



Data IS-ENES (Infrastructure for European Netowrk of Earth Sytem Modelling) and the IPCC Climate Projections Archive

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Climate model projections play a central role in the IPCC Assessments, underpinning guidance to policy makers. As in previous IPCC Assessments, the climate projections for the 5th Assessment will be assembled in the Climate Model Intercomparison Project, by PCMDI on behalf of WCRP. Because of scientific advances and the pressing need for more detail, the archive to be assembled this year will be substantially larger than any previous climate model archives. The effort of managing the archive of around 10Pb of data will be distributed among numerous institutions, seven in Europe. In order to give users fast, flexible and reliable access, a range of interfaces are being prepared.

The distributed archive will use standards and emerging standards from the Open Geospatial Consortium, the NetCDF CF community, OpenID and MyProxy and a community metadata schema from METAFOR. Much of the core software is provided by the US ESG consortium and the data will be provided by 30 modelling centres around the world. Deadlines imposed by top-level international agreement stipulate that the archive will be complete by the end of 2010 and the scientific analyses which will form the basis of the next IPCC Assessment should be submitted for publication by mid 2011.