Current status and future plans of CAWSES-II

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ICSU-SCOSTEP which promoted the STEP program (1990-1997) and the S-RAMP program (STEP-Results, Applications and Modeling Phase, 1998-2002) carried out the first international collaborative research project on CAWSES (Climate And Weather of the Sun-Earth System, 2004-2008) which examined space weather and space climate of sun-earth system in the twenty-first century. ICSU-SCOSTEP successively established an international program of the CAWSES-II (2009-2013) with an aim of significantly enhancing our understanding of the space environment and its impacts on life and society. The main functions of CAWSES-II are to help coordinate international activities in observations, modeling, and applications crucial to achieving this understanding, to involve scientists in both developed and developing countries, and to provide educational opportunities for students of all levels.

CAWSES-II is organized by the following four Task Groups and other two Fundamental Groups.

TG1. What are the solar influences on climate?
TG2. How will geospace respond to an altered climate?
TG3. How does short-term solar variability affect the geospace environment?
TG4. What is the geospace response to variable inputs from the lower atmosphere?
G5. Capacity building
G6. Escience and informatics (Virtual Institute)

Japanese SCOSTEP Committee decided the domestic leaders and members each of the 6 groups, many ground-based and satellite observations and modeling/simulation projects are energetically going on to study the proposed questions. We review the current status of many observational and modeling/simulation projects and discuss next plans for collaboration among research groups. International CAWSES-II Symposium is planed to be held in 2013, in Nagoya Japan to summarize CAWSES-II achievements and to discuss future directions. We will discuss more concrete plan of the symposium.

Keywords: CAWSES-II, space weather, space climate, current status, future plan, SCOSTEP