

Rapid Climate Change (RAPID) Data management Plan

This document describes the data management plan for the RAPID programme and the specific data policy drawn by the Steering Committee. The primary aim of the RAPID data policy is to enable access to RAPID data and maximise the exploitation of the results.

Data management

Data collected within the RAPID programme will comply with NERC's policy on data management. The main objective of this policy is to ensure that the data will contribute to a key NERC resource, which will continue to be exploited both scientifically and commercially long after the formal end of the programme. The management of the data collected within the RAPID programme will be the responsibility of the relevant NERC designated data centres (e.g. BADC, BODC), and funds have been made available from the RAPID budget to support this activity. In the absence of a NERC designated data centre for palaeo data, special provision will be made for such data acquired within the programme (while ensuring appropriate links to international projects, such as HOLIVAR). To ensure proper data management the Science Coordinator will work together with a small data sub-group appointed by the Steering Committee (see appendix below).

On the recommendation of the data subgroup, BODC and BADC have been commissioned to carry out a study (to be completed by September 2003) which will result in a data management plan (to be implemented, subject to the approval of the Steering Committee).

RAPID Data policy

The data subgroup proposed the following data policy for the RAPID programme, which has been ratified by the full Steering Committee and will apply to all projects funded through RAPID:

- a) data should be lodged with the appropriate data centre on acquisition*, together with such metadata as are defined under the RAPID data management plan.
- b) data would be embargoed for 1 year from acquisition, allowing the PI and co-workers to exploit it in the first instance. The metadata would not be embargoed, to allow the wider community to be aware of work being carried out under RAPID and facilitate community building.
- c) data would be made available to the RAPID community after 1 year, and to everyone after 2 years.
- d) anyone making use of RAPID data within 3 years of it being lodged at the data centre would be required to include the PI and/or co-workers (as appropriate) as co-author/s on any resulting papers.
- e) PIs and/or co-workers failing to comply with the RAPID data policy would be subject to appropriate sanctions.

[n.b. Data includes palaeo data, present-day observations, model output, data syntheses, data-model syntheses.]

* On acquisition: the time-scale may vary between data types (for example, real-time data could go directly to a data centre) but the overall aim is to keep the time-scale as short as possible and certainly less than 6 months. This is to ensure that data acquired during RAPID are available to the RAPID community within the lifetime of the programme.

Appendix: Data subgroup membership

K. Briffa, P. Challenor, S. Tett & M. Srokosz / C. Gommenginger