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An overview to data rescue activities

Ingeborg Auer and Barbara Chimani
Zentralanstalt für Meteorologie und Geodynamik, Klimaforschung, Wien, Austria (barbara.chimani@zamg.ac.at)

Long-term datasets are of great importance for climate research. They allow describing past climate variability highly resolved in space and time, are important for re-analyses and model evaluation. Especially early instrumental series are the connecting link to the paleoclimatic community. In Europe there is a quite good data coverage since the 1960ies, however to capture the full climate variability including extremes the time series are often too short and its spatial density does not allow to capture small scale events. Although a considerable part of long-term series has already been digitized and made available, there are still millions of data to be recovered and rescued. Due to a number of completed or running activities (http://www.climatol.eu/DARE) the number of digital available data has been increasing continuously, however an extended overview has not been made available so far. To get a rough overview on the current situation a questionnaire has been developed and distributed among National Meteorological Services within RA VI. As an output tables containing information about already digitized and data waiting to be rescued have been put on the web: https://www.zamg.ac.at/dare/. Filling of tables is an ongoing process and is performed country by country and updated every year. The updates demonstrate that the amount of available digital data is growing from year to year, but differs from country to country considerably. Recently a “lost and found activity” has been introduced into the website facilitating retrieving data of stations which for political reasons in the past have been situated in another country. EU-DARE is contributing to the European climate services by providing an extended inventory of digitized and non-digitized climate data, focusing on centennial or even longer daily data, long-term mountain stations of at least 50 years and data in sparse regions.