



Ensemble-based predictions of climate changes and their impacts: progress and plans in the EU ENSEMBLES project

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An ensemble climate forecast system is being developed within the EU ENSEMBLES project for use across a range of timescales (seasonal, decadal and longer) and spatial scales (global, regional and local). The model system will be evaluated by making hindcasts, i.e. simulations of the 20th Century climate, which will be compared against observations and analyses, including a new quality-controlled, high-resolution gridded observational dataset for Europe. The model system will be used to construct probabilistic scenarios of future climate. The outputs of the ensemble prediction system will be used to drive a wide range of applications, for example agriculture, health, energy and water resources.

The 5 year project began in September 2004 and is a major undertaking by more than 60 institutes from 20 countries, mainly in Europe. It is coordinated by the Hadley Centre at the Met Office in the UK, and is funded under the European Commission's 6th Framework Programme. This presentation will show progress so far and future plans.