



HIST-EU - a dataset of European relevance, a database to enable long-term climate variability studies on regional scale

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Instrumental time series of different climate elements are an important requisite for climate and climate impact studies. Long-term time series can improve our understanding of climate change during the instrumental period. During recent decades a number of national and international initiatives in European countries have significantly increased the number of existing long-term instrumental series; however a publically available data base covering Europe has not been created so far. For the “Greater Alpine Region” (4-19 deg E, 43-49 deg N, 0-3500m asl) the HISTALP data base has been established consisting of monthly homogenised temperature, pressure, precipitation, sunshine and cloudiness records. The data set may be described as follows:

Long-term (fully exploiting the potential of systematically measured data).

dense (network density adequate in respect to the spatial coherence of the given climate element)

quality improved (outliers removed, gaps filled)

homogenised (earlier sections adjusted to the recent state of the measuring site)

multiple (covering more than one climate element)

user friendly (well described and kept in different modes for different applications)

HIST-EU is intended to be a data set of European relevance allowing studying climate variability on regional scale. It focuses on data collection, data recovery and rescue, and homogenizing. HIST-EU will use the infrastructure of HISTALP (www.zamg.ac.at/histalp) and will allow free or restricted data access due to the regulations of data providers. HIST-EU will be carried out under the umbrella of ECSN/EUMETNET.