermen, divers and recreational boat users to agree on areas of our seas that need protection. Nationally 127 areas - Marine Conservation Zones - have been identified as absolute musts for protection. In the South West these include the North Devon coast and Torbay seagrass beds. But in a last minute change of heart the Government is threatening to pull out three quarters of these havens. To voice your concerns go Devon Wildlife Trust's website:

[www.wildlifetrusts.org/saveourmczs](http://www.wildlifetrusts.org/saveourmczs)



## National News

### ■ New Look for UKCIP

UKCIP has updated its look to reflect changes to the organisation, name and funding. The end of September saw an end to their contract with Defra and the start of a new stage of work for UKCIP. UKCIP will now build on their stakeholder-focussed work, based on experience of working with many organisations in the UK and abroad, and supported by a range of partners. All UKCIP's existing tools and resources will continue to be available online, for free. In a further change, they will no longer be called the UK Climate Impacts Programme, but will simply be known by the acronym, UKCIP. For more information <http://www.ukcip.org.uk/news/transfer-delivery>

### ■ Speed BACILAIT launched

UKCIP has launched an additional resource to its popular BACLIAT tool. Speed BACLIAT is a simplified version that can be used as a first iteration for those who are not able to commit the resource required for setting up and delivering a workshop (or series of workshops) in the first

instance. It is now available on the [BACLIAT web pages](#) alongside the established workshop resources.

### ■ Report finds Councils scaling down climate change agenda

Two-thirds of local authorities are scaling back or entirely dropping action on climate change, according to research by the think tank Green Alliance. "Is localism delivering for climate change?" report from Green alliance found that only just over one-third of local authorities were maintaining action on climate change despite the difficult economic conditions. Of the rest, meanwhile, 37 per cent are "deprioritising" climate change or say it was never a priority at all and 28 per cent say they are narrowing the scope of their actions to focus on their own estate rather than any wider issues. Download the report at: <http://www.green-alliance.org.uk/uploadedFiles/Is%20localism%20delivering%20for%20climate%20change%20Executive%20summary%20-%20FINAL.pdf>

### ■ England Woodlands and Climate Change

The Forestry Commission has published new and practical guidance on adapting to and mitigating climate change, focusing particularly on increasing the resilience of England's woodland resource to climate change. For more details visit their website: <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/climatechangeengland>

### ■ Funds available for farm and forestry green projects

Are you currently working on a green project involving nutrient management, energy efficiency, water resource management, animal health and welfare or forestry? Defra recently launched The Farm and Forestry Improvement Scheme, a small grant scheme available for forestry sector. To see if you are eligible or to download an information pack visit the website: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/2011/11/10/pb13678-ffis-guidance>

### ■ Aquafund grants

AquaFund is a £700 million grant designed to enable organisations to make water efficiencies and financial savings. Derived from the HM Treasury's 'Invest to Save Budget', the scheme has been set up to help UK public and private sector organisations reduce water costs and consumption without the need for any budget. Typical grant allocations are £100,000 to £500,000 and examples of how it can be used include: professional water audits and detailed technical surveys; supply and installation of water saving equipment; monthly monitoring and targeting reports against benchmarks. Find out more at: <http://www.adsm.com/aquafund.html>

### ■ UK Climate Change Injustice Reports from Joseph Rowntree Foundation

According to new reports commissioned by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF), the people who emit the least carbon in the UK are most likely to suffer from the consequences of climate change. This is the first study of this kind. JRF is hoping the reports "Who emits the most carbon" and "Who and where is most vulnerable to climate change" in the UK will be used to inform policy makers. To access the reports visit: <http://www.jrf.org.uk/media-centre/climate-change-injustice>



## International News

### ■ COP 17 Round-up

This year's United Nations Climate Change Conference, COP 17, took place in Durban, South Africa, and was the longest to date following two all-night negotiating sessions and running 36 hours over!

Cop17 had three key objectives: to reach agreement on the Kyoto Protocol's future; to agree a

pathway to strengthening overall global climate regime and lay the foundations for a new treaty; and to put into operation the various institutions and processes that had been established at last year's meeting in Cancun, particularly with respect to finance.

Key decisions included: to launch a new negotiating process that will develop a new 'protocol, legal instrument or agreed outcome' covering all countries by 2015 with implementation by 2020; to establish a second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol beginning in January 2013 and ending 2017 or 2020; and to set up the new Green Climate Fund.

Find full details at <http://unfccc.int/2860.php>

#### ■ Major Storm could submerge New York City in the next decade

New report has come to the conclusion that in the future, storms would put a third of New York City streets under water and flood many of the tunnels leading into Manhattan in under an hour because of climate change. This report was commissioned by the state government to help them adapt for, and build climate change into long-term planning strategies.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/nov/16/climate-change-report-new-york-city>

#### ■ Wave 'invisibility cloak' could shield coastlines

Using the technology behind "invisibility cloaks", it may be possible to create a zone in front of vulnerable coastlines where waves of certain frequencies cannot reach. Such a system could even double up as an energy plant. To find out more visit:

<http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg21028154.500-wave-invisibility-cloak-could-shield-coastlines.html>



#### ■ Climate Change Could Melt Chocolate Production

More than half the world's chocolate is made from cocoa grown by farmers in Ghana and Ivory Coast. However, research recently published by the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) predicts that the expected increase in average temperatures will make many of the existing cocoa-growing areas significantly less suitable. Find out more at

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=climate-change-could-melt-chocolate-production>

#### ■ Global warming 'confirmed' by independent study

The Berkley Earth Project, funded by anti-climate change organisation, has confirmed global warming. The team of 10 scientists including winner of this year's Nobel Physics Prize, came up with a new way of analysing the data, and have confirmed the findings of organisation such as the Met Office, UEA's Climatic Research Unit (CRU) and NASA. To find out more go to

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-15373071>

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**Hungry for more?** Go to [www.oursouthwest.com/climate](http://www.oursouthwest.com/climate)

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