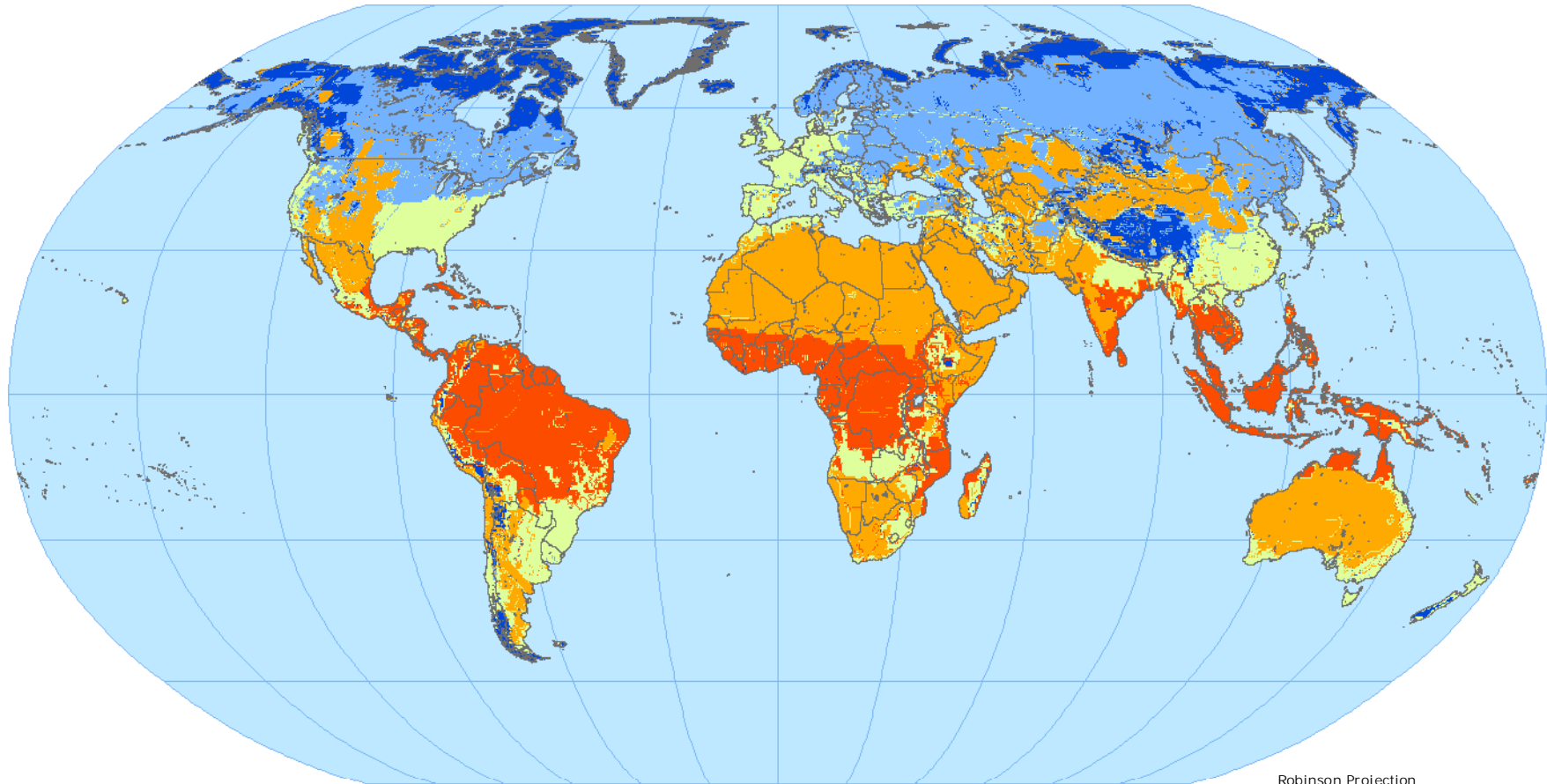


# Climate Zones

Global



**Generalized Climate Zones:**

- Tropical
- Dry/Desert
- Temperate
- Cold
- Polar/Tundra

Climate zones were taken from the Köppen Climate Classification map of the world, distributed by the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Sustainable Development Agrometeorology Group (February 2006). The classification system is based on annual and monthly averages of temperature and precipitation ranges. Map data were received by CIESIN as .5 degree grids, in Geographic projection and resampled to match the extent and resolution of GPWv3 (2.5 arc-minute). The 46 global classes possess membership to 5 super classes, based on general annual distributions of temperature and rainfall. Tropical systems are coded as "A", Dry systems as "B", Temperate systems "C", Cold systems as "D" and Polar systems as "E". Each of these 5 main classes contains combinations of two levels of subclass identifiers, based on seasonality, precipitation and temperature patterns. For more information see FAO's Sustainable Development (SD) Dimensions web site. Source Information: FAO's Sustainable Development Department (SD) - 2006. Global Climate Maps. Köeppen Climate Classification Map. <http://www.fao.org/sd/EIdirect/climate/EIsp0002.htm>.



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Columbia University, Population, Landscape, and Climate Estimates (PLACE).  
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