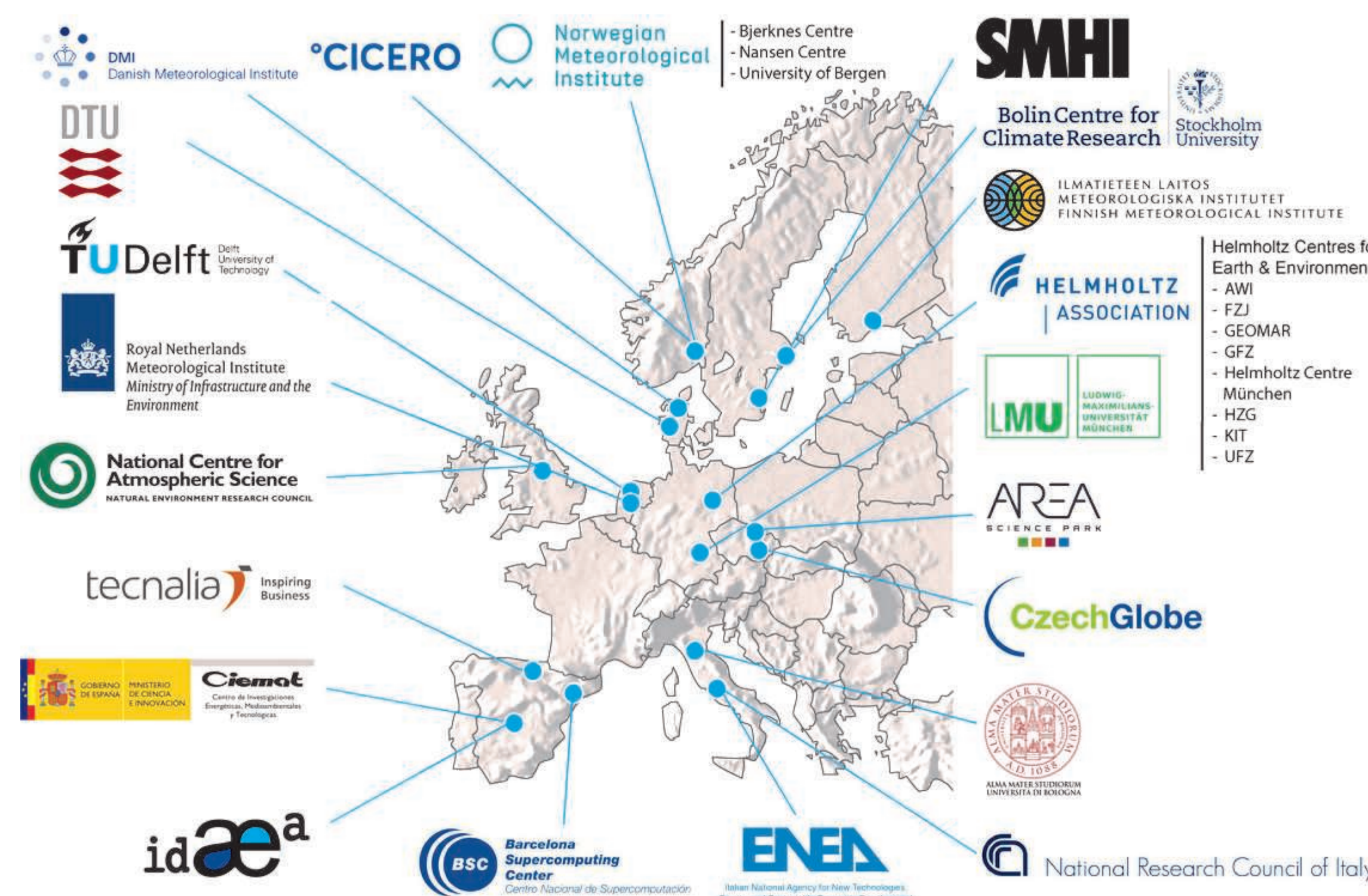


The European Climate Research Alliance (ECRA) @ Climateurope Festival 2017

ECRA is an association of 23 leading European research institutions from 10 countries. Launched in 2011, ECRA aims to bring together, expand and optimise expertise in climate research through sharing national capacities: ECRA acts as a unified voice for climate research in Europe.



Tasks

- Work in ECRA Collaborative Programmes
- Training, education and outreach activities
- Advice to policy and public
- Links to other climate initiatives, industry

Activities

- Science workshops
- Policy briefings at European Parliament
- Side events at international conferences (EGU, CORDEX)
- General Assemblies
- "Climate Change and Vulnerable Regions", 7-8 March 2017, Brussels

Science topics:

Collaborative Programmes

- Changes in the Hydrological Cycle
- High Impact Events and Climate Change
- Arctic Climate Stability and Change
- Sea Level Change and Coastal Impacts

ECRA's contribution to climate services

- Connecting science and society:** ECRA enables dialogue between natural and social scientists, science-policy exchange – facilitated by the secretariat's location in Brussels – and stakeholder involvement in research projects through ECRA Workshops of CPs that are open to scientists and stakeholders.
- Linking to climate initiatives:** ECRA has collaborated with the Covenant of Mayors, Mountain Initiatives, WCRP, EMB, EPB, and JPI Climate.
- Engaging the public:** ECRA is developing new meeting formats such as webinars and its use of social media.
- Developing strategy and mapping expertise:** ECRA provides the framework for joint activities with scientists and stakeholders.



Challenges

- Transdisciplinary work** requires efforts from both natural and social scientists to establish a common language.
- While research informs policy making in adaptation and mitigation, a **change in perception** is needed with science seen as part of the solution.
- Bottom-up initiatives** such as ECRA need to include "the entire bottom" – i.e. also stakeholders and users.
- Scientists need to communicate** not only among themselves but to the public, e.g. through new meeting and communication concepts.

Changes in the Hydrological Cycle

Key Topics

This Collaborative Programme studies changes in the hydrological cycle and its global and regional impacts, including extreme events such as floods and droughts:

- (i) Global precipitation changes and runoff
- (ii) Climate and hydrological/land surface interaction
- (iii) Climate hot spot regions: Mediterranean and Global Mountains
- (iv) Societal challenges.

With a focus on impact-oriented research, vulnerable regions, and including socio-economic perspectives, this CP can support adaptation and risk reduction strategies.

Collaboration

European and international scientific initiatives: Belmont Forum with its Collaborative Research Actions (CRAs), Mountain Research Initiative (MRI), GEO-GNOME—a GEO-GEOSS Initiative

National and international projects: e.g. EU H2020 projects ECOPotential, CRESCENDO and PRIMAVERA. New proposals and joint actions will be developed.

Coordination

National Research Council of Italy (CNR), IT and Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich, DE

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#ECRA2017

High Impact Events and Climate Change

Key Topics

Not all extremes lead to high impacts. This Collaborative Programme studies high impact weather events – conditioned on the exposure and vulnerability of specific sectors, regions or locations:

- (i) Understanding mechanisms of past and future high impact events
- (ii) Projecting changes with high resolution modelling
- (iii) Producing climate information at relevant scales
- (iv) Co-creating climate services with users: Climate risk analysis, vulnerability and adaptation.

Collaboration

Side Events at the International Conferences on Regional Climate (ICRC) – CORDEX

2 Joint Workshops

Coordination

Karlsruhe Institute for Technology (KIT), DE and the Technical University of Denmark (DTU), DK

Resources

Download at ecra-climate.eu/news-news/publications or scan:



- Factsheets:** Key issues and recommendations for research priorities in Horizon 2020 for each of ECRA's four Collaborative Programmes. *March 2017*
- Briefing Document:** The Changing Mountains of Europe: Water Resources and Ecosystems at Risk. *March 2015*
- White Papers:**
 - Changes in the Hydrological Cycle. *In preparation*
 - High Impact Events and Climate Change. *March 2014*