

*The Netherlands Institute for Academic Studies in Damascus (NIASD)
has the pleasure to invite you to the lecture:*

“The Human Factor in Climate Change”

- by dr. Rob van Dorland -



Rob van Dorland is a senior scientist at the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI) in the Climate Services section. He graduated in meteorology at Utrecht University in 1988 and obtained his PhD at the same university in 1999. He is strongly involved in the global warming problem and besides climate research he informs Dutch policy makers, non-governmental organizations as well

as the public on issues of climate change. Amongst other positions, Dr. Van Dorland was also involved as a lead author in the fourth assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) working group I.



Tuesday 9th November 2010, 19H00 at the NIASD

In the last two centuries rapid population growth and technological developments caused an immense increase of the atmospheric CO₂ level. Besides the effects of human activities the climate is ever changing due to natural factors such as solar and volcanic activity. A further increase in atmospheric greenhouse gases would induce changes in the 21st century global climate system, which are very likely larger than those observed during the 20th century. The projected rise in temperature is 1.1 to 6.4 degrees in 2100 relative to 1990.



Policymakers demand specific information in order to take adaptation measures, even though the scientific research leaves us with uncertainties. In the Netherlands and some other countries regional climate scenarios for the 21st century are being used. How did we tackle the challenges of calculating these climate scenarios? What are the uncertainties and what are the present insights for the Middle Eastern region? Various methods are being used for regional scenarios and in dr. Van Dorland's opinion we could learn from each other's approaches.

Language: English – with Arabic translation
Location: Bldg 85, Al Farabi St., East Mezzeh, Damascus.
Time: 19H00
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