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User preferences for the presentation of uncertainties on web platforms for climate change information

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Information on climate change and climate change impacts is important for adaptation and mitigation decisions. An increasing number of web-based platforms such as cigrasp present such information. Multiple methods are used to present the related uncertainty and no standards have developed so far. In our contribution, we introduce the important sources of uncertainties in climate impact science and how they are treated. Existing approaches to the presentation of uncertain climate information on web platforms with a focus on spatial representations are discussed. We also present recommendations from a number of studies along with results about user preferences from an internet survey among climate scientists and administrative professionals.

Our results show that both the preferences and the performance of users change depending on the professional background. While this means careful adjustment of the presentation for the target audience for paper publications, we recommend to provide a number of uncertainty presentation methods for internet platforms.