

# CS 07 Tailoring climate information for impact assessment

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<b>Project website</b>	<a href="http://www.knmi.nl/klimaatscenarios/maatwerk/index.html">http://www.knmi.nl/klimaatscenarios/maatwerk/index.html</a>		
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## Context / Social problem

Climate scenarios are consistent and plausible pictures of a possible future climate. Climate scenarios are used by various sectors in society, which means that a wide range and type of climate information must be provided. 'General climate scenarios' (for example the average summer temperature in 2050) are hardly ever sufficient. As a rule, they have to be tailored to the question at hand, gearing the nature and form of climate information to each particular user. That is what this project does.

## What do we know/not know?

In the Netherlands (and beyond) the process of 'tailoring' is not new. From as early as the beginning of the 1990s there has been intense cooperation between KNMI and RIZA in the field of climate information for use in calculating discharges in the Rhine and Meuse. Of key importance is estimating extreme river discharges with recurrence intervals much longer than the length of the data series, by means of statistical extrapolation and precipitation generators. The resulting climate scenarios are applicable to the present (reference) climate. The influence of climate change on these extremes has recently become a topic for research.

KNMI has published its new 'generic' climate scenarios, the KNMI'06 scenarios (see [www.knmi.nl/klimaatscenarios](http://www.knmi.nl/klimaatscenarios)). These new scenarios will serve as a blueprint for tailoring climate information required for project CS07 and other CcSP projects.

## What is being studied?

Tailor made scenarios will be prepared for six case studies, which together cover a large proportion of the relevant social sectors:

- A project on the discharge of the Rhine (and Meuse)
- A project on rural water management and an inventory of drought risks
- A project to assess the consequences of the KNMI'06 scenarios at the scale of the water boards
- A project on extreme wave formation in the North Sea
- A project on agricultural yield predictions in the Netherlands and Europe
- A project on renewable energy

The case studies will be implemented with government agencies and private companies, who will make use of the scenarios. A working method has been chosen that involves the exchange of as much information as possible 'on the workfloor', in other words, between climate researchers and executive staff of the agencies. Besides the usual progress meetings, this working method requires the introduction of an internship system.

## What are the results, and who are they for?

The main result so far has been the production of the generic KNMI'06 scenarios. In addition, initial surveys have been made of the implications of the new scenarios, compared with the old WB21 scenarios, for the three water-related case studies. The final outcome of the project should be useful information on climate change for the six sectors participating in the case studies.

