



Monitoring of drought impacts and the DriDanube project (Tromp Foundation Travel Award)

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Drought monitoring seems to be a crucial tool for adaptation on climate change in many regions. In the recent years, there has been efforts to establish drought monitoring system on national, or international level. But besides the monitoring of drought occurrence and intensity, it is also important to know, how drought impacts different sectors in operational way. Therefore, the Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute joined the soil drought monitoring (Intersucho) in 2015 and has co-operated within the project DriDanube since 2017. The drought impacts monitoring is an integral part of both projects. It is based on the voluntary expert assessment in the form of short weekly online report. This type of drought impacts has worked well in the Czech Republic since 2014 and it was launched in Slovakia in summer 2017. Since then, several seminars with experts from praxis have been held and co-operation with the key stakeholders ensured increasing number of reporters. In March 2018, 45 reporters from 30 districts (NUTS4) were involved in the Slovak national reporting network. In return for the reporting, the reports have special access to the forecast of precipitation, maximum and minimum daily temperature for chosen area. Their reports are fully voluntary (in the sense of loans/subventions), which enlarge the sustainability of the monitoring and involves general public into drought management. This is also one of the aims of the DriDanube project (Interreg DTP). Similar reporting networks should be established in each partner country (10 countries within the Danube Region) in the frame of the project. The final map of drought impacts on agriculture and forestry is weekly updated and it is freely accessible for general public. This system should inform about relevant information about drought impacts in very short time, which could help the farmers, but also policy makers to mitigate final drought impacts and to provide sustainable drought management.