



Developing and providing high quality climate information for the agricultural sector

Stefanie Gubler (1), Katrin Sedlmeier (1), Noemi Imfeld (1), Christoph Spirig (1), Karim Quevedo (2), Grinia Avalos (2), Thomas Konzelmann (1), and Cornelia Schwierz (1)

(1) Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology MeteoSwiss, Zürich, Switzerland, (2) Servicio Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología del Perú SENAMHI, Lima, Perú

The agricultural sector strongly depends on climatic conditions during the growing season and can therefore highly profit from climate information. However, in order to create benefits, the information needs to be reliable and relate to the needs of the targeted users.

The Climandes project is a twinning project between the Peruvian National Meteorological and Hydrological Service (SENAMHI) and the Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology of Switzerland (MeteoSwiss) and aims at elaborating climate services for the agricultural sector of the Peruvian Andes as well as developing further already existing products at SENAMHI. The technical activities of Climandes can roughly be summarized in five main topics:

- Establish a set of high quality observational datasets as a basis for all climate services. This includes quality control, data homogenization, generating gridded observational datasets for temperature and precipitation as well as evaluating current reanalysis.
- Develop, analyze the climatology and monitor indices tailored to the users' needs according to user surveys conducted within the project and expert judgement
- Create a ready-to-use suite of automated analysis and plotting tools (R package) to support local staff in the monitoring, verification and dissemination of the climate information
- Assess skill of statistical (CPT) and dynamical (ECMWF) seasonal forecasts in the Andean region for mean variables as well as user tailored indices
- Set up a prototype seasonal forecast system for the pilot regions
- Disseminate the results through publications and workshops

This contribution will highlight some of the activities and results of the project but also address challenges, especially concerning data availability and quality.