



What's new in the European Climate Assessment & Dataset (ECA&D)?

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Studying climate variability and change relies on the availability of a quality controlled climate dataset. Within the European Climate Assessment & Dataset project (ECA&D) an observations dataset has been compiled for a large area, including Europe, northern Africa and the Middle East. ECA&D started in 1998, and between 2003 and 2008 the project has been partially funded by EUMETNET. From 2009 onwards, KNMI has committed itself to fund ECA&D. The database contains daily station data for over 3000 stations, and this number is continuously increasing. Recently, ECA&D has been designated as Regional Climate Centre (RCC) for WMO Region VI (Europe and the Middle East). RCCs are Centres of Excellence that assist WMO members in a given region to deliver better climate services and products, and to strengthen their capacity to meet national climate information needs. ECA&D provides such RCC-services for daily station data and extremes indices data. In recent years ECA&D has expanded, and new tools and information have become available. The number of climate variables has increased from 9 to 12. The website offers possibilities to monitor and analyse changes in weather and climate extremes. For example, maps showing return values and fact sheets of extreme events have been added as well as more detailed metadata. Here we would like to show some examples of the new additions to the ECA&D database and website.