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Enhancing climate data availability over southern and eastern Mediterranean countries: the EURO4M and MEDARE joint-approach

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Under the EU-funded EUropean Reanalysis and Observations for Monitoring (EURO4M) project, linked to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) MEditerranean DAta REscue (MEDARE) Initiative, old temperature and precipitation (air pressure) observations taken at about 60 (30) southern and eastern Mediterranean locations have been rescued and high-quality developed. This contribution is aimed at providing the whole array of procedures undertaken for locating, digitising and merging the past data with their recent observations in order to extend further back in time currently available climatic records over this data-sparse region. Details on physical and on-line sources for ancient observations and their potential will be provided, along with the activities carried out to ensure coordination with other parent Data Rescue (DARE) activities and avoid duplication. Information on the amount of digitised daily values for maximum (Tx) and minimum (Tn) temperatures and precipitation (RR) series and hourly values for surface air pressure (SLP) will be provided. In addition, the double strategy followed in order to identify and avoid non-systematic biases in the digitised time-series will be shown, along with the description and results of the application of a battery of Quality Controls (QC) based on the automated procedure of RClimDex and an extra-QC, including new quality tests integrated in that platform.