

BONN.

A Global Climate Research Hub

Where Research Meets Global Climate Action

Situated on the banks of the Rhine, Bonn is a dynamic international center for climate research and policy. The University of Bonn, together with several leading international think tanks and over 25 United Nations organizations, forms a vibrant hub where cutting-edge research informs and shapes global environmental policy.

Academic Excellence in Research on Climate Change

The University of Bonn stands among an elite group of currently 17 universities worldwide accredited by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) as an observer institution, alongside institutions like Princeton, Cambridge, and Yale. Researchers from Bonn have significantly contributed to IPCC reports, addressing issues from desertification to climate-resilient development pathways.

Collaborations with the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS), an important partner in the **Bonn Research Alliance (BORA)**, further enhance Bonn's role in addressing environmental risks and human security. Joint academic programs, such as the MSc in Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security, exemplify this synergy.

The University of Bonn's Research Ecosystem: Local Roots, Global Reach

The University of Bonn has an extensive infrastructure for research on climate change. The **Center for Earth System Observation and Computational Analysis (CESOCA)** provides

cutting-edge data and modeling tools to explore complex climate systems. Field-based research is supported by advanced **laboratories in chemistry and soil physics**, dedicated **climate monitoring stations**, and a **research farm** that functions as an agricultural teaching and experimental site — linking climate research directly to sustainable land use practices.

The **Laboratory for Clouds and Precipitation Exploration (CPEX-LAB)** enhances understanding of atmospheric processes crucial to weather and climate modeling. The university is also part of the **NFDI4Earth**, Germany's National Research Data Infrastructure for Earth System Sciences, fostering open, FAIR data standards and interdisciplinary collaboration.

The University of Bonn engages with strong local BORA partners, such as IDOS and UNU-EHS, in key networks and initiatives: The **Bonn Climate Group**, discussing current matters among Bonn-based experts; the **Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Germany**, uniting insights from German research, civil society, and business to advance the 2030 Agenda and Paris Agreement implementation; and **WASCAL** (West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use), supporting the resilience of human and environmental systems to climate change and increased variability.



A Hub for International Climate Policy

Bonn hosts the secretariats of key UN environmental conventions, including the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and the German Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Coordination Office. The city regularly convenes global conferences, such as the Bonn Climate Change Conference in preparation of the annual Conference of Parties (COPs) of UNFCCC, facilitating dialogue between researchers, policymakers, and civil society stakeholders.



Shaping Sustainable Futures

Bonn's scientific community is committed to addressing global challenges. The University of Bonn's think tank partners in BORA play a central role in these efforts.

The **German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS)** explicitly anchors the concept of "sustainable futures" in its institutional strategy and leads pioneering projects such as the **KlimaLog**, which explores the interface between climate policy and development cooperation.

Concurrently, **bicc (Bonn International Centre for Conflict Studies)** is increasingly active in the climate-security nexus through initiatives like "**Violent Environments**", which examine how environmental degradation and resource scarcity contribute to conflict and instability. UNU-EHS has successfully launched the **Inter-connected Disaster Risks report**, integrating climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution and inequality. Together, these institutions enrich Bonn's profile as a hub where climate, sustainability, peace, and development intersect.



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