

From: Eddy Campbell <Eddy.Campbell@csiro.au>
To: CHM <chm@ea.gov.au>
CC:
Date: 16/10/2003
Subject: Feedback on "Developing a national biodiversity and climate change action plan"

Hi Folks,

I'll keep my comments brief- biodiversity isn't really my field, but I was pleased to attend the original workshop to provide some climate insights from a statistical scientist's perspective.

Overall comment:

My impression from attending the workshop convened by Mark Howden was that statisticians are something of a rare commodity, but more statistical science input would be valued. It is very important that solid evidence-based decisions are made in this field, so I think it is important to address this. This could perhaps be done by making professional statistical participation a requirement of funding guidelines.

Question 14:

(a) Something that I perceive to be lacking is a reasonable base of uncertainty information on climate change scenarios. This is important in developing strategies to manage the range of likely futures we face.

(b) There is a danger of naively adding up uncertainties to reach a final uncertainty measure. What's required is more integrated biodiversity-climate modelling, and there are new approaches around (such as hierarchical models) to approach this kind of thing.

Regards,

Eddy

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