

New Project Office of the World Climate Research Program at the German Climate Computing Center

05.05.2023

The World Climate Research Program opens a new International Project Office (IPO) at the German Climate Computing Center (Deutsches Klimarechenzentrum, DKRZ), Germany to coordinate the recently launched Earth System Modelling and Observations (ESMO) Core Project.

With the impacts of climate change felt worldwide, decision-makers are depending increasingly on accurate climate change information to support society's adaptation of society to the new, evolving climate normal. This information is provided by climate models in combination with climate observations. Decisions must be based on trustworthy climate science together with reliable predictions. To achieve both, continuous development and improvement of climate infrastructure, ranging from complete Earth system models to a sustainable and science-based climate observation system, is required.

The World Climate Research Program (WCRP) is addressing both with its new Earth System Modelling and Observations (ESMO) Core Project that will coordinate, advance, and facilitate all modeling, data assimilation and observational activities within WCRP. To coordinate this work, WCRP opened a new International Project Office (IPO) in Germany on 1 May 2023 hosted by the German Climate Computing Centre (DKRZ) in Hamburg, Germany. The new IPO will provide support to activities developed by ESMO, and will take the lead in coordinating scientific activities and a communication strategy for ESMO.

The DKRZ is a central service center for German climate and Earth system research. With its high-performance computers, data storage and services, it forms the central research infrastructure for simulation-based climate science in Germany. DKRZ is supported by its shareholders, the Max Planck Society, the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg represented by the University of Hamburg, the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research and the Helmholtz Center Hereon.

The new office will be under the leadership of the ESMO Scientific Steering Group (SSG), with oversight from the WCRP Joint Scientific Committee (JSC), and close collaboration with the WCRP Secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland. The new office will support ESMO activities for a seamless and value-chain model-data-observation approach across Earth system components, fundamental and applied disciplines, time and spatial scales and infrastructures.

WCRP will benefit from the highly qualified support that will be provided through the office, thereby advancing climate modeling on an international scale. At the same time, the excellent climate modeling work currently underway in Germany will benefit by becoming more visible internationally.

Source: DKRZ

Editor 05.05.2023 by Lynn Dinh, VDI Technologiezentrum GmbH

Countries / organization: Germany, Global

Topic: Geosciences, Environment & Sustainability

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