



The challenges of developing stakeholder-led climate services - Mediterranean case-study examples from the CLIM-RUN project

C.M. Goodess and the CLIM-RUN Climate Expert Team and Stakeholder Expert Team
University of East Anglia, Climatic Research Unit, Norwich, United Kingdom (c.goodess@uea.ac.uk)

Mediterranean case studies are central to the CLIM-RUN project's goal of developing stakeholder-led climate services and provide a real-world context for bringing together experts on the demand and supply side of climate services. The case studies focus on the energy and tourism sectors, but also include a cross-cutting study on wild fires as well as a cross-sectoral integrated case study for the Venice lagoon. The first year of CLIM-RUN work focused on two key questions: (i) how to identify user needs, and (ii) how to initiate and maintain/develop stakeholder involvement? A perception and data needs questionnaire together with a series of local workshops were the principal mechanisms for identifying 'who' the stakeholders are and 'what' they want. The information obtained has been 'translated' into more clearly specified products and outputs based on observed and simulated climate data. This task was undertaken by the Climate Expert Team working closely with the Stakeholder Expert Team. As examples of climate service products are produced – initially based on existing outputs and then on new modelling runs – they provide the basis for ongoing iterative consultation and collaboration with stakeholders. As well as the scientific challenges of providing robust and reliable material at appropriate temporal and spatial scales covering the diverse needs across the different sectors and case studies considered, broader challenges include addressing the differences in stakeholder motivation, expertise and engagement. Other communication challenges include how to demonstrate the value of climate services and to explain and represent the different uncertainties associated with seasonal forecasting, decadal prediction and climate change projections. The practical experience of the case-study approach is being used to develop a more generic protocol for climate services development, and a Climate User Interface prototype.