



PRISM: a sustained software infrastructure initiative for the Earth System modelling community

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PRISM aims at providing the European Earth System Modelling community with a common software infrastructure. A key goal is to help assemble, run, and analyse the results of Earth System Models based on component models (ocean, atmosphere, land surface, etc..) developed in the different climate research centres in Europe and elsewhere. PRISM is organised as a distributed network of expertise to help share the development, maintenance and support of standards and state-of-the-art software tools. PRISM was initially funded as a project under the European Union's Framework Programme V (2001-2004) and the maintenance of the existing set of software tools is now ensured by multi-institute funding via the PRISM Support Initiative (PSI). PRISM is also fully engaged in an international effort to coordinate the definition of Earth System Modelling meta-data descriptions, under the auspices of the newly formed WCRP Modelling Panel (WMP).