



Operational summer outlooks developed from 6-week forecasts in CLIPS

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In the CLIPS project (Climate services supporting Public activities and Safety), novel climate impact outlooks are developed for the Finnish public. For summer season, the designed new outlooks are 1) probability of sultry heat spell, 2) conditions for growing season, 3) probability of forest fire risk, 4) risk of thunderstorms on outdoor activities, 5) outlook for blue algae growth conditions and 6) outlook for beach weather. Each of these 6-week forecast products provide a weekly outlook to increase preparedness to upcoming weather type changes. The user-driven products are based on the ensemble extended forecast data sets that are run twice a week and available up to 46 days ahead by the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF).

Visualizing and communicating the forecasts in a user-friendly, understandable way for the citizens is one major part of the CLIPS service development. The best visualization designs for each product are enquired in the CLIPS survey. As part of the CLIPS Living Lab experiment, we first focus on comparing the views of the summer product piloting group members to those who during the summer only use the current available weather and climate services. Those volunteering for the piloting group will have an opportunity to give real time feedback to the CLIPS team to be analysed every week. Those who are not using are giving their feedback to the weather and climate service regarding the current services. These analyses will feed on to further development of the service.

At EMS, right after the summer piloting period, the latest news and analyses will be shared with the EMS audience. The piloting time period for the summer products will be from June to August 2017 and therefore, also the feedback from the piloting group can be included and the evaluation of the products presented.