

Title: The Global Change Assessment Model (GCAM)

Author: Jae Edmonds for the GCAM team

The Global Change Assessment Model (GCAM) is an integrated assessment model of climate change. This model has roots that stretch back to the 1970s. However, the model is undergoing an important and dramatic period of transformation in which the scope and capabilities of the model are evolving to meet a new set of issues. GCAM was traditionally strong in its ability to assess the roles of technology and policy in limiting anthropogenic climate forcing. The model is evolving in order to better assess the consequences of climate change for energy and other human systems at a variety of spatial and temporal scales, to better represent the biogeophysical and biogeochemical processes, to assess the interactions of energy water and land systems as they evolve to meet the twin challenges of adaptation to climate change and emissions mitigation. This presentation reviews recent developments in the GCAM.