



Socio-Economic Data

Historic and future trends in population, economic development, technology and natural resources are needed both to understand the driving forces underlying climate changes and the implications of such changes given past, present, and future vulnerability and adaptive capacity of socioeconomic systems. The DDC therefore provides access to:

- Baseline in socio-economic data used in IPCC reports
- Key socio-economic scenarios developed and used in IPCC assessments
- Observed climate impacts data from the fourth IPCC assessment report (available in 2009)

Use of common baselines and scenarios is important to ensure consistency between studies of climate change impacts, mitigation, vulnerability, and adaptation.

Environmental Data

The DDC provides access to baseline and scenario data for a range of non-climate conditions in the aquatic, atmospheric and terrestrial environments including:

- Atmospheric composition (e.g. carbon dioxide)
- Land use and land cover
- Sea level
- Water availability and water quality

Most of the environmental data projections are consistent with the driving forces and emissions presented in the Special Report on Emissions Scenarios (SRES). Explanations and illustrations of procedures for incorporating environmental information in impact and vulnerability assessments can also be found on the DDC.

Facilitating the timely distribution of consistent and up-to-date scenarios of changes in climate, environment, society and economy for use in climate impacts, vulnerability, adaptation and mitigation assessments.

The Data Distribution Centre (DDC) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) offers access to baseline and scenario data for representing the evolution of climatic, socio-economic, and other environmental conditions.

The DDC offers guidance on the selection and use of different types of data and scenarios. New studies making use of these scenarios can then feed back into the IPCC assessment process.

At a time when climate change is a rising challenge to society the DDC not only supports climate change scientist but also educators, governmental and non-governmental organizations and the public.

The DDC was established in 1998 by The IPCC Task Group on data and scenario support for Impact and Climate Analysis (TGICA).

IPCC DDC Supporters



Cover image is the AR4 A1B HadCM3 Jan 2080-2099 air temperature anomaly from the 1961-1990 mean.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE
The IPCC Data Distribution Centre

Climate Observations

The Data Distribution Centre (DDC) is a portal to the Climatic Research Unit (CRU) Global Climate Dataset of gridded land observations. The dataset consists of multi-variate decadal and 30-year monthly climatologies at 0.5° latitude by 0.5° longitude resolution from 1901 to 1990.

The CRU climate observations can be used to examine climate variability over the twentieth century, to evaluate the simulations of general circulation models (GCMs) and to combine observed data with GCM projections.

Climate Model Data

The DDC distributes datasets derived from General Circulation Models (GCMs) used in the construction and application of climate change scenarios for climate change impacts assessments. The DDC also provides access to the GCM projections used in the IPCC Assessment Reports. The IPCC GCM data at the DDC is available as monthly means and as 20 and 30 year monthly climatologies for:

- The 2007 IPCC Fourth Assessment Report
- The 2001 IPCC Third Assessment Report
- The 1995 IPCC Second Assessment Report

The DDC also holds GCM baseline data from pre-industrial control simulations, simulations of the 20th century and idealised projections for doubled and quadrupled carbon dioxide.

IPCC AR4 data on DVD

GCM data from the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report can also be ordered on DVD.



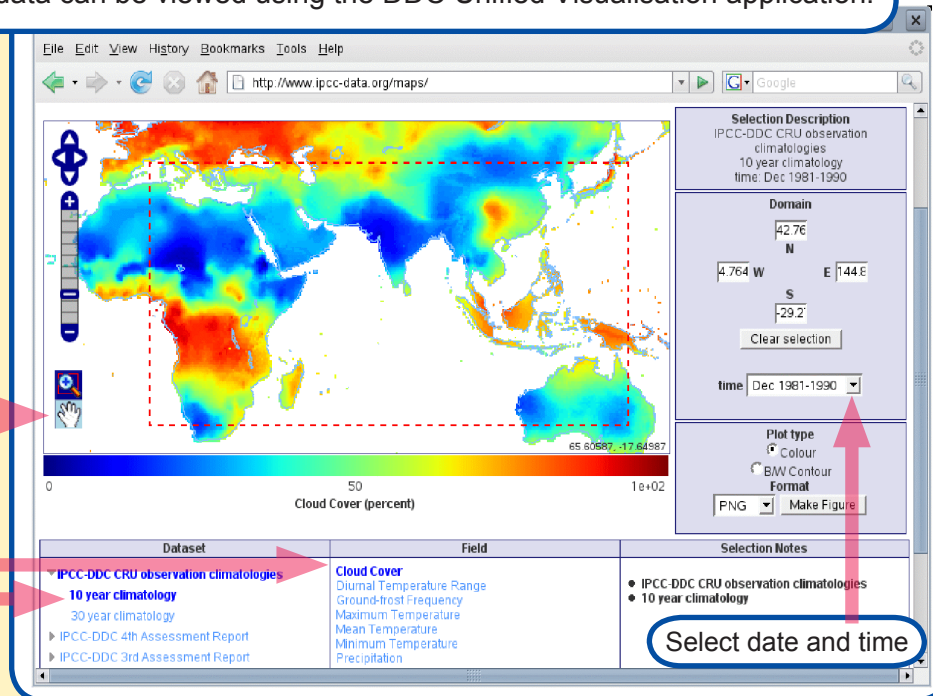
Unified Visualisation Application www.ipcc-data.org/maps

Climate observations and model data can be viewed using the DDC Unified Visualisation application.

The visualisation images can be saved as black and white or colour images in a choice of output formats.

Zoom in and pan across the dynamic map.

Choose a dataset and field to view.

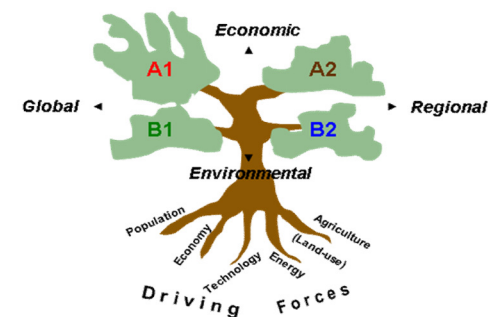


Guidance

The DDC also provides general guidance material relating to climate change vulnerability, impact, adaptation and mitigation assessments. This material:

- Describes the information and analytical tools provided by the DDC
- Offers guidance for the interpretation of baseline and scenario data held by the DDC and elsewhere in order to facilitate the informed selection and use of data
- Highlights the key steps commonly required in applying baseline and scenario data

The DDC also provides detailed guidelines on specific issues relating to the use of data and scenarios.



The Special Report on Emissions Scenarios (SRES) storylines describe the relationships among the forces driving greenhouse gas and aerosol emissions.