



NORDHOM - Nordic collaboration on establishing long-term homogeneous climate data records

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High-quality instrumental climate records are crucial for analysis of climate variability. Long-term climate series are however often affected by inhomogeneities (artificial shifts) due to changes in measurement conditions (relocations, instrumentation, change in environment, etc.). To deal with this problem homogenization procedures have been developed for detecting and adjusting inhomogeneities.

The climate services at the Nordic NMHSs have a long profound tradition in cooperation on activities of common interest. One successful activity within this collaboration was establishing the North Atlantic Climatological Dataset (NACD) in the 1990s. The NACD data set (1890-) was later continued as the Nordic Climate Dataset (NkDS).

Since the mid-1990s there have been little systematic homogenization efforts at the Nordic NMHSs. At an expert meeting within the “Nordic Framework for Climate services (NFCS)” last year, national plans and a possible Nordic collaboration applying common homogenization tools were discussed. The conclusion was that the national activities would profit from a Nordic cooperation, and it was agreed to establish a NFCS-project NORDHOM: “Nordic collaboration on long-term homogeneous climate data records”. The coming activities in NORDHOM are to establish common methods for homogeneity testing and adjustment for inhomogeneities, homogenize long Nordic temperature and precipitation series, and update the Nordic Climate Dataset.