



Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften Hamburg
Hamburg University of Applied Sciences



Concept

CLIMATE 2010 – KLIMA 2010

The World's CO₂-friendly Scientific On-line Climate Conference

1-7 November 2010

<http://www.climate2010.net>

Conference Office and further information

Coordination: Prof. Walter Leal (BSc, PhD, DSc, DL, DPhil)

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Rationale

Climate change is and will continue to be one of the central issues in the world's agenda. The 15th Conference of Parties (COP 15) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change held in Copenhagen in December 2009 has reiterated how much still needs to be done in order to tackle the various challenges climate change and its various ramifications pose to mankind.

In order to allow broader, interdisciplinary and inclusive discussions on matters related to climate change, the Research and Training Centre "Applications of Life Sciences" at the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences pioneered a series of on-line research conferences on climate change. The world's first on-line scientific conference on climate change, titled CLIMATE 2008/KLIMA 2008, was held from 3-7 November 2008. The second conference, titled CLIMATE 2009/KLIMA 2009, was held on 2-7 November 2009. Both events have a unique feature: these conferences allowed hundreds of thousands of people across the globe to debate climate issues on-line, without causing additional and unnecessary CO₂ emissions.

The experiences from the pilot conference CLIMATE 2008/KLIMA 2008 and its successor CLIMATE 2009/KLIMA 2009 have shown that on-line research conferences – given they are organized in a climate-friendly or even climate-neutral manner – do generate much interest. Indeed, these kinds of events meet a growing demand for on-line conferences which cater for the broad participation of people from different sectors and backgrounds and, at the same time, aim to foster greater awareness on climate change. The on-line research conferences on climate change are by no means intended to replace normal events where people meet face to face. Instead, they can complement conventional conferences in an innovative way. On-line conferences allow people to access comprehensive information from everywhere, be it at school or university, the workplace or at home. 24 hours a day participants of these unique on-line events are able to access the pool of knowledge in a user-friendly way and free of charge, helping to overcome the challenges and costs associated with travel, hence allowing participation of a broad range of target groups.

The two previously organized and highly successful events, CLIMATE 2008/KLIMA 2008 and CLIMATE 2009/KLIMA 2009, suggest a perceived need to continue fostering the international debate on climate issues. For this

reason, CLIMATE 2010/KLIMA 2010 will be organized from 1 to 7 November 2010, focusing on "**Climate Change and the Sustainable Management of Water Resources**". There are two key arguments for the choice of this particular topic:

- First, it is widely believed that climate change has a serious impact on global water supplies and may worsen water scarcity – a problem which threatens a large part of the world already today. Under present conditions, approximately 1.2 billion people – especially in developing countries - have no access to drinking water. In order to address this problem, the United Nations has set the goal of increasing access to a further 600 million people by 2015, i.e. better access to drinking water for around 100 million people per year between 2010 and 2015.
- Secondly, there is a pressing need to use the presently available water resources which are very scarce in some areas more sustainably. Even though in parts of Africa, Latin America and the Middle East water resources are already scarce, the proportion of water wasted partly to leaks but also due to the lack of adequate systems to retain, recycle and reuse water is considerably high. Urgent action is needed to address this issue to keep up the UN targets.

The thematic focus of "Climate 2010 /Klima 2010" will thus allow in-depth discussions and support the search for global and regional solutions for the impacts climate change have on water supplies and will address the need to promote sustainable water use across the world.

The event will have two tracks: one in English and one in the German language. Over the course of the event, interested participants can read the papers, exchange ideas with the authors and participant experts and browse through further background information on specific aspects of climate change.

Aims

CLIMATE 2010/KLIMA 2010's aims at the following:

- to introduce the latest findings from scientific research on climate change and its links and impacts on water cycles, water supply and water management;
- to introduce projects and other initiatives being undertaken in both industrialized and developing countries by universities and scientific institutions, government bodies, national and international agencies, NGOs and other stakeholders;
- to discuss the problems, barriers, challenges and chances and potentials related to the promotion of the sustainable use of water resources worldwide.

Last but not least, and similar to the previous on-line conferences in 2008 and 2009, CLIMATE 2010/KLIMA 2010 will encourage more networking and information exchange among participants and hopefully catalyze new cooperation initiatives and possibly new projects.

Format

CLIMATE 2010/KLIMA 2010 is composed by the combination of a **scientific symposium** per se - for information exchange and knowledge transfer among the relevant stakeholders on the one hand - and accompanying **interactive sections**, gathering researchers, policy makers and further interested people and encouraging them to jointly discuss ways how to overcome existing barriers towards global efforts in dealing with climate change.

Scientific symposium:

At the heart of the on-line conference are four main categories of papers:

Category 1: Geo-chemical and Physical Impacts of Climate Change on Water Supplies;

Category 2: Socio-economic Aspects of Climate Change in relation to Water Supplies and Use;

Category 3: Climate Change, Policy-making and Sustainable Water Use;
Category 4: Projects which focus on addressing the links between climate change and sustainable water use, including educational and awareness-raising initiatives.

Moreover, CLIMATE 2010/KLIMA 2010 will also pay a special emphasis to research linking climate change with one or more of the Millennium Development Goals categories: poverty and hunger; universal primary education; gender equality and women's empowerment; child mortality; maternal health; HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases; as well as environmental sustainability.

Interactive sections:

Special interactive features such as **discussion fori**, virtual blackboards for **project and partner search**, **expert live chats** and **video podcasts** will be available throughout the conference week, complemented by information on **climate project financing**.

A **designated discussion section** offers participants the opportunity to interact with the authors and have first hand insights into the latest research and project findings on matters related with water and climate change.

A dedicated conference section titled "**Climate Change at your fingertips**" contains learning information and teaching modules for use by schoolchildren, hence catering for the specific information needs seen at the secondary level.

While many participants will mainly use the Conference for information purposes, direct scientific exchanges and cooperation possibilities for joint activities and projects between the participants will be encouraged.

Target Groups

Delegates will find in the on-line conference a unique opportunity to look at climate change issues not only under a scientific perspective but also in connection with the sustainable use of water resources in a way not yet seen elsewhere – 100% on-line and free of charges. CLIMATE 2010/KLIMA 2010 will be of special interest to:

- Researchers and Academics performing research and studies on aspects related to climate change;
- Social institutions concerned with climate change;
- National and International organizations, NGOs;
- Government organizations such as Environment Ministries and Planning Committees;
- Companies and enterprises, in particular banks or insurance agencies;
- Water agencies, water providers and
- Other stakeholders whose activities are influenced by climate change.

Conditions of participation

All submissions to CLIMATE 2010/KLIMA 2010 will be subject to a strict vetting procedure to ensure their thematic relevance, scope and degree of replication elsewhere. A special emphasis will be given to research which has led to tangible results, as opposed to merely theoretical analyses and appraisals of aspects of climate change problems. Although the Coordinator and Editor-in-Chief will be advised by an international editorial board, his decision is final so as to ensure the editorial coherence of the publication.

Submissions to CLIMATE 2010/KLIMA 2010 will be commissioned by the Coordinator and Editor-in-Chief and, when accepted, will be subjected to peer-review by an international editorial board, which will process the scientific papers further.

The preparation of "Climate 2010 / Klima 2010" has been made possible by a research grant and sponsorships. Participation is therefore free of charges. Authors are solely required to cover the costs related to the preparation of their submissions. Authors making submissions to "Climate 2010 / Klima 2010" will do so in the understanding that they fully agree with these conditions.

Scientific Committee

A number of renowned international experts from universities and research institutes around the world will be supporting the conference:

Co-ordination/Editor-in-Chief:

Professor Walter Leal (BSc, PhD, DSc, DL, DPhil), Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, **Germany**

Members:

- ❖ Dr. Bob Pokrant, Centre for Advanced Studies in Australia, Asia and the Pacific (CASAAP), Curtin University of Technology, **Australia**
- ❖ Prof. Jasim Uddin Ahmad, University of Jahangirnagar, **Bangladesh**
- ❖ Prof. Paulo Artaxo, University of Sao Paulo, **Brazil**
- ❖ Dr. Rong Fang, Tsinghua University, **China**
- ❖ Dr. Gao Qingxian, Dr. Gao Qingxian, Center for Climate Impact Research, Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences (CRAES), **China**
- ❖ Prof. Essam El-Rafey, University of Alexandria, **Egypt**
- ❖ Dr. Daniela Jacob; Max-Planck Institute of Meteorology, **Germany**
- ❖ Dr. Jürgen Kropp, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, **Germany**
- ❖ Dr. Evangelos Manolas, University of Thrace, **Greece**
- ❖ Dr. P.K. Joshi, TERI University, **India**
- ❖ Prof. Dr. Krishne Gowda, University of Mysore, **India**
- ❖ Dr. Richard S. Odingo, Department of Geography, University of Nairobi, **Kenya**
- ❖ Prof. Dr. Maris Klavins, University of Latvia, **Latvia**
- ❖ Prof. Dr. H. J. Kamaruzman Jusoff, University Putra Malaysia, **Malaysia**
- ❖ Dr. Karel Mulder, Technical University of Delft, **The Netherlands**
- ❖ Dr. Julia Seixas, New University of Lisbon, **Portugal**
- ❖ Dr. Amadou Gaye, University of Dakar, **Senegal**
- ❖ Prof. Bruce Hewitson, - University of Cape Town, **South Africa**
- ❖ Prof. Dr. Lars Ryden, University of Uppsala, **Sweden**
- ❖ Prof. Ronald Wennersten, Royal Institute of Technology, **Sweden**
- ❖ Dr. Walter J. Ammann, President Global Risk Forum GRF Davos, Davos, **Switzerland**
- ❖ Prof. Dr. Samir Al-Gamal, Sahara and Sahel Observatory, **Tunisia**
- ❖ Dr Paul Heynes; Cambridge Center for Climate Change Mitigation and Research, **UK**
- ❖ Dr. Mary Ann Curran; United States Environment Protection Agency, **USA**

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