



Climate services communication and user interface in Germany - Experiences of the German Meteorological Service (DWD)

Tobias Fuchs, Klaus-Jürgen Schreiber, and Paul Becker

Deutscher Wetterdienst, Business Area Climate and Environment, Offenbach, Germany (tobias.fuchs@dwd.de)

Structured interaction of climate researchers, climate service providers, and operational users via a user interface platform is an important component for the success of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), whose implementation has been approved by the World Meteorological Congress from 29 until 31 October 2012 in Geneva.

The development of suitable climate change adaptation measures requires intensive advisory activity. In Germany the user communication and consultancy concerning climate change information is quite diverse because climate research is a responsibility of institutions on federal, state and municipal level, as well as of scientific institutions.

The German Meteorological Service DWD has a long term experience in interaction with users from research as well as from operational institution side. Traditional interaction with users is based on in kind meetings, as well as on exchange via phone/mail/fax. The organisational structure of DWD with regional offices (regional climate bureaus) in different German regions enables the close interaction – often backed by formal cooperation agreements - with regional research entities as well as with operational user institutions on federal, state (Laender), and municipal level responsible for adaptation to climate change.

Recently a new user interaction tool has been developed and implemented by DWD: The German climate portal (<http://www.deutschesklimaportal.de/EN/>) provides climate research results of many German institutions, which are responsible for climate adaptation in different economic sectors and on different regional levels. This user specific information portal supports networking and policy decisions with regard to climate change adaptation and sustainable development. A new component of the portal is a tool for moderated discussion between information users and providers on specific topics.

The German climate portal will be further developed. Objective is to include all relevant German institutions responsible for climate change adaptation.

Examples and experiences of climate services communication by the German national meteorological service will be presented.