

VAMOS Panel Meeting 12 (VPM12)
San Juan, Puerto Rico, USA 3-5 June 2009

Draft Actions/statements

- IASCLIP Plans

After receiving a summary of the progress of the IASCLIP project during the last year, which included an overview of the project (David Enfield), modeling and prediction (Vasu Misra, Sang-Ki Lee), observation (Michael Douglas), and training and education activities (Lisa Goddard), the panel made a general recommendation to the project chair (David Enfield) as follows:

- There are numerous local and regional processes important to the IAS climate that are not fully understood (e.g. structure and variability of the Caribbean LLJ, moisture transport across southern Mexico and Central America, influence of island convection on the IAS climate). The IASCLIP community was encouraged to proceed with the development of a coordinated field observing effort that is tightly linked to fundamental uncertainties in current model simulations. They were further encouraged to develop a clear implementation plan for a coordinated field research and modeling effort as was done with SALLJEX, NAME and VOCALS.
- There is a need to expand the group involved in the project to include a diversity of institutions and with key scientists from other countries in the region. The involvement of Meteorological Offices is highly desirable.
- For the next phase the panel recommends that a co-chair be appointed, who will help the chair to increase the level of participation in and support to the project.

An IASCLIP website was created and its address is
<http://www.eol.ucar.edu/projects/iasclip/>

Dave Enfield expressed satisfaction for the continuous support of the panel to the project, and alerted the panel of his intention to step down as chair of the project ending 2011.

Actions:

- The panel asked Dave Enfield to propose names of potential co-chairs for IASCLIP no later than mid August as well as names of people in the region that may become involved in the science planning and implementation of the project.
- The panel requested that Dave Enfield ask for input from IASCLIP SWG on the comments and recommendations received in relation to the IASCLIP project.
- Dave Enfield to inform the panel in 6 months of how the Panel comments on the IASCLIP plan have been addressed

- VOCALS REx

Rene Garreaud updated the panel on the activities carried out during the past regional VOCALS experiment of VOCALS, October – November 2008, which included the participation of a group of 19 International Universities, 15 Research Labs, and 6 Operational Centers. The VOCALS data sets are in place at

http://data.eol.ucar.edu/master_list/project=VOCALS, and the group will meet in Seattle, Washington, USA, July 12-14, 2009

Action:

The panel encourages VOCALS Science WG to disseminate the initial results of VOCALS REx taking advantage of CLIVAR and VAMOS publications.

- **VAMOS Future and Priorities**

- **VAMOS and ACC**

Tereza Cavazos and Jose Marengo reported on the VAMOS ACC working group activities during 2008-2009 and the ACC challenges in the American Monsoon region.

Action:

The VAMOS ACC WG will seek to engage other groups working on regional climate change like NARCCAP (North American ..) to develop collaborative approaches with science relevant to the Americas.

- **VAMOS and Extremes**

The panel received a briefing on the VAMOS Extremes WG presented by Lisa Goddard. After reviewing the progress of different extreme activities along the Americas and proposing a VAMOS perspective on this issue, she expressed the need to reconsider the leadership of the Working Group.

Actions:

The panel will look for possible candidates directly involved in extreme studies to chair the Working Group.

Following a recommendation from SSG16, the panel encouraged the VAMOS Extreme WG to consider the use of indices and indicators of climate variability and change as defined by the CLIVAR/CCI/JCOMM Expert Team on Climate Change Detection and Indices (ETCCDI) see <http://www.clivar.org/organization/etccdi/indices.php>

- **VAMOS Modeling**

Celeste Saulo updated the panel on the VAMOS modeling plan, as well as on the progress on the modeling aspects and accomplishments on the different VAMOS programs, NAME, MESA, SALLJ Field Experiment (2002-2003), and VOCALS.

Action:

The panel commended the Modeling WG and encouraged them to advance into the implementation of their plan as for example through the WGSIP activities.

- **VAMOS interaction with WCRP/WWRP MJO Task Force, WGSIP & WGCM**

The panel received a report on plans for a WCRP/WWRP MJO Task Force (building on the successful US CLIVAR MJO Working Group) and an update on the Year of Tropical Convection (YOTC) project by Duane Waliser. The VAMOS panel also received a report from Celeste Saulo on VAMOS and WGSIP.

Actions:

Celeste Saulo will prepare a summary of the VAMOS modeling plan for the information of the WCRP/WWRP MJO Task Force. The panel will recommend a liaison person to represent VAMOS on MJO TF activities.

Celeste Saulo, with the help of Carlos Ereno, is encouraged to coordinate a joint one day workshop on Seasonal to Interannual Prediction on the American Monsoon Region with WGSIP as part of the next VAMOS Panel meeting (see below also).

- **Decadal predictability**

The panel received a briefing from Lisa Goddard on the activities of the US CLIVAR WG on Decadal Predictability. The panel recognized the importance of surveying the different decadal prediction research activities being carried out in the Americas that are relevant to VAMOS.

Action:

Panel co-chairs to explore the rationale for establishing a Task Force or Working Group in VAMOS focused on decadal predictability research in the Americas, with the objective to coordinate and promote those efforts, and eventually serve as liaison with other CLIVAR/WCRP related activities.

- **Initiative in Outreach, Capacity Building, and Education**

The panel discussed and updated the information on training and education activities in the different VAMOS projects. It was recognised that each component has encouraged capacity building actions and that there is no need to have a group (or an initiative) to coordinate them. The VAMOS listserv was also recognized as an efficient way to distribute and promote information on VAMOS related activities as well as opportunities for the VAMOS community.

The Panel agrees that Capacity Building has to consider the regional characteristics. The panel has to be sure that projects for endorsement include appropriate training and education activities

Action:

Carlos Ereno is encouraged to continue distributing information and announcements to the VAMOS community through the listserv.

Organisers of future workshops and panel meetings are encouraged to seek to involve local students in them.

- **CLIVAR Imperatives**

Hugo Berbery described the Imperatives for CLIVAR, i.e. those activities and/or plans that "must" be continued and/or implemented over the next 5+ years because they are of highest scientific importance with a high likelihood of success. He highlighted and provided details on those imperatives that are most relevant to VAMOS.

Action:

Hugo Berbery will distribute the information on the CLIVAR imperatives to the panel.

- **Next issue of VAMOS newsletter, funding and themes**

Carlos Ereno reported on the status of the VAMOS newsletter. Starting with the 5th issue (2009) the VAMOS Newsletter has appeared as a supplement of CLIVAR

Exchanges for the printed version, a limited number of which will continue to be sent to institutions that are registered on the VAMOS mailing list. Full VAMOS newsletter issues will still remain available in digital form in the VAMOS web site.

The panel thanked the ICPO for helping to print and distribute the 5th issue, and agreed on the benefit of publishing the VAMOS newsletter as a supplement of CLIVAR Exchanges. The panel also discussed different alternatives for the focus of the next issue of the newsletter

Actions:

The co-chairs and Carlos Ereno will work with the ICPO to try to continue printing the VAMOS newsletter yearly as a supplement of CLIVAR Exchanges. The main topic for the next issue will be VOCALS REX with complementary articles such one on Land-Atmosphere Interactions in the NAME experiment by Enrique Vivoni

- **VAMOS panel membership**

The panel discussed the 2009 VAMOS membership rotation and agreed on the following:

1) Panel members whose term will end at the end of 2009 and are willing to continue

- Jose Marengo to continue as co-chair for one year
- Hugo Berbery to continue as co-chair for a new period
- Celeste Saulo to continue on the panel for one year
- Lisa Goddard, Tereza Cavazos, David Enfield and Dave Gochis to continue for a new period.

2) Suggested replacements for members whose term will come to an end:

- Aldo Montecino (Universidad de Concepción) to replace Rene Garreaud

Action: the proposal will be forwarded to the CLIVAR SSG for approval (co-chairs and Carlos).

- **NEXT VAMOS panel meeting**

The panel considered the offer of Carlos Ereno to organize the next VAMOS panel meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 28-30 July 2010, in conjunction with the WGSIP meeting, and a WCRP training activity on SIP. Celeste Saulo and Carlos Ereno were requested to coordinate a one-day joint workshop on Seasonal to Interannual Prediction on the American Monsoon Region with the WGSIP.