



**Job Details**

**Reference:** 10959

**Position Title:** Climate Scientist (SPOC)

**Classification:** Executive Level 1 (Senior Professional Officer Grade C – Meteorology)

**Salary range:** \$83,187 - \$89,828 per annum, plus additional 15.4% superannuation

**Location:** 700 Collins Street, Docklands 3008

**Division:** Research and Systems

**Branch:** Centre for Australian Weather and Climate Research

**Section:** Climate Change Group

**Status:** Non-ongoing specified task for 2 to 2.5 years, with the prospect of extension

**Applicants:** Australian Citizenship – see [Essential Applicant Information](#)  
Whilst Australian citizenship is not a mandatory requirement, the successful applicant will need to have the necessary visa and work rights. Visa sponsorship is available to successful international appointees.

**Applications close:** Thursday 5 November 2009

**Advertisement**

The Centre for Australian Weather and Climate Research is a research partnership between the Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO. The Centre is currently assembling an outstanding team of scientists and specialist support staff to support the Pacific Climate Change Science Program (PCCSP).

The PCCSP is part of the Australian Government's International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative to meet high priority climate change adaptation needs in vulnerable countries in our region. The PCCSP will provide improved climate change science information for planners and decision makers in the Pacific and East Timor.

To support the PCCSP the Bureau of Meteorology is currently seeking to appoint a scientist at the Senior Professional Grade C (SPOC) classification level to undertake research into climate and climate change in the South Pacific Region to deliver climate change projections for Pacific Islands Countries. The appointee will undertake projects focused on understanding regional climate, in particular the role of the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone and the Australasian monsoon, along with understanding and assessing model projections of future climate change. Projects will include a significant component of collaboration and liaising with Pacific Island Countries.

This position is based at the Bureau of Meteorology's Head Office, 700 Collins Street, Docklands, Melbourne.

This contract duration is expected to be 2 to 2.5 yrs.

## Duty Statement

Under broad policy control and direction,

1. Undertake research into understanding regional South Pacific and Australasian climate, and in particular the role of the West Pacific (Australasian) Monsoon and the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone on a range of timescales.
2. Examine and assess the ability of climate models to represent major regional and global scale circulations, as well as teleconnections and impacts on Pacific island countries, and the region generally.
3. Describe and evaluate model climate change projections under a range of future scenarios.
4. Collaborate with scientists and stakeholders in the production of comprehensive regional climate change projections.
5. Be aware of, and apply as necessary, the principles and practices of the various elements of the Bureau's Social Justice Strategy.

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**Duty representing highest function: 1**

**IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR: EXECUTIVE LEVEL 2 (PRS) (no. 1606)**

## Job Profile

The Pacific Climate Change Science Program (PCCSP) is part of the Australian Government's International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative to meet high priority climate change adaptation needs in vulnerable countries in our region. The PCCSP will provide improved climate change science information for planners and decision makers in the Pacific and East Timor.

The lead science agencies for the PCCSP will be the Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO through their research partnership in The Centre for Australian Weather and Climate Research. The Centre will provide a collaborative research environment for developing the PCCSP with countries in the region, regional organisations, other international science agencies and Australian universities.

The PCCSP provides a strategic framework for climate change research in the Pacific and East Timor through four research components:

- Recent and current climate and trends to underpin improved projections of future climate change (Component 1);
- Major regional climate phenomena (South Pacific Convergence Zone, the El Niño-Southern Oscillation and the monsoon) which drive seasonal and year-to-year variations in rainfall, winds and tropical cyclones (Component 2);
- Regional and country level climate projections through more detailed climate projections and fine-resolution modelling (Component 3); and
- Ocean processes including sea level rise and ocean acidification (Component 4).

The appointee to this position will join component 2, which is focussed on understanding key climate drivers and processes in the region, and how they might change under global warming. Improved understanding of the behaviour of the South Pacific Convergence Zone, El Niño-Southern Oscillation, and the monsoon and the ITCZ in observations and climate models is necessary to have a basis for projected changes to rainfall, droughts, floods, and tropical cyclone behaviour in the region.

The primary role of the position will be to perform research focused on understanding regional South Pacific or Australasian climate, encompassing the role of major circulations, and including both mean climate and variability across a range of timescales. The appointee will investigate the ability of climate models to represent the West Pacific (Australasian) Monsoon and the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone. In addition, they will describe and evaluate model climate change projections

under a range of future scenarios.

In collaboration with other scientists, the appointee will integrate projection results from other techniques/projects to provide understanding and estimates of the uncertainties and confidence limits associated with regional projections. The appointee will also need to interact with users and stakeholders, to ensure communication and proper documentation of the project developments. In addition some important interactions will take place with stakeholders within the Pacific Island Countries both in term of climatic data availability as well as using the projections. Finally interactions will be required with other scientists and organisations involved in the PCCSP to ensure that regional climate change projections are comprehensive.

A scientist appointed at the Bureau of Meteorology Executive Level 1 Senior Professional Officer Grade C (SPOC) classification level would normally be expected to have several years' research experience and have made a significant contribution to scientific literature. At this classification level the appointee will undertake research work with a high level of independence, under broad policy control and direction

### **Selection Criteria**

***Applicants must address the selection criteria. Applicants who do not address the selection criteria will not be considered. To assist you to prepare your application, please read the [Essential Applicant Information](#) and the [Bureau Social Justice Policy](#)***

1. Demonstrated knowledge of, and research experience in, a field relevant to climate and climate change.
2. Extensive understanding of meteorological (and other) factors important to Pacific and Australasian region climate and climate variability.
3. Demonstrated scientific programming skills, especially knowledge of the UNIX operating system, scientific programming languages (FORTRAN, IDL or others) and scientific visualization and statistics software. Experience with handling large observational and model datasets.
4. A strong ability to communicate orally and work harmoniously in a team environment as well as collaborate with external users.
5. Knowledge of analysis and statistical techniques applicable to climate models and observations.
6. A knowledge and understanding of the principles of the Bureau's Social Justice Strategy and a commitment to apply it in practice
7. MSc or PhD either in a field relevant to climate variability and modelling or in the field of statistics with knowledge of the other is desirable.

### **Mandatory Requirements:**

A degree or diploma of an Australian institution, or a comparable overseas qualification, which is appropriate to the duties; OR other comparable qualifications, which are appropriate to the duties.

### **Contact**

If you would like to know more about the Bureau of Meteorology visit <http://www.bom.gov.au/>

Employment conditions for most Bureau employees are contained in the [Bureau of Meteorology - Enterprise Agreement \(PDF 2Mb\)](#)

Please read the selection documentation and if you have any queries specific to this position please contact **Dr Robert Colman Tel: (+61) 3 9669 4520 or email [r.colman@bom.gov.au](mailto:r.colman@bom.gov.au)**

## Applications

**Applications can be lodged personally at:** The Recruitment Unit, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, 700 Collins St, Docklands

**By mail to:** Recruitment Manager, Bureau of Meteorology, GPO Box 1289, Melbourne VIC 3001

**By email to:** [jobs@bom.gov.au](mailto:jobs@bom.gov.au)

**All applicants** are required to include a completed Bureau of Meteorology Application Cover Form, Resume or CV and a Statement addressing the Selection Criteria.

**All applicants** are advised to read [General Information for Applicants](#) available on this web site before submitting their application.

Should you experience any difficulties with accessing information please contact the Recruitment Unit by email at: [jobs@bom.gov.au](mailto:jobs@bom.gov.au) or by telephone on 03 9669 4260 / 03 9669 4583 / 03 9669 4337.