

The EGU General Assembly 2009 (19–24 April 2009 in Vienna, Austria) will bring together geoscientists from all over Europe and the rest of the world into one meeting covering all disciplines of the Earth, Planetary and Space Sciences.

(<http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2009/index.html>)

In this context we would like to draw your attention to these two related Sessions

CL42

Global and regional sea level rise and variability

Research into sea level rise and variability spans many areas of science (oceanography, glaciology, hydrology, climate change, geophysics etc.). Sea level is an integrated quantity of a number of global processes and is also of considerable practical relevance to coastal populations and infrastructure. This session will include presentations which provide new insight into the space and time scales of sea level rise and variability and into the reasons for sea level change. Research which makes use of any observational or analysis technique will be welcome. There are many important questions which will be explored in the session. For example, do we fully understand the reasons for the rise and its recent acceleration? Will sea-level rise resulting from global warming intensify natural variability in regional sea level and local tides? The theme of this session will be continued with Session CL43 (Perspectives of local and regional sea level rise) which will examine likely future sea level changes and their impacts.

CL43

Perspectives of local and regional sea level rise and storm surge statistics in the North Sea and elsewhere

Mean sea level rise is one of the aspects of anthropogenic climate change, which is considered a virtual certainty; it deserves special attention also because it will continue for an extended time even if the atmospheric warming triggering it has ceased. The question is, how large the sea level rise may be, what role different sometimes little understood processes play, and what the regional and local manifestations will be. The dangers of coastal flooding and erosion will in some parts of the world be further aggravated by intensifying storm surge heights. The question is, where the intensification may take place, how stable such expectations are across different scenario simulations, and how large the effect may be. The present session will continue from CL42 (Global and regional sea level rise and variability) and we invite contributions relevant to regional and local studies of ongoing and possible future developments of mean sea level and storm related variations, methods of scenario constructions, links to global developments of the various sea level forcing factors such as temperature rise and ice sheet response, the ensuing needs and options for coastal adaptation and the opportunities to mitigate the expected rise and its impacts. The session will include a focus on the North Sea, but studies of others areas, especially those at potential risk of a sea level rise, are welcomed as well.

Session descriptions: <http://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU2009/session/297> and /299

Session conveners

of CL 42: Svetlana Jevrejeva, Aslak Grinsted, and Phil Woodworth

:of CL 43 Hans von Storch, Caroline Katsman, John Church and Michael Oppenheimer

If you are interested to contribute to this session, please submit an abstract via the EGU-09 Meeting web site http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2009/abstract_management/index.html

* Online Submission Deadline is 13 January 2009*