



Data rescue of SE/E Asian meteorological records and the Japan-Asia Climate Data Program (JCDP)

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Imaging and digitization of old paper-based instrumental meteorological records must be carried out before these records are lost to decay. This kind of activity called “data rescue” is now taking place at many institutions all over the world. In Japan, we also have been working on data rescue for Southeast and East Asian instrumental meteorological records. For Japan and China, records mainly include the 19th century before the founding of official meteorological observations. For other countries such as Indonesia and Vietnam, the records include the 19th and 20th centuries up to World War II.

After rescuing the data, it is also crucial to share the data, so we are setting up a website called the “Japan-Asia Climate Data Program” to distribute the data. Besides the instrumental records, datasets of weather descriptions collected from Japanese historical documents will also be included and made available to the public. We hope that our activities will help stimulate research on past climate reconstructions using this type of data.