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DRIAS project: A component of French Climate Services

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DRIAS (Providing access to French Regionalized climate scenarios for the Impact and the Adaptation of our Societies and environment) is a 2 years project, funded by the GICC (Management and Impacts of Climate Change) programme of the French Ministery of Ecology and Sustainable Development. Its aim is to provide regionalized climate simulations, data and products performed by French climate modeling, as well as to support users of these informations. In addition to numerical data, the project aims to make available probabilistic products, allowing the user to apprehend and take into account in studies the uncertainty inherent in modeling. From a technical perspective, the challenge will be to provide standardized informations between different producers. The combined accompaniment should be under different forms (metadata, hotline, training, forum), which will allow optimal use of products supplied.

DRIAS gathers different partners and expertises. Its composed by representatives of French laboratories in which regionalized numerical simulations are produced: IPSL, CERFACS, and CNRM. The project is coordonned by the Climatology Departement of Météo-France which will provide expertise in the production and tools of availability of climatological data, acquired through the development of an existing data service access called Climathèque (http://climatheque.meteo.fr). In addition, a multidisciplinary committee of users representing different sectors concerned by climate change and different kind of structures (public, parapublic, private, association) accompanies the project. Its role is to express needs, validate the choices made, do tests... and thus facilitate communication between producers and users.

Thus, the DRIAS project participates in the development effort of French Climate Services. The aim of this work is to present and introduce these key aspects.