

Welcome to the climate office for polar regions and sea level rise!

Based on studies of the geologic record, we know that climate change has occurred throughout Earth's history. The latest study from the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC 2007) concluded that the climate is changing. The earth is warming up, and there are evidences that much of the observed temperature increase recorded over the last 50 years is likely human-induced.

These climate changes are being experienced with particularly intensely in the polar regions. However, the impacts of climate change in the polar regions are also likely to have profound global impacts. Increasing our understanding of climate variability and climate change is essential to develop and evaluate mitigation and adaptation strategies and to improve the dissemination of information to enable managing climate risks, policy concerns, and social and political science.

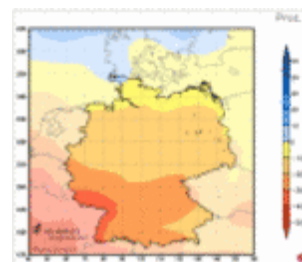
The [Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research](#) in the Helmholtz Association has been conducting research activities in the Arctic, the Antarctic and at temperate latitudes since 1980. It coordinates polar research in Germany. The institute's research mission is to improve our understanding of ocean-ice-atmosphere interactions, the animal and plant realms kingdoms of the Arctic and Antarctic, and the evolution of the polar continents and seas. Given the major role played by these regions within the Earth's climate system, global change is a central focus of the research effort at AWI.

[News from the Alfred Wegener Institute](#)

Online now: the Regional Climate Atlas for Germany

The Helmholtz Association's network of Regional Climate Offices has produced a regional climate atlas for Germany showing the possible effects of climate change at the regional level. The climate scenarios for Germany's federal states are now available to the public for online reference.

[Online now: the Regional Climate Atlas for Germany](#)



Bayer Climate Award 2010 for Professor Peter Lemke

25.03.2010

Professor Peter Lemke of the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research in Bremerhaven has been awarded the 50,000 € "Bayer Climate Award 2010" by the Bayer Science & Education Foundation. He is being honoured for his groundbreaking research and pioneering contributions to the understanding of the role of sea ice in the climate system.

To press release: [Bayer Climate Award 2010 for Professor Peter Lemke](#)

