



Newsletter

2nd Annual Meeting

2nd annual StratoClim meeting will be held in Madrid, Spain 16.-18. November 2016. The local host of the meeting is Natalia Calvo Fernandez from Universidad Complutense de Madrid. Registration is now open via stratoclim.org website. Deadline for registrations is Friday October 14, 2016.

2nd Reporting towards the EC

The 2nd project period will end November 30, 2016. During the following 60 days we will be compiling the 2nd periodic progress report with a submission deadline to EC on January 27, 2017. All project partners are required to contribute to the scientific progress report as well as submitting a financial Form C to the online EC Participant Portal.

StratoClim Wiki

All StratoClim related information and documents are stored in the project Wiki hosted by JÜLICH. The wiki is accessible via link on the StratoClim website stratoclim.org. If you do not yet have an access to the wiki, go to the wiki front page and open an account following the instructions, or contact Leena at the project office leenakaisa.viitanen@awi.de to get help.



Palau Atmospheric Observatory, picture by M. Rex, AWI

Summer 2016 Field Campaigns

The year 2016 was supposed to host an intensive field campaign season with main aircraft campaign in Nagpur India and ground based measurement campaigns in India, China and Bangladesh. Late in June it became however clear that clearances and permissions would not be obtained for aircraft campaign in India in time and decision was taken to split the campaign into two phases, the first phase taking place in Kalamata, Greece from 22.August -- 09. September 2016 and the second phase to take place in the Indian subcontinent the summer 2017.

M-55 Geophysica. Image by MDB.





Upcoming project deliverables

EC funded projects are required to track the project progress also with so-called project deliverables. These deliverables report on specific progress items pre-defined in the project description of work. Following StratoClim deliverables are due within the next months:

WP1:

- D1.5 Report on 1st phase measurement campaign - Deadline end of November 2016
- D1.6 Preliminary 1st phase measurement data - Deadline end of November 2016
- D1.7 Quality controlled 1st phase measurement data - Deadline end of February 2017

WP2:

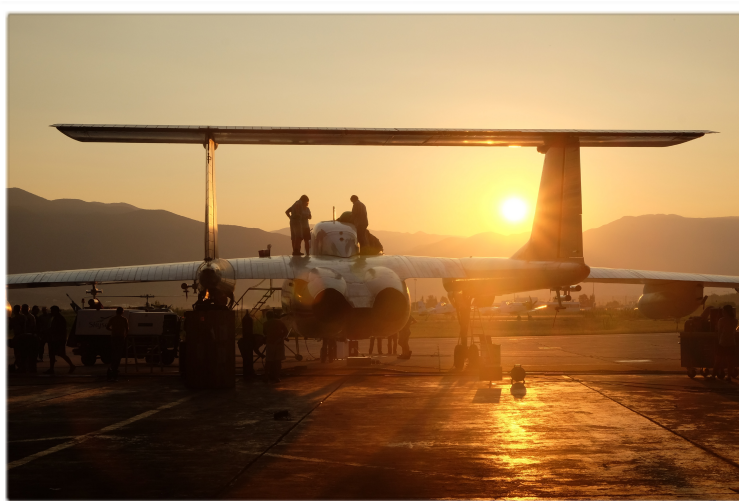
- D2.2 Report and data set from the first year of measurements in the tropical Western Pacific - Deadline end of February 2017

WP3:

- D3.5 Report on detailed information about the distribution of mesoscale convective systems detraining in the TTL - Deadline end of November 2016

Kalamata Aircraft Campaign

The Kalamata aircraft campaign carried out three research/test flights with exciting flight sections in and out of air influenced by convective events in the AM regions. The campaign group did interesting gas-phase and particle measurements for several well-planned encounters with AM influenced air. Data Protocol is under construction and preliminary data products for the Kalamata flights will be made available in the project data base soon. Impressions from the campaign can be read in Corinna Kloss' "Climate Research Taking Off" blog at <https://blogs.fz-juelich.de/climateresearch/>



Images are screenshots from Corinna's blog: Last minute preparation before flight. Sunrise in the back and Geophysica taking off. Pictures by Brian Leen.

WP4:

- D4.2 Report on preliminary and preparatory model studies on transport pathways and radiative forcing in the tropical stratosphere - Deadline end of November 2016

WP6:

- D6.2 Preliminary report on the regional, socio-economic impact on the Asian monsoon - Deadline end of November 2016

WP7:

- D7.7 Socio-economic Implications Workshop - Deadline end of December 2016

WP8:

- D8.4 Minutes go EG meeting - Deadline end of December 2016

WP9:

- D9.3 Controlling of subcontracts related to aircraft field campaign- Deadline end of November 2016

New StratoClim EC Project Officer

Once more the European Commission informed the coordination, that StratoClim has been assigned a new Project Officer (PO). The new PO, Aurelian Chitu, will take over StratoClim at EC, starting from October 1, 2016.

Bhola Island Sounding Campaign

AWI conducted a set of ozone and COBALD soundings at Bhola Island, Bangladesh in August / September 2016, in cooperation with Prof. Abdus Salam and Dhaka University. 7 balloons were successfully launched.

MICA trace gas measurements were also conducted on Bhola Island in August 2016. Preliminary data suggests that air pollution is rather moderate in Bhola Island and perhaps in the Bay of Bengal overall. These results might have potential implications for the 2nd phase aircraft campaign in Indian subcontinent in 2017.



Image from Bhola Island campaign, picture by Jürgen Graeser, AWI

Nainital Sounding Campaign

A Swiss / German / Indian team lead by Thomas Peter, ETH Zürich conducted a sounding campaign in Nainital India. 30 ECC, CFH and COBALD sondes were launched in August 2016. The data quality of best chilled mirror balloon instruments was sufficient to monitor H₂O mixing ratios in the UTLS. However, contamination acquired in mixed-phase clouds is serious. First results will be presented at the 2nd annual

Executive Group meetings

StratoClim Executive Group holds regular meetings to discuss and direct the project progress. The minutes from these meetings are open and available to all StratoClim participants in the project Wiki hosted by JÜLICH. So far, following meetings have taken place:

- 30 October 2015, Budapest
- 3 March 2016, online
- 29 June 2016, online
- 16 September 2016, Potsdam

Associate Partners

In a meeting 29. June 2016 StratoClim Executive Group agreed on adding Cochin University of Science and Technology as an associate partner to the project. Cochin University cooperates with CNRS on Lagrangian modelling to explore the paths of air within the TTL.

Associate partner status allows external partners access to project meetings and possibility to shared data upon signing the project data protocol. Currently StratoClim associate partners include, in addition to Cochin University, Dhaka University, Bangladesh and LAGEO, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China.

meeting in November.

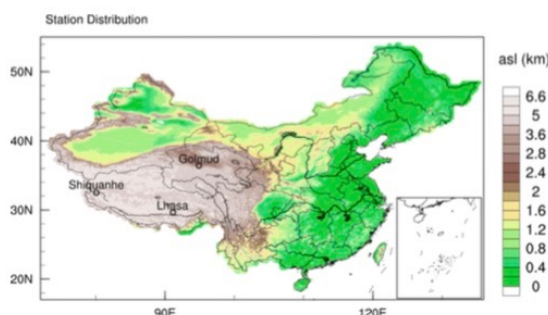


Campaign group in Nainital. From left to right, standing: Nitin Pal (1), Deepak Singh (1), Peter Oelsner (4), Madan Singh (5), Simone Brunamonti (3). Sitting: Harsha Hanumantu (2), Bhupendra Singh (2), Manish Naja (1), Thomas Peter (3), Teresa Jorge (3). Affiliations: (1) Aryabhata Institute of Observational Sciences, Nainital, India. (2) Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, India. (3) ETH Zürich, Switzerland. (4) DWD / GRUAN lead center, Lindenberg, Germany. (5) Our "campaign driver". Image: Simone Brunamonti, ETH Zürich.

SWOP Campaign in China

The SWOP team conducted balloon measurements every other day from Lhasa, Shiquanhe and Golmud between late July - late August 2016. Altogether 42 flights took place carrying ECC, CFH and COBALD sondes. This 2016 SWOP campaign was organised to coincide with the planned StratoClim aircraft campaign in order to provide additional ground based measurement data.

Image: Rolf Müller, JÜLICH (from presentation at the ExGroup meeting 16 09 16)



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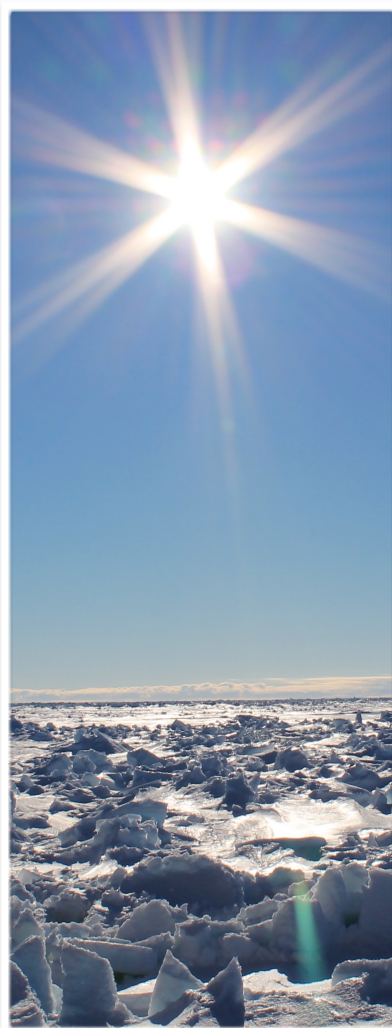


Image: L. Grubner, AWI

Sounding Campaign in Palau fall 2016



Beach in Palau. Image: Katrin Müller, AWI

AWI is currently conducting soundings from Palau Island in West Pacific. ECC soundings have been conducted every 2 to 3 days since September 12th and 2-3 combined ECC-CFH-COBALD soundings, one of which will be coordinated with the NOAA/NASA aircraft campaign POSIDON, are in preparation for October. From November on biweekly launches of ECC sondes will continue throughout the winter. UniHB group will be also in Palau until the end of October working on the FTIR spectrometer.

3rd Amendment to the StratoClim grant agreement

StratoClim coordination is now preparing a third amendment to the project grant agreement with the EC. This amendment will incorporate the necessary changes needed to split the aircraft campaign to summers 2016 and 2017 and withdraw partner no. 15 STFC-RAL from the project. STFC-RAL operates the MARSCHALS instrument that has been deployed in Geophysika in various past campaigns. Due to difficulties in operating the instrument and changes in the StratoClim campaign activities it was decided that STFC-RAL would withdraw the instrument and subsequently their partnership from the StratoClim project.