

Programme on Ecosystem Change and Society (PECS)

Scientific Committee Member, 2009–11

Wolfgang Cramer

Professor Wolfgang Cramer, environmental geographer, plant ecologist and professor of global ecology at Potsdam University, has been head of the Department of Global Change and Natural Systems since the establishment of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research in 1992 and now co-leads the institute's research domain 'Earth System Analysis'.



He received his academic training at the Universities of Giessen (Germany, diploma, geography, 1981) and Uppsala (Sweden, Ph.D., plant ecology, 1986). From 1987 to 1993, he taught and conducted his research at the Department of Geography, Trondheim University (Norway) and was also visiting scholar at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) in Laxenburg, Austria.

His main scientific contributions were initially in the area of forest dynamics modelling, with respect to climate drivers, and now to the broader understanding of biosphere dynamics at the global and continental scale. He has been directing a large European ecosystem service assessment, ATEAM (EU FP5), as well as its companion outreach activity, the concerted action AVEC. Together, these projects have resulted in the first ever region-specific ecosystem service assessment across Europe, communicated through high-level publications, an intensive stakeholder dialogue and five summer schools for young experts in the field (the last three for the EU Network of Excellence ALTER-Net).

He is a contributor in many roles to the IPCC (which received the Peace Nobel Prize 2007) and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. He is on the Science Committee of DIVERSITAS, is chief editor of the Springer journal *Regional Environmental Change*, and editorial board members of several other scientific journals.

<http://www.pik-potsdam.de/members/cramer/biosketch.html>