

CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH



NCCR Climate and Oeschger Centre, Zähringerstrasse 25, CH-3012 Bern

Bern, 16. Dezember 2011

Dear colleagues,

This is an open call for participation in a cross-sectorial quantitative impact study for Climate Change in Switzerland, which extends the qualitative assessment of the OcCC/ProClim "Climate Change and Switzerland 2050". The aim is to bring together the expertise from different research groups in Switzerland. The new climate data (temperature and precipitation) prepared for the CH2011 (see www.ch2011.ch) shall be used as a common forcing to make the results of different groups and disciplines consistent. Through such a comprehensive study using the same climate data base the results of the individual topics are comparable and can be linked together. This makes them much more relevant for the society and the decision makers. The project will be coordinated and publication of the report financed by the Oeschger Center.

The main criteria to participate are

- Ability to quantify climate impacts using the CH2011 climate scenario data as driver for your impact model, i.e., quantification of specific impacts for the three scenarios used in CH2011.
- The research is conducted as in-kind activity (i.e. without extra funding)
- The results and a first draft are ready by March 2013

Why should you consider to participate?

This will be the first comprehensive study on climate impacts in Switzerland for low, intermediate and high global warming. The application of common climate forcing data across disciplines and groups will set a new standard in terms of comparability of results. This report will provide relevant quantitative information to other scientists, decision makers and the public. We expect that this assessment will be widely recognized and used. We expect that this

assessment will identify current gaps in knowledge and uncertainties, thereby promoting further research in the area of climate impacts.

Participants contribute as authors to the writing and the presentation of results and increase the visibility of their research and the visibility of their home institutions.

If you are interested but have difficulty to meet the March 2013 deadline for inclusion of your results in the report, you may still express your interest in a quantitative impact study. The Oeschger Center will continue its focus on this topic also after the publication. If interested, you will be kept in the loop of groups working on quantitative impact studies based on common climate data.

Several groups have already indicated interest in participating in the project; the following research groups confirmed contributions: Rolf Weingartner (Uni Bern), Harald Bugmann (ETHZ), Juerg Fuhrer (Agroscope), Christoph Appenzeller (MeteoSwiss), and Olivia Martius-Romppainen (Uni Bern).

If you are interested to participate in the project, you may find further details below or on the webpage of the OCCR: http://www.oeschger.unibe.ch (News).

With kind regards,

Fortunat Joos

President of the OCCR

Martin Grosjean

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Executive Director of the NCCR Climate

Christoph Raible

Deputy Director of the OCCR

CH2014 Impact project coordinator

Christoph Ritz ProClim

Details on the Project 'CH2014-Impact"

Motivation

The report CH2050, released in 2007, was the first step to assess the changes of the physical climate system and its impacts on Switzerland. It provided qualitative information of the impacts of climate change based on expert judgment.

The physical basis was recently updated in the report CH2011. This report provides spatially-resolved temperature and precipitation projections with daily resolution for three greenhouse gas emissions scenarios, with low, intermediate and high emissions, and from advanced multi-model simulations. These climatic scenarios are an opportunity to assess the impacts of changing temperature and precipitation for the first time in a quantitative way. Thus, a report based on a quantitative climate impact analysis for Switzerland is a timely endeavor, being relevant for the society and decision makers in administration, politics, and private enterprises.

Aims

- To quantitatively assess a range of climatic impacts on different sectors in Switzerland for three climate scenarios.
- To provide scientific, policy-relevant, but not-policy prescriptive information.

Approach

Interested research groups conduct impact studies on the basis of the CH2011 scenario data (see www.ch2011.ch) and use established and quantitative methods. The topic must be relevant for Switzerland or for sub-regions. Potential topics are:

- Agriculture
- Forest
- Ecosystems and biodiversity
- Water
- Cryosphere
- Extreme events, weather types and return periods
- Infrastructures
- Etc.

The different studies will be integrated into one final report with the working title CH2014-Impact. The project assumes in-kind contributions by the different groups and participants contribute as authors to the writing and the presentation of results.

The call for participation in December 2011 is open for the entire science community. The report will be open for peer review for the entire science community and comments will be thoroughly considered before publication of the final documents.

The assessment is coordinated by the NCCR Climate and the Oeschger Center. The project will be accompanied by a board with members from the Oeschger Center, NCCR-Climate, ProClim/OcCC, MeteoSwiss, and ETH.

Time Frame

31 January 2012 Submission deadline for short proposal

February 2012 Compilation and evaluations of the proposals in light of the specified

criteria and the overall balance of the report, selection of participating

groups and first contact of the project leaders

March 2012 Meeting of the project groups

March 2013 First order draft

January 2014 Final report (IPCC WGII report appears in mid-March 2014)

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