EMS Annual Meeting Abstracts
Vol. 11, EMS2014-665-1, 2014
14th EMS / 10th ECAC


# From consultation to co-production - the integration of user needs in the development of climate science

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Successive European framework research programmes on climate reflect the growing emphasis on user needs and perspectives. This change of focus is demonstrated today in the Horizon 2020 research topics and the sessions and abstracts of this EMS/ECAC meeting with its overall theme of creating climate services through partnerships. In a number of respects, Europe has led the way. In terms of regional climate modelling for example, the ENSEMBLES project moved away from end-of-century snapshot simulations to transient simulations for the next few decades in response to feedback from users on earlier projects. ENSEMBLES helped to prepare the ground for the major international CORDEX initiative. Having successfully generated Terabytes of new data, CORDEX is now striving to ensure that this output is available and accessible to the user community. The World Climate Research Programme's Working Group on Regional Climate (WGRC) is helping in this wider process. Another major development over the last few years is the work on seasonal forecasting and decadal prediction, which is now showing greater potential for Europe as a result. Again, these developments have been stimulated by user demands for information on such timescales and projects such as EUPORIAS emphasise links with user communities. The emerging climate services community in Europe is multi-fold and complex. Work undertaken in a number of these projects and programmes indicates that users, their decision-making contexts and their needs are also complex. At the same time, co-production of knowledge with users is emerging as an aspiration, for the WGRC for example. Yet there are currently few if any examples of this happening in practice. If the climate science community is serious in these aspirations, there are many challenges to be faced, while at the same time recognising the value of disciplinary and fundamental underlying science.