The ERA-CLIM2 Global Registry: a new metadatabase for historical data

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The ERA-CLIM2 Global Registry contains the metadata details of the historical in situ upper air, surface and maritime datasets gathered in the ongoing FP7 project ERA-CLIM2, whose ultimate goal is to construct the ECMWF 20th century reanalyses. It includes information on the type of ECVs, periodicity, state of rescue, Quality Control and homogenization, as well as the source and contact to obtain the data. Several crossed choices can be performed, such as by country, period, type of ECV, (lat, lon) window and obtain a list of corresponding stations or entries. It is also possible to geographically plot the selected entries. At the moment the Registry contains the ISPDv4 inventory and is in the process of incorporating other inventories, such as the ISTI and ACRE stations list. The main purpose is to include as many inventories of rescued or to be rescued data as possible, in order to concentrate the information on the availability and condition of the datasets in one place. For that, we plan to couple this Registry with the I-DARE portal, which lists some of the current DARE initiatives taking place around the Globe. Potential data rescuers can use the combined portals to avoid duplication of efforts. The Registry is online at eraclim-global-registry.fc.ul.pt and is maintained and developed by FFCUL, Lisbon, Portugal. The C3S can benefit highly from having a centralized place where the information on the in-situ historical data is contained and updated, as a support service for the reanalyses and for climate change studies. The assimilation of in-situ data is the basis for the reanalyses before the satellite era, and long term climate studies are only possible if century spanning observed data series can be used. Also the knowledge of the potential availability of past data can influence the plans for future reanalyses.