



Climate Information Services in Bulgaria

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In Bulgaria, the end users of meteorological and climatological data and information usually submit application forms at the National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (NIMH-BAS). Generally the application forms are submitted as hard copies directly at the Institute. In most cases the applicants have some difficulties filing in the respective forms due to their different and specific needs as well as expectations on the services they will obtain at the Institute. That is why, they would need assistance from the NIMH staff in order to correctly explain their needs and formulate in an appropriate way their requirements. The subject of this study is to evaluate the elaborated and delivered by NIMH - BAS meteorological and climatological data and information, according to the user applications implemented in the Department of Meteorology, submitted from 1993 to 2009. The data from the period 1993 – 2009 is compared to the one from 2000 to 2009. This data indicates variations during the relevant years of interest as well as at the customer sectors. Analysis of climate services involves the application of various information for meteorological and climatological data. The results for period 2000 – 2009 indicate an increasing of application from different sector – economic and public spheres. Main classes of climate information are for completely agrometeorological or meteorological characteristics. The climate elements mostly requested at the NIMH-BAS are as follow: precipitation, air temperature, solar radiation and wind. The analysis also shows a significant increase of meteorological data demanded by private and non-governmental customers and users. The increased interest from such sectors as agriculture, building and constructions, media (newspapers, TV, radio), etc. is also due to the professional and expert work demonstrated during the last years by the staff of the Department of Meteorology, NIMH-BAS. In the near future it is expected to considerably reduce the duration of the process from submitting application forms to the final delivery of meteorological and climatological information and data.

Key words: meteorological information, climate services, user's application