Costing Climate Impacts in Canada: Comments

Brian Mills
Adaptation and Impacts Research Division
Atmospheric Science & Technology Directorate
Environment Canada
c/o Faculty of Environmental Studies
University of Waterloo
Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3G1
Brian.Mills@ec.gc.ca

Recent meeting

SERA North Meeting: Economics of Weather, Climate & Climate Change
February 21-22, 2008
Centre for International Governance Innovation
Waterloo, Ontario
http://www.fes.uwaterloo.ca/research/aird/sera/index.html

THEMES FOR DISCUSSION

• Value of weather, climate, and climate change information to Canadian society

• Costs of impacts resulting from weather, climate, and climate change, with and without the adoption of adaptive and mitigative response measures.
**Limited research & analysis**

- **Several international studies** (e.g., Mendelsohn et al., 2000; Tol, 2002; Stern Review, 2007)
- **Very few Canadian studies on economic impacts of climate change, with and without adaptation or mitigation** (exceptions: Environment Canada, 2006; Millerd 2005; Yevdokimov, 2005; Reinsborough, 2003; Hauer et al., 2003; Dore and Burton, 2001)
- **Growing body of Canadian impacts and adaptation research**

**Moving forward**

*Decision/policy focus*
- Global/International
- National
- Provincial/regional
- Sectoral
- Firms/municipalities
- Projects/programs

*Examples of methods/approaches*
- IAMs, general/partial equilibrium modeling, I/O modeling, expert-based assessment, evaluation of revenues/asset/expenditure, cost-benefit analysis, cost-effectiveness analysis, contingent valuation, hedonic pricing, travel-cost techniques

- **Sensitivity and scenario-based research applications**
- **Development of guidance (preferred practices) including treatment of social costs, natural capital, aggregation, discounting, and ‘shocks’**
- **Development of a common suite of climate change, social and economic scenarios/assumptions** (CCCSN http://www.cccsn.ca/index-e.html)
References


