

**Catchment Research Consultative Group (CRCG) Meeting**  
**APEX City Hotel, Dundee - 27 May 2008**

**Meeting and Climate Change workshop**

**Attendees:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Alistair Stephen	Scottish Southern
Derek Nelson	Forestry
Ian Sime	SNH
Patricia Wouters	UNESCO
Ian Malcolm	FRS
Janet Moxley	SEPA
Richard Gosling	SEPA
Martin Johnston	RERAD
Vanessa Kind	SNIFFER
Bob Ferrier	Macaulay
Simon Langan	Macaulay
Andy Vinten	Macaulay
Kirsty Blackstock	Macaulay
Sarah Dunn	Macaulay
Martyn Futter	Macaulay
Nikolai Friberg	Macaulay
Kelly Harper	Macaulay
Wendy Kenyon	Macaulay

The format of the meeting included updates in the morning on the two major topic areas of RERAD research followed by a workshop. Prior to the workshop and introductory presentation was made on generic climate change issues followed by a series of short presentations from individual organisations. The aim of the workshop was to address the following;

What are the key challenges both now and into the future?

How can we add value through collaborative approaches?

How can we ensure greater knowledge exchange between our communities?

**Afternoon Workshop : Climate Change**

**Introduction**

Following on from the morning session two groups were formed to prioritise a series of issues that had been highlighted in plenary. The challenge was to discuss the relevant time-lines of each of the issues and identify those which were most strategic to the organisations represented in the forum.

**Format**

Working in two small groups for 20 minutes:

- Agree a SCRIBE & a REPORTER
- Agree the main issues from presentations & list on your flipchart (1st Column)
- Discuss and agree whether each issue is of high, medium or low importance? (2nd Column)
- Discuss and agree when each issue should be tackled (next 3 yrs); next programme of research (3 – 7 yrs) or the following programme (+7 yrs) (3rd column)

Return to plenary to create a matrix of research. Prioritise; report areas of debate & how we might work collaboratively in the future.

The individual group reports and synthesis session are attached.

ISSUE	IMPORTANT RESEARCH H M L	TIME in YEARS 0-3,3-7 +7	COMMENTS
Change in Hydrology & ppt	H **	0-3 * 3-7	Droughts & storms = extremes
Change in Land Use	H *	0-3+.....	Economics, biofuels
Conflicts (role of law) & cooperation (uses), governance and institutions	H *	0-3+.....	Policy, governance, uses, users, trans boundary
Change in Ecology	H	3-7	Need understanding
Adaptation	H	3-7+	
Change in water quality	H	3-7	Need data, what if?
Pests, disease and alien species, health	M	0-7+	Forestry implications / water-borne pathogens. Scotland, UK-worldwide
Greater awareness and personal action / leadership	H **	-0	Right now - communication
Mitigation	H	0-3+.....	Need to bring about change rapidly. Other groups working on this

**\*Priority within 'H' category**

### Group B

ISSUE	IMPORTANCE	TIME	COMMENTS
Drivers of Climate Change	A valuable prediction tool	>7 yrs <3 yrs >7 yrs	Other factors affect this so this may limit CC effects
Impacts & consequences of Climate Change. Changes in Hydroecology	H		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wetland design for flood control</li> <li>• Process understanding of ecology</li> </ul>
Response to Climate Change – mitigation	H	>3 yrs	Unforeseen consequences of strategies.
Response to Climate Change - adaptation			Land Use scenarios needed; spatial plans.
Role of spatial scale in understanding & implementing institutions for managing NRM (also partnerships)	H	<3 developing of existing planning processes	Indicative Land Use capability. Mapping of process

## **Summary**

### **Key points:**

- Lack of data and knowledge on aspects of CC on hydrological processes (critical) and start now;
- Urgent requirement for Leadership and Action identifying issues of conflict and better Institutional synergy;
- Land Use change can be driven by short term responses to supply and demand, independent of CC policy (e.g. market driving ploughing up of set aside land);
- Land Use planning and CC planning should be better integrated; scenario evaluation key. Energy sector is also important here;
- Mitigation planning is required immediately (for long term);
- Adaptation responses should focus on “no regrets” and “low regrets” options without full information on consequences of CC. These should focus on measures and programmes implemented now without understanding CC variability. Additionally, “climate proofing” of policy and tolerance infrastructure should be to CC;
- Our collective understanding of the effects of CC on ecological processes is poorly understood;
- RBM planning process has to be better integrated with CC thinking and knowledge.

### **What are we doing with this information?**

- Provide input to shaping the current and emergent research under the Environment Land Use and Rural Development Programme;
- Provide a forward look in our WP reporting scenarios of change;
- Help us shape issues taken forward in EU FP7 proposal development;
- Act as a record of discussions between the members of the consultative group.

**IMPORTANCE**



**Data & Knowledge (Hydrology)**



**Land Use change**



**Leadership & Action**



**Data & Knowledge (Ecology)**



**“No regrets” adaptation**



**Conflicts & Institutions**



**Scenarios Evaluation**



**Mitigation Planning**



**Pests & Aliens**

**TIME**

