

CIRCLE-2 Joint Initiative on Climate Uncertainties

Workshop on Uncertainty and Climate Change AdaptationNovember 8th-9th 2012 – Lisbon, Portugal**Frequently Asked Questions**

The following document aims to clarify authors regarding a series of issues related to the *Workshop on Uncertainty and Climate Change Adaptation*.

1. TO WHICH SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL WILL THE SPECIAL ISSUE BE SUBMITTED TO?

The Special Issue is intended to be published in the journal *Climatic Change*. However, we must first select which papers will be included and submit a final proposal for review.

2. WHAT IS THE INTENDED FORMAT OF THE PAPERS TO BE SUBMITTED BY SEPTEMBER 23RD?

Papers to be submitted by September 23rd should be as complete as possible. That is, the paper should be written in such a way that it is as ready as is possible for submission to a scientific journal. This means that papers that are the most complete will have a better chance of getting selected for the Special Issue. The *Climatic Change's Instructions for Authors* should be taken into account when writing the paper. This document has been sent by e-mail to authors of selected abstracts and is also available at the journal's webpage¹. In any case, authors of selected papers will have around three months after the workshop to present their finalised versions of the papers. See question 7 for more details.

3. HOW MANY PAPERS ARE TO BE SELECTED FOR SUBMISSION IN THE SPECIAL ISSUE?

The scientific committee intends to select a maximum of 12 papers for submission to the Special Issue. The final number to be selected for submission will depend on the quality of the papers presented and discussed during the Workshop. Of course, it is still possible that some of the selected papers will ultimately not make it through the formal peer review process.

4. WHAT IS THE CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF PAPERS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SPECIAL ISSUE?

The papers will be selected according to the following criteria:

- The paper addresses the central questions of the workshop;
- The paper makes a creative, original contribution to the literature;
- The paper is of high quality;
- Distributional issues:
 - Balance in theme;
 - Balance across scale;
 - Balance in geography;
 - Balance across sector(s).

¹ <http://www.springer.com/earth+sciences+and+geography/atmospheric+sciences/journal/10584>

5. WHEN WILL THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE DECIDE UPON THE PAPERS THAT ARE TO BE SELECTED FOR SUBMISSION TO THE SPECIAL ISSUE?

The scientific committee will reach a decision on which papers to include in the Special Issue by mid-December.

6. HOW WILL THE DECISION BE COMMUNICATED TO AUTHORS?

The scientific committee's decision will be communicated by e-mail. Lead authors will receive this information in the e-mail they have provided in the abstract they submitted. This information will be sent out between December 17th and December 26th 2012.

7. WHEN MUST AUTHORS WITH SELECTED PAPERS SUBMIT THEM TO THE SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL?

Authors of selected papers will have around three months after selection to revise and finalise their papers according to the latest results (if applicable) and the comments received during and after the workshop. Finalised papers must be submitted to the intended scientific journal (the present candidate is *Climatic Change*) by March 15th 2013 in order to be considered for inclusion in the Special Issue, while carefully considering the submission instructions that will be sent by the scientific committee.

8. WILL AUTHORS HAVE TO PAY FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THEIR PAPERS IN THE SPECIAL ISSUE?

Authors will not be charged for the publication of their papers in the Special Issue. However, the publication of selected papers under open access conditions will not be assured by the *Joint Initiative on Climate Uncertainties*². This means that any selected author who wishes to publish under this condition will be responsible for supporting the corresponding fee.

9. WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF THE WORKSHOP?

The Workshop aims to promote discussion and contribute to scientific insight on the issue of dealing with and communicating uncertainties in climate change and climate adaptation by especially addressing the following question:

How do decision-making processes on climate change adaptation, at the multi-decadal timescale, envision the future and deal with related uncertainties?

We expect this workshop to include research on climate adaptation uncertainties that is both scientifically reliable and societal relevant. Therefore, we particularly welcomed empirically grounded research dealing with the following questions:

- Which particular types or combinations of uncertainties (e.g. climatic, environmental or socioeconomic) matter most for those participating in adaptation planning or decision-making process?
- How can uncertainties be characterised and/or communicated to effectively inform climate adaptation decision-making processes?

² For more information on this initiative please see: http://www.circle-era.eu/np4/P_UNCERT.html

- How is scientific information in general and uncertainty in particular, commonly used or incorporated into decision-making processes in the broad variety of sectors presently looking at climate adaptation?
- How effective have these approaches been in helping decision-makers or planners and how relevant are them to the challenge of climate adaptation?

The workshop will be used as a discussion floor between authors and the scientific committee so as to:

1. Aid in selecting papers to be included in the Special Issue;
2. Gather inputs and suggestions from workshop participants to be included in the final version of papers selected.

10. WHAT WILL BE THE DYNAMICS OF THE WORKSHOP?

The workshop is only open to authors of selected abstracts and will be divided into panel sessions. Each panel session will include a maximum of three brief presentations and will be moderated by a member of the scientific committee. In each panel, after the presentations initially a discussion is held among the authors of the panel. Subsequently, the discussion will open up to all authors present at the workshop. In order to achieve this, authors will be asked to read at least the papers of the panel they belong to. All papers will be distributed to all participants in advance of the workshop.

11. WHAT IS THE DURATION OF THE PRESENTATION?

To maximize time for discussion, presentations will be brief and last approximately 10 minutes.

12. WHAT IS EXPECTED FROM AUTHORS?

Authors are expected to:

- Deliver their papers by September 23rd;
- Make a presentation of approximately 10 minutes in their workshop assigned panel;
- Read the papers that are to be presented in their assigned panel so as to promote a focused discussion;
- Contribute to the overall discussions;
- In case of having their paper selected for submission to the Special Issue, deliver a finalised paper by March 15th 2013.

13. WHAT DOES THE WORKSHOP AGENDA LOOK LIKE?

A final version of the agenda is dependent on the papers to be received by September 23rd. However, we predict that the workshop will begin at 9h00 of November 8th and end no later than 18h00 of November 9th.

The Workshop will be conducted in English and will be held in the [Faculty of Sciences of the University of Lisbon](#), in Lisbon, Portugal. There is no registration fee. Information will be updated regularly [here](#). Any questions associated with this process should be addressed to acrovisco@fc.ul.pt.