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Users' engagement in climate service development: the case of EUPORIAS

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EUPORIAS is a collaborative project funded by the European Commission to support the development of climate services in Europe. The main outcome of the project will be the delivery of five semi-operational prototypes of climate services operating on seasonal time-scales and addressing the needs of specific decision-makers. Here we present an overview of the selection process for the prototypes as well as discussing the approach followed by the research in assessing users' needs from the project's outset and the importance of co-development of the services.

Four out of the five prototypes selected are Europe-focused services and cover the transport, agriculture, energy and water sectors (more information on the prototypes can be found on the EUPORIAS website http://www.euporias.eu/prototypes). The fifth prototype is extra-European and is considering food security in Ethiopia. This project hopes to demonstrate that climate information can be made more actionable by directly addressing users' needs in both the development and delivery of climate services and that processes developed are applicable in all regions and widely shared.