

Enhanced cooperation among climate and paleoclimate communities with specific opportunities for the Pannonian Basin

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International cooperation among acronym organizations, in this case WCRP and PAGES, often exists more easily in paper agreements than in practical reality. Fortunately, reality offers several opportunities. In the realm of climate modeling, the paleoclimate community has developed the Paleoclimate Modeling Intercomparison Project (PMIP) as a valued and endorsed component of CMIP6 - the sixth phase of WCRP's Coupled Model Intercomparison Project (Eyring et al. 2015). PMIP represents a mutual effort to analyze climate system response to forcings and major feedbacks for past climates outside the range of recent variability and to thereby better assess the credibility of current climate models. A second opportunity for collaboration emerges from the refined WCRP Grand Challenge on 'Water Availability for the Bread Baskets of the World'. This Grand Challenge addresses the changing water availability due to climatic change in major food producing regions of the world, including, as first example, the Pannonian Basin of central Europe. Water availability in this context relates to both availability for humans and their agricultural and consumption needs, as well as the ecological environment and its needs. The challenge lies in understanding, quantifying and predicting present and future water resources from the mountainous periphery to the central agricultural zones. I suggest that paleoclimate records of precipitation, developed from local proxies, would add a very positive and informative historical context to the study. I hope to stimulate additional ideas and collaborative activities.