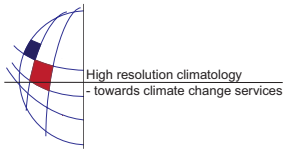
EMS Annual Meeting Abstracts
Vol. 7, EMS2010-706, 2010
10th EMS / 8th ECAC
© Author(s) 2010



The Climate Data Centre of Deutscher Wetterdienst (DWD)

F. Kaspar, K.-J. Schreiber, and J. Behrendt

Deutscher Wetterdienst, Frankfurter Str. 135, 63067 Offenbach, Germany (frank.kaspar@dwd.de)

In 2009 the German meteorological service (Deutscher Wetterdienst, DWD) has started to set up a Climate Data Centre (CDC) in order to provide unified access to its variety of climate data especially to users from research, educational and public institutions. CDC acts as a central point of contact to various data collections of DWD. These include observations from German weather stations and DWD's observatories, special data as e.g. from hydroclimatology, agro-climatology and medical climatology, but also from international activities of DWD, such as the Global Precipitation Climatology Center (GPCC), EUMETSAT's Satellite Application Facility on Climate Monitoring (CM-SAF) or marine climatological data (ship and buoy observations) of the Global Collecting Centre for Marine Climatological Data.

Data are based on conventional surface observations over land and ocean as well as on various remote sensing methods, such as satellite observation. The major part consists of climate data from the past, but CDC will also include results from scenario calculations and projections for the future. In addition to pure observational data, CDC offers derived statistical parameters and spatial analyses as gridded datasets.

As first step, a central data catalogue provides standardised descriptions and information on data access. It follows national and international rules for the description of geo-referenced data (GDI-DE; INSPIRE). The individual data providers of DWD can use the catalogue to easily edit and publish their metadata in a unified way. These metadata contain information on data access, data policy, data quality, spatial and temporal coverage, responsible persons, etc.

The catalogue is based on an open source software product (geonetwork-opensource) that is also used by a large number of international organizations. Metadata can be exchanged (harvested) between these catalogues. This will allow implementing a structure that provides search capabilities over institutions. The software also allows implementing web-based mapping services and group-specific data access policies.