# Shared frameworks for next-generation ice sheet modelling

## Developing a next generation ice sheet modelling framework through international collaboration and community building

Summary and Overall Motivation

Ice sheets respond to and influence the global climate on a variety of spatial and temporal scales. Their future evolution, especially the consequences for global sea level, is of great societal importance, and consequently numerical ice sheet models (ISMs) comprise a growing area of interest. The technical and scientific challenges inherent in ice sheet modelling are substantial, and are compounded by the need to couple ISMs to Global Circulation Models (GCMs) in a physically-consistent and scientifically-useful way. The multiple expense and likely fragility of bespoke coupling code makes the development of flexible, generic couplers attractive. Whilst this requires greater thought and a level of complexity at the outset, there are longer-term efficiencies to be gained by employing model interface standards. It would also enable new types of experiment to be conducted, leading to a deeper understanding of the effects of numerical and scientific uncertainties in these coupled models. Thus, for instance, it would be easier to conduct experiments to identify the cause and scale of uncertainty in future sea-level predictions whether stemming from different component climate or ice sheet models, or from the way they are coupled. This challenge requires a coordinated, international approach, with a high degree of participation from the broader academic and stakeholder communities.

We aim to address the deficiencies in coupling ISM to GCMs and in doing so augment UK leadership in this rapidly developing field. We will build on an existing unfunded international collaboration centred on an established ISM (Glimmer-CISM), but will involve a far greater part of the community to establish a greater coherency of approach. Our overall objectives are threefold:

1. ***Development and dissemination of a sustainable generic technical and scientific framework for ISM-GCM coupling. This will define a standard Application Programming Interface (API) for ISMs and their coupling to other climate models.***
2. ***Implementation of the ISM part of the API within Glimmer-CISM, and the GCM part within the US Community Earth System Model (CESM) and the Hadley Centre climate models.***
3. ***Enhancing access to and use of Glimmer-CISM by developing an API-consistent core architecture, and basing new documentation and training opportunities upon this.***

The framework proposed aims to promote the coupling of ISMs to climate models in a transparent and flexible fashion. Our second objective will provide exemplars of the interface in operation. It is also directed at maintaining the position of Glimmer-CISM as an internationally-leading ISM; and is crucial for safeguarding future UK ice sheet modelling capability.

International community participation is essential if the potential benefits and impact of this proposal are to be maximised, and accordingly we focus the requested resources on activities which will foster deep engagement of the scientific user community in the development process. These activities will allow the community to leverage further sources of funding to support future code maintenance and development; they will provide a clear strategy for the application of ice sheet components within climate models.

Glimmer-CISM derives originally from the UK but its scope and complexity mean that its development and currency are only feasible through international collaboration. The project will be delivered by substantially strengthening an existing collaboration between groups in the UK (the Universities of Bristol, Edinburgh and Swansea, and the Hadley Centre) and the US (Los Alamos National Laboratory and the University of Montana). It will also draw in groups from across the US and Europe in a network of global significance. The team assembled for this project is of international standing, and brings an unrivalled set of skills and insight to this difficult and important problem. The aims are of high importance for international climate science capability. Overall, our focus is on capacity-building and providing value-for-money.

1. Introduction

Prediction of the sea level change which will result from climate change is a key scientific challenge with major public policy implications. Numerical modelling of the global climate system using coupled Global Climate Models (GCMs) is the primary predictive tool used by climate scientists. GCMs need to incorporate the behaviour of the cryosphere, in particular the dynamics of the Earth’s large ice sheets (Greenland and Antarctica), but although numerous stand-alone ISMs exist, ISM-GCM coupling[[1]](#footnote-1) has historically been problematic for a number of scientific and technical reasons. In addition, ice sheet modelling is a rapidly-evolving field, and so the software architecture of ISMs themselves needs to be able to accommodate the addition of new or alternative model components if they are to remain scientifically-relevant. The goal of this proposal is thus to deliver a long-lasting software framework for ice sheet modelling and ISM-GCM coupling, through a vigorous international collaboration, informed by substantive community participation.

1. ISM-GCM Coupling

The scientific and technical challenges of coupling ISMs and GCMs are formidable. Scientifically, the most important problem is that the spatial and temporal scales concerned differ substantially between the two types of model. Ice sheets respond to climate change on timescales from decades to millennia: substantially longer than the timescales of interest in climate modelling, even considering the response of the deep ocean (typically a few thousand years).

Spatial scales also differ, with the narrow ablation region around the edge of an ice sheet typically being small compared to a GCM grid box. Similar scaling-process mismatches occur where ice sheets connect to the oceans; the detail of calving, ice shelf melting and grounding-line stresses are very important to ice sheets, but are seldom resolved in ocean-scale models. Because ISMs are typically regional models, and may be formulated on Cartesian grids with an associated map projection, interpolation may be necessary between the ISM and GCM grids; in these circumstances, achieving mass and energy conservation requires care. There are also decisions to be made about where quantities such as mass-balance are calculated, and how the ISM should interact with the land surface model in the GCM. Pollard (2010) discusses in detail the various techniques previous workers have used to address these issues, including various types of temporally asynchronous coupling and statistical climate downscaling.

The software implementation of ISM-GCM coupling is also complex, and comes with its own range of technical difficulties. Primarily, these are concerned with making the coupling code flexible enough to handle a useful range of coupling scenarios, while being structured to be robust and maintainable. ISMs and GCMs are technically diverse codes: a generic coupler needs to take into account the possibility of different parallelisation strategies, different hardware/operating system platforms, and different grid definitions, among many other parameters. A degree of complexity in coupling code is therefore inevitable, and consequently requires sound software engineering if a long-lasting solution is to be devised.

1. Software Architecture Considerations

The key to the way a computer model can be used and re-used is its *interface* (often known as the *Application Programming Interface*, or API), which is a description of how other pieces of code communicate with it, in whole or in part. For most programming languages, the API comprises definitions of subroutine/function names and their arguments. In object oriented languages, object hierarchies are also defined in the API. The purpose of a standardised API is to provide predictability and interoperability to users of a piece of code.

In the case of an ISM, a consistent API would allow a component module – or a whole ISM – to be swapped with another if the second module conformed to the API. The inner workings of the two modules may be different but the calling code doesn’t need to know that. For example, many ISMs include separate model components to deal with stress, temperature and form evolution, which in each case can be done in a variety of ways. An API can be written to define how these components communicate with one another. It is then possible to design new modules such that, provided they conform to the API, they can be used with other existing ice sheet code without need for substantial internal code redesign. There are also sets of processes, which may be dealt with inside a given ISM, for instance hydrology at the ice bed, or the isostatic adjustment of the lithosphere, but for some applications a separate (external) module is sometimes used to represent these instead. Thus there is a hierarchy of interface specifications, some of which are normally at the core of an ISM which deal with the internal ice mass processes, some which deal with various aspects of the ice sheet boundary conditions that significantly affect its behaviour and which could often appear ‘inside’ or ‘outside’ the core ISM; and some which are more likely to involve linkages to external models such as atmospheric and oceanic GCMs. In all (both ‘internal’ and ‘external’) cases there can be further complexity because the data models used by each sub-component to represent space and time may differ. Thus as the model sub-components communicate they not only need to know what physical quantities or processes they are represented but also the spatial and temporal patterns in which they are discretized.

The history of Glimmer-CISM (along with many similar codes) is such that it was not originally designed around a standardised API; instead, the code base has grown organically. This means that in many cases, while the code runs well as a whole, the interface between components is weakly specified, process modules are not always well encapsulated (they have embedded dependency with other parts of the code), and where external coupling has taken place, it has been crafted for a specific application rather than considered (or defined) in abstract. Existing coupling to HadCM3 and CESM is of this form.

The provision of a standardised API brings obvious benefits of flexibility and reusability, as well as opening up ways of performing more thorough model intercomparison and sensitivity studies. To bring this about, it will be necessary to engage deeply with all those involved in the design of ISMs and ISM-GCM coupling; this is the main purpose of this project, and we describe how in detail below how we will achieve it.

1. Glimmer-CISM

Our starting point for this project is Glimmer-CISM, an ISM with an international profile. The model’s origins lie in an ISM developed prior to 2003 by Payne. From 2003, the model was developed as an open-source community model (Glimmer), initially funded as part of GENIE (Payne, Rutt: NERC eScience ref. NER/T/S/2002/00221), and later though the National Centre for Earth Observation (NCEO), with significant unfunded contributions from Hagdorn and Hulton. Rutt *et al.* (2009) provides a full description of model physics, numerical methods and validation/verification exercises. It has been used in many published studies(Examples here)

From 2006, Glimmer was adopted as the ice sheet model component of the Community Earth System Model (CESM, formerly CCSM[[2]](#footnote-2)), and subsequently renamed Glimmer-CISM. This work has been funded primarily by the US Department of Energy (DOE), and at present this comprises the majority of funding supporting development of the model. While the US support has delivered significant benefits to the global ISM community, it is nevertheless understandably driven by the needs of CESM and US funders.

The scientific and numerical specification of Glimmer-CISM reflects the changing nature of contemporary ice sheet modelling. The model was initially based on the established Shallow Ice Approximation (Hutter, 1983), solved using the Finite Difference method. Thermomechanical coupling and a simple treatment of basal melt/sliding were also included in the model described in Rutt et al. (2009). However, Glimmer-CISM has recently gained a higher-order stress balance module developed by Price and Payne, using the approach of Blatter (1995) and Pattyn (2003), as well as other enhancements.

Glimmer-CISM has a relatively modular architecture. This means that the model can be embedded within other codes relatively easily. For example, the code can be coupled to a variety of climate drivers and landscape evolution models. It also allows multiple regional ice sheet instances within the same overall model. Model configuration can be controlled flexibly using standardised configuration files, including determining which numerical methods, ice physics and bed parameterisations are selected. Glimmer-CISM uses NetCDF for file IO, and there is significant freedom in the variables and frequency of output. An ISM-GCM coupling module is provided with Glimmer-CISM, but it has quite limited functionality.

Development of Glimmer-CISM is conducted on a public-access website, and is coordinated by a steering committee comprising Rutt (chair), Hagdorn, Johnson, Lipscomb, Payne and Price. However, UK involvement in model development, and the provision of functionality and support for non-CESM users (e.g. the Met Office, University of Reading), is presently hampered by a lack of funds.

Glimmer-CISM is the leading ISM with a UK provenance. The most prominent alternatives are PISM[[3]](#footnote-3), developed by groups at University of Alaska Fairbanks and Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, and Elmer[[4]](#footnote-4), a multiphysics finite element code developed by the CSC, Espoo, Finland. There is a substantial potential European user group comprising scientists coupling ISMs to GCMs in FP7 who currently use PISM, in part because of concerns over Glimmer-CISM’s coupling environment even though it is specifically enabled to couple to GCMs. Glimmer has a 3D higher order scheme based on Batter and Pattyn whereas PISM uses a simpler hybrid scheme. A further open-source code is provided via NASA, being a joint development between the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and University of California at Irvine (http://issm.jpl.nasa.gov). Whilst a number of ice sheet codes are generally available, some are provided piecemeal and are not truly open-source. This project aims to ensure that ongoing developments by the international partnership working on the code can continue to address UK and international climate science needs.

1. Project Partners

Our project partners fall into three categories:

***Major developers.*** These are groups currently making major continued developments to Glimmer-CISM and its incorporation into other Earth System Models. There are two major partner groups which have been instrumental in developing Glimmer-CISM over the last four years: those at LANL (Lipscomb and Price) and the University of Montana (Johnson). In particular, the LANL group have provided significant sustained investment in the development of parallel, higher-order ice-flow models (in collaboration with participants in the DOE Ice Sheet Initiative for Climate ExtremeS (ISICLES) ) and in the coupling of Glimmer-CISM to CESM. The work by these groups on the code base will continue (see letters of support) and is directly complementary to what is proposed here. We will continue to work closely with these partners as part of the framework development process (see below), and to assist their implementation of the framework in CESM. We will also work closely with the Hadley Centre and University of Reading (Ridley/Gregory) to conduct a parallel process concerning the suite of Hadley Centre models derived from the Met Office Unified Model (HadGEM3-ES and FAMOUS).

***Wider ISM/GCM users****.* This is a group (names here: see Letters of Support) which comprises scientists who use Glimmer-CISM to solve scientific problems, and who are interested in continuing to use ice sheet codes as they develop. This is the group of partners who are likely to benefit most directly from the proposed work. We need to ensure that this user community gains genuine benefits from the way the code is operated and can be interfaced, and from the supporting materials provided. Through a series of Framework Development Workshops(see below), their role is to inform us of their experience of using ISMs, what they perceive as desirable, the best kind of interfaces, and how the code can be improved to solve the problems they are interested in. The principle is to have a deeper conversation with the typical users of the code, and to identify shared aspirations and experiences.

***Developers of other ice sheet codes.*** (names here: see Letters of Support) Eventually, the current core of Glimmer-CISM and other ice sheet codes will become obsolete. Already there are new ice sheet codes (e.g. Elmer) which bring improvements in how the ice physics are solved yet arguably are less easy to use than Glimmer-CISM. What is important for the wider community is to avoid having to re-invent how models can be operated and coupled as these underlying codes evolve. By involving this group of partners, we will seek ways of standardising the ISM-GCM interface such that, provided any ice sheet code is equipped with such an interface, it can be operated in a similar way. This could lead to benefits now, since it would mean that different ice sheet models could be swapped in and out of larger models comparatively easily. In the future, it would mean that if there were an agreed interfacing standard, new models could be developed to conform to it. Consequently, it is essential to involve other model developers in this discussion.

1. Project Overview

There are seven primary work packages(WP1-WP7) proposed:

1. ***Definition of scientific and technical requirements***
2. ***Specification of ice sheet model internal and external coupling APIs***
3. ***Architecture modification and API implementation for Glimmer-CISM***
4. ***API implementation in CESM GCMs and Hadley Centre models***
5. ***Improvements to Glimmer-CISM accessibility and usability***
6. ***Creation and delivery of training materials and courses***
7. ***Establishment of a longer-term community network to advance API development.***

A detailed work plan follows below. We emphasise that the work outlined is targeted at providing better infrastructure and use of the existing code in the wider community. We aspire to continue to provide scientific enhancements to the core of Glimmer-CISM, but funding will be sought from other sources to allow this to happen, as well as falling within the scope of activities by our international partners.

Community engagement and participation is essential if we are to achieve the goals listed above.. Our central approach to gaining community-wide consensus on these requirements as they evolve is to convene two ***Framework Development Workshops*** involving ourselves and each of our partner communities previously outlined***.***  The two workshops are intended to be formative, in as much as intend that they should lead to the agreement on (at least) a prototype interface standard for ice sheet models. They broadly map into WP1 and WP2, but will be used to further other aspects of project, in particular in helping form a longer-term community network (WP7)

7 Detailed Work PlaN

Objectives (O1-3) that are tackled by each work package (WP1-WP7) are indicated. Specific resultant Deliverables D1-D12, are also indicated.

***WP1 Definition of scientific and technical requirements (O1)***

Before commencing on a practical framework for ISM-GCM coupling, we will undertake work to understand and define the range of functionality it is to have. The scientific aspects will include: the possible coupling fields and their calculation, interaction with the atmosphere, land surface and ocean components of the GCM, asynchronous coupling strategies, and interpolation/downscaling techniques. The technical aspects will encompass issues around computing platforms, compilers, language choice, parallelism, file IO, restart mechanisms, etc.

We will use ***Framework Development Workshop 1*** to explain the overall concept behind the project, to engage participants in aspects of current practice, to identify core data-model needs to permit key scientific problems to be addressed, and to discuss technical solutions.

Work will be undertaken by the project team to identify and consider key primary aspects of a potential interface within a scoping document(D1) feeding in to Workshop 1, in order to provide a structure for discussion. Following the workshop, the team will draw up a full technical and scientific specification of requirements that will be distributed to all the project participants (D2)

***WP2 Specification of ice sheet model internal and external coupling APIs (O1)***

Having determined what the ISM and ISM-GCM APIs should be capable of doing, the next stage is to write a full API for internal ISM use and ISM GCM coupling (D3), sufficiently detailed that it can be used by other modellers to implement compatible interfaces in their own models. This will be done by the project team following Workshop 1, in particular forming part of the major role of Hagdorn as Researcher CoI.

The initial API will be presented to the community prior to and for discussion at Workshop 2. At Workshop 2 we will invite reflections on and refinements to this API. We will hold sessions that allow discussion and reflection on detailed aspects of the interfacing and its needs as specified in the requirements and API generated from Workshop 1.

***WP3 Architecture modification and API implementation for Glimmer-CISM (O2)***

Following the work completed in WP1 and WP2 on API specification and design, we will modify the interface and structure of Glimmer-CISM to conform to the API (D4). This will provide a working example of how the API should be implemented, and will demonstrate the practicability and usefulness of the approach. We will use the Workshop 2 to review and refine the outcomes available at this point. This part will be carried out by the UK project team, particularly Hagdorn, in collaboration with Project Partners at LANL and University of Montana,

It is likely that this work will be conducted in tandem with WP2: that is, a real implementation of the API will be developed in parallel with the specification. We report on how the API is implemented within Glimmer-CISM at Workshop 2.

***WP4 API implementation in CESM GCMs and Hadley Centre models (O2)***

We will implement the GCM side of the coupling API in CESM and Hadley Centre models (Famous, HadCM3, HadGEM3-ES) (D5) This part will be carried out by Project Partners at LANL, University of Montana, Met Office/Hadley Centre and University of Reading, in consultation with the core UK project team. In particular, ongoing projects led by Partners Gregory and Ridley already aim to couple Glimmer-CISM to Hadley Centre models, and the API will provide them access to a better specified and better supported ways of achieving this.

***WP5 Improvements to Glimmer-CISM accessibility and usability.(O3)***

The most recent developments to Glimmer-CISM have tended to focus on improvements to the underlying physics, and have to some extent incurred further complexity in the use of the code. By contrast, the documentation and front-end accessibility to the code has lagged behind. For a specialist, use of Glimmer-CISM is not particularly complex, and permits relatively easy access to ice sheet models. However, for non-specialists or new users there is quite a technical hurdle to overcome. Connected to A3, we will regularise the code branches into ‘development’ and ‘stable’ versions. Secondly, the code will be fully documented, and user-guides for non-specialists will be developed (D6). Third, we will employ a dedicated programmer (Swansea) to build a graphical ‘front-end’ to some versions of the code that will allow it to be driven for simple scenarios where the base topography, and climate options can be selected from particular options, or user-specified data (D7). This latter functionality is particularly targeted at non-expert and student use so that we can extend awareness and use of the code. All of these will be released through an enhanced, more user-friendly instance of the existing Glimmer-CISM website (D8)

***WP6 Creation and delivery of training materials and courses.(O3)***

This element extends that provided in A5 but is more directly targeted at pro-active engagement of the user-community so that we can extend expertise in the use of the code, once the tools that enhance the code accessibility are prepared. The development of a new ISM/GCM modelling framework will have maximum impact only if ice sheet and climate modellers are aware of it and know how to use it. To make sure these goals are achieved we will generate structured training materials(D9) in support of a three training events (D10) aimed at a broad constituency of scientific ISM users but particularly targeted to graduate student/postdoctoral level. These users will mainly comprise the wider ISM/GCM user-community referred to above. The training events will be run over two full days, and will provide a comprehensive introduction to the coupling framework in general, and its implementation in Glimmer-CISM in particular. Hands-on experience for the participants will be a central part of these events. Training materials and model documentation will be provided, which will also be published on the project website. A specific aim is to educate users about the principles of utilising the standard interfaces, such that if they go on to work with other codes, they will be aware of this opportunity. We will also ensure that these training events persist beyond the time limit of the grant and be funded from additional sources(D10), in part via the establishment of a longer-term community (A7). We thus will create a cadre of individuals trained in the use of Glimmer-CISM and as a specific instance of the API (D11)

***WP7 Establishment of a longer-term community network to advance API development (O1)***

Glimmer-CISM is a community code operating under a public licence (currently the GNU GPL[[5]](#footnote-5), but soon to be released under GNU LGPL[[6]](#footnote-6)). It is therefore not ‘owned’ by anyone. The way in which it is used and is developed by various interest groups is in part dictated by those that have an interest in and resource to make it happen. The kind of development that is proposed in A1, also necessitates mutual agreement and benefits to those that participate in the further development of the code. For the most part, those interested in furthering ice sheet models do not want to get bogged down in huge bureaucracies or management systems; they want to get on and do the next bit of science. However, if an agreed specification of interfaces, and the efficient development of models is desirable, then the collegiate and consensual activity that implies requires a level of steerage and governance. We will explore via both workshops longer-term ways of establishing networks, centred around the existing Glimmer-CISM Steering Committee, which can continue to provide consensus on how ice sheet models can be more easily interfaced and accessible. We aim to create a longer term network of users of the API (D12), subject to mutual agreement of participants, and for which we will aim to generate continued support.

1. Project Management Plan

The overall progress of the project will be managed by the existing Glimmer-CISM steering committee (Rutt, Hagdorn, Payne, Lipscomb, Price and Johnson), with the addition of Co-I Hulton. Overall operational responsibility rests with PI Rutt, but decisions will be taken on a consensus basis within the group. A number of work packages are identified within the scope of the proposal. These mirror the structure of the detailed work plan given above, but are in some cases divided differently because of logistical considerations.:

The structure and mechanics of the two Framework Development Workshops is similar. . Each workshop will require a planning phase, where participants will be invited, practical arrangements made, and a detailed schedule devised to facilitate best use of the available time. *Milestones:* First circular; second circular; detailed workshop programme, event takes place; follow-up with participants. and workshop report.

***WP1 Definition of scientific and technical requirements*** [Hulton/ Hagdorn]

This includes organisation of Workshop 1 (Hulton), but also includes initial scoping of the requirements that will provide information for the planning of the workshop (Hulton). . In addition to Hulton, Hagdorn will have a major role in this work package. *Deliverable:* D1 *-* scoping document for technical and scientific requirements; D2 full draft of technical and scientific requirements.

***WP2 Specification of ice sheet model internal and external coupling APIs*** [Rutt/Hagdorn]

This work package depends on WP1, and includes further refinement in the course of Workshop 2. The main task in this work package is to turn the technical and scientific requirements into a detailed API specification. This task will be largely carried out by Rutt and Hagdorn, in consultation with other Co-Is and project partners. *Deliverable:* D3 - full draft of API specification document.

***WP3 Architecture modification and API implementation for Glimmer-CISM*** [Rutt/Hagdorn]

This work package will run alongside WP2, and will deliver outputs to WP1 and WP4. Glimmer-CISM will provide a testbed for API development, and the experience will inform decisions in WP2 as to which approaches are most practical and beneficial. Rutt and Hagdorn will deliver this work package in consultation with other Co-Is and project partners. *Deliverables: D4 -* working implementation of API in Glimmer-CISM, including a suite of regression tests.

***WP4 API implementation in CESM GCMs and Hadley Centre models***  [Payne]

This work package depends on WP3 and WP4. The parts of the API specification which relate to ISM-GCM coupling will be implemented in CESM and the Hadley Centre models. These changes will primarily be made by project partners Lipscomb and Price (CESM), with and Ridley and Gregory (Hadley Centre and Univ Reading), coordinated by Payne. *Milestones/Deliverables:* D5 - Working coupling between Glimmer-CISM and these two GCMs.

***WP5 Glimmer-CISM usability changes and* *documentation*** [Rutt]

This work package depends on WP3, and provides outputs to WP6. In the light of any concerns raised in Workshops1 and 2, changes to Glimmer-CISM will be made to enhance usability. Full documentation of the model will be generated, and a GUI front-end to the model will be written. The Glimmer-CISM website will be redesigned and improved to provide easy access to documentation, and to support the building of the community network of stakeholders. Programming tasks will be undertaken by a graduate programmer, under direction from Rutt. Website developments will be commissioned from commercial providers. *Milestones/Deliverables:* D6 - full documentation delivered (web/PDF); D7 - GUI front-end delivered, including relevant documentation; D8 - new website.

***WP6 Creation and delivery of training materials and courses*** [Hulton/Rutt/Hagdorn]

This work package depends on all the other activities in the project. Nevertheless, to leverage maximum engagement and impact during the life of the project, we will initiate training events before work on the other work packages is complete. Three training events will be provided, one in the second year of the project, and two in the third. These will be led by Hulton, Rutt and Hagdorn, with input from Payne and project partners. *Milestones/Deliverables:* D9 - Training materials on website; D10 - training events advertised and successfully organised.D11 Secured long-term support further training beyond the grant period.

***WP7 Establishment of a longer-term community network*** [Rutt/ All]

This package lasts for the duration of the project but is inherently harder to manage practically and relies on community willingness which we can foster but not directly command. Time will be set aside at each workshop to discuss the best format for forming a longer term network, and the best governance structures to enable that to happen. The Glimmer-CISM steering group steer API developments within its own code, but to be successful the network will require more extended community membership. D12 The network

**Work Package Schedule**

The following GANTT chart shows how the work packages will be scheduled across the 36 months of the project:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year | 2012 | | 2013 | | | | 2014 | | | | 2015 | |
| Quarter | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 |
| WP1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WP2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WP3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WP4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WP5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WP6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WP7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

1. Deliverables SUMMARY:

There will be tangible and longlasting outcomes (Deliverables D1-12) from the project:

D1 Scoping document on current model interface design and broad interface requirements.

D2. Published specification of scientific and technical requirements of the API

D3 A published interface standard (API) that ice sheet and climate modellers can work to

D4 Upgrades to Glimmer-CISM to adhering to the API and improving internal modularity

D5 Addition to Hadley centre models to allow coupling via the API

D6 Creation and release of code documentation and user Guides for Glimmer-CISM

D7 Development of a GUI front-end to Glimmer-CISM to improve access to some versions

D8 New website to promote and release Glimmer-CISM upgrades, and API specification

D9 Structured training materials to introduce user to the API and Glimmer-CISM

D10 Three specific training events within the grant period

D11 Securing longer term support for further training events

D12 A long-term network to support API development and ISM, GCM coupling in general

We will thus ensure that, via these deliverable the resource already committed to developing a significant scientific tool is released to as wide a community as possible, and in a manner which can continue to be supported long term.

References

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Pollard D (2010) A retrospective look at coupled ice sheet-climate modeling. *Climatic Change*, 100, 173-194.

Rutt IC, M Hagdorn, NRJ Hulton, AJ Payne (2009) The Glimmer community ice sheet model. *J. Geophys. Res.*

1. Note that when we refer to *ISM-GCM coupling* in this proposal, we always mean *two-way coupling*, entailing an exchange of model fields between the ISM and GCM over the course of the integration period. Coupling may involve spatial and/or temporal interpolation or averaging of model fields, and may necessitate other manipulation such as correction for temperature-elevation feedback. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. http://www.cesm.ucar.edu/ [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. http://www.pism-docs.org/ [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. http://www.csc.fi/english/pages/elmer [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. http://www.gnu.org/licenses/old-licenses/gpl-2.0.html [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. http://www.gnu.org/licenses/lgpl.txt [↑](#footnote-ref-6)