

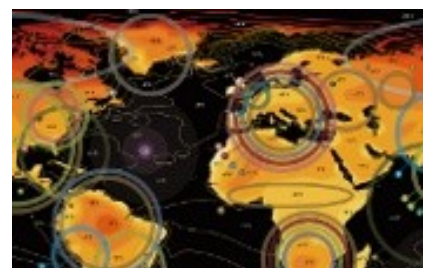
Walker Institute Newsletter

Issue 1—January 2010

The impacts of a 4°C rise in global temperature

Walker Institute scientists have contributed to a map showing the potential impacts of a 4°C rise in global temperature. The work was commissioned by the Foreign Secretary, David Miliband and led by the Met Office. The UK Government used the information in negotiations at December's Climate Summit in Copenhagen.

See press release: <http://www.reading.ac.uk/research/Highlights-News/featuresnews/res-news-climatechangeposter.aspx>.



Avoiding dangerous impacts of climate change

The Walker Institute is a partner in a DECC/Defra Programme to provide key advice to the UK government on avoiding dangerous climate change. The work was presented at the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen.

Find out more: <http://www.walker-institute.ac.uk/research/avoid.htm>

The impacts of climate change on global food security

Professor Tim Wheeler, an expert in crops and climate change, has been working with other scientists to review the latest research on food and climate change for the UN World Food Programme (<http://www.wfp.org/>). Their report was presented at the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen.

Download the report: http://www.walker-institute.ac.uk/news/WFP_Report_Dec09/wfpreportDec09.pdf

Listen to podcasts about our work

- Climate change—is it really happening?
- The impact of aviation on climate
- Hurricanes and climate change
- How do we predict climate?

<http://www.walker-institute.ac.uk/research/audiovis.htm>



Walker Institute hosts visit from Queensland Minister

On the 10th Dec 2009 scientists from the Walker Institute met with the Hon. Kate Jones, MP, Queensland Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability. Our scientists are working with the Queensland Climate Change Centre of Excellence to improve forecasts of climate and its impacts.

Find out more: <http://www.walker-institute.ac.uk/partnerships/Queensland/Queensland.htm>



Costs of adapting to climate change significantly underestimated

Professors Nigel Arnell and Tim Wheeler contributed to a new report which suggests that the real costs of adapting to climate change have been substantially underestimated.

Find out more: <http://www.reading.ac.uk/about/newsandevents/releases/PR22158.aspx>

Download the report: <http://www.iied.org/pubs/pdfs/11501IIED.pdf>

More action needed to protect wild plants in Europe from climate change

Current conservation efforts across Europe are inadequate to protect wild plants from climate change. These are the findings from a report by scientists at the University of Reading presented to the Council of Europe's Bern Convention in November 2009.

Find out more: <http://www.reading.ac.uk/about/newsandevents/releases/PR255857.aspx>

Download report: http://www.walker-institute.ac.uk/news/Final%20Version%20corrected%202_2_.pdf

Sustainability and the Built Environment

Scientists within the School of Construction Management and Engineering and the Department of Meteorology are working together to study the climate around buildings to help inform building design/layout and heating/cooling strategies. Effective planning and building design could reduce the intensity of the urban heat island and the energy needed to cool buildings - something that is likely to worsen with the effects of climate change. This work links to the new Technologies for Sustainable Built Environments Centre established at the University of Reading with a grant of £6 million from EPSRC

Find out more: http://www.met.reading.ac.uk/research/boundary_layer/research/urban.html

<http://www.reading.ac.uk/tsbe>



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