Report to ARCNESS following Funding Support (please specify):

☐ Short Scientific Visit/s;
☐ Software/algorithm Development;
☐ Data set compilation;
☐ Travel support/conference attendance.

Name, institution, contact details, email address, status (staff/student):

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Project/Conference title:

European Geosciences Union (EGU)
General Assembly 2008
Vienna, Austria, 13 - 18 April 2008
Note: This included an oral presentation and two separate meetings with Dr. Wouter Lefebvre (Universite Catholique de Louvain, Belgium) and Dr. Alberto Naveira Garabato (University of Southampton, UK).

Project/Conference website address:
http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2008/

Conference papers are available from (website):

Node or nodes to which this applies:
Oceans, Atmosphere, Physical Impacts
Project/Conference description/What were the key outcomes?

The EGU General Assembly is an international conference bringing together scientists from all over the world in all fields of geosciences. My attendance at the conference was an invaluable opportunity for me to network with experts in the field of climate-ocean dynamics. It was certainly an opportunity to meet scientists whom I had never previously met in person. These include Dr Alberto Naveira Garabato (recipient of the EGU 2008 Outstanding Young Scientist Award) from University of Southampton (UK) and Dr Wouter Lefebvre from Universite Catholique de Louvain (Belgium) whom I had made meeting appointments with prior to my departure to the conference. Dr Alberto Naveira Garabato is an expert in Southern Ocean water masses. Dr Lefebvre is known for his work on changes around Antarctica.

My discussion with Dr Naveira Garabato concluded with an experimental study on changes in Antarctic Bottom Water that I certainly look forward to follow up in collaboration with him. My meeting with Dr Lefebvre cleared up a few things on my current collaborative project within my research group.

Another purpose of my travel to the EGU General Assembly was to present a conference paper in an oral presentation (the abstract can be viewed at http://www.cosis.net/abstracts/EGU2008/00613/EGU2008-A-00613.pdf). I found this was a good way to expose my research work to a wide international audience in an interactive setting and to improve my communication skills. I also learned and gained ideas about Southern Ocean and ENSO studies by attending various oral and poster sessions. In particular, many discussions with other scientists took place during the poster sessions which involved exchanges of ideas and contacts. This aspect of the conference in particular would enhance my future research undertakings.

The EGU General Assembly 2008 was my first international conference held outside Australia. It was indeed a precious experience for me as an early-career climate scientist in terms of career and personal development. I would like to gratefully acknowledge ARCNESS for covering the cost of my airfare for this travel.

How did this project/conference enhance the Network and support the ESS community?

The conference attendance benefits the Network and ESS community in the following ways:

1. by enhancing the modelling capacity of the Network, in particular the Ocean node, through discussions that will result from my presentation which is on a modelling study of Antarctic Bottom Water, as well as through meetings with Dr. Wouter Lefebvre and Dr. Alberto Naveira Garabato.

2. by enhancing my capacity as a scientist through networking and international exposure of research work, as well as through collection ideas that may form a basis for future research. This will enhance the capacity of the ESS community.

3. by encouraging collection and exchanges of ideas that may eventually lead to collaborations between Australian and overseas institutes.