EMS Annual Meeting Abstracts
Vol. 7, EMS2010-528, 2010
10th EMS / 8th ECAC
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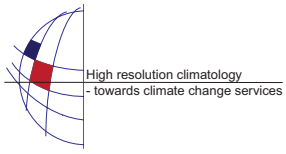

Metadata in Climatology: its reconstruction and digitization

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Long-time series of meteorological data is of a great importance for climate analysis and regional climate change assessment, archive of metadata is in these processes very important. Metadata gained on the importance in the analysing the climate variability on Environmental Agency of the Republic of Slovenia (ARSO) in the last decade.

Intensive reconstruction and digitization of metadata on ARSO started with an INTERREG project called Foralps. ARSO has positive experience with the project, achieving good results in metadata reconstruction and digitization. After the Foralps project collected metadata is managed in both paper and digital archives. Digital archive of metadata is still forming because metadata is very specific and the goal is that digital archive would contain the same data as paper archive of metadata.
The activities of reconstruction, digitization of metadata on ARSO are still running in a project, called Podnebna spremenljivost v Sloveniji - Climate variability in Slovenia, dealing with systematically reconstruction and digitization of metadata from 1961 on. For the project 339 meteorological stations are chosen and metadata for them is in the phase of recovering as detailed as possible, gathering and digitizing. For recovering and reconstruction of metadata, all documentation of meteorological station and observing site (sketches, photos, descriptions of site), meteorological logbooks, old records of meteorological stations, old articles and all possible sources are checked out and gathered. For specialised information of the historic charts, plans etc. some other institutions are contacted. Older meteorological observers are often good source of information.

The aim of reconstruction and digitization of metadata is to build complete and identical paper as well as digital archive of metadata for the chosen meteorological stations and to complete both of the archives with updated metadata in the future. The next step is to recover and digitize metadata for all meteorological stations for the whole period of their operation