Overview of workshop objectives

Peter Thorne, CICS-NC, NOAA NCDC, USA Chair of International Organizing Committee

Welcome from International organising committee

- Thanks to Kate Willett and local organising committee for getting us all here
- Very glad to see so many people here
 - International
 - Interdisciplinary
 - Technical jargon to a minimum
 - Try to avoid excessive use of acronyms
 - All voices and perspectives are important





Outcomes are not pre-defined

- This meeting creates the project
- White papers exist so that we do not start from scratch
- White paper authors were selected to represent diverse perspectives
- Fundamentally, YOU, over the course of the next three days define what this project will be
- Please participate actively ...

Expected outcomes

- A (longish) list of principles that we agree should form the basis for the effort going forwards
- A roadmap of how we might proceed without necessarily getting into specifics of who / how
- Avoidance of duplication with other activities exploit synergies instead
- An agreed method to engage more broadly with numerous applicable specialities / general public
- Agreement as to how the process is to be governed.



Hoped for outcomes (building momentum)

- A number of specific activities that institutions or groups will carry out as part of the effort (meetings, research, archival work, special journal issues etc)
- Offers of historical data
- Offers of resources or in-kind contributions wherever possible
- Ways to engender financial support
- A core set of volunteers to take on agreed key governance roles





Process

- Each day:
 - Scene setting talks (invited)
 - Breakouts (pre-assigned) based upon white papers (please read if not already done so) – please stick to principles and avoid discussions of specifics. Concentrate on the big picture!
 - Plenary discussions of outcomes
- At the end I get up again and present a set of final outcomes that we (hopefully) agree upon leaving are the defining principles
- International Organizing Committee, rapporteurs and co-optees write up as WMO Tech Doc and an invited BAMS piece



Media

- A key principal is openness and transparency
- We have two representatives from traditional media
 - Active participants bring very useful perspectives
 - Present for most (hopefully all) of meeting
- Some participants active bloggers
- No restrictions to engagement with media present at event
- After event we will be looking to get the word out anybody can help.





Questions