



Developing National Climate Services in Ireland

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Due to a legal requirement, each of the primary climate dependent sectors of Ireland including energy, agriculture, water & health among others, are required to produce climate adaptation plans. These sectors require specific climate services and associated information to develop these plans.

One of the primary goals of Met Éireann's new long term strategy is the improved provision of climate services, particularly related to future forecast projections. It is natural for Met Éireann to further this goal now, while all national sectors are engaged in climate sensitive infrastructural planning.

There are however, many authoritative climate voices in Ireland. These include academic institutes, government agencies as well as third party contractors. As each are providing their own tailored advice and services, this has at times lead to confusion related to appropriate timescales, spatial resolutions and emission scenarios, as well as general methodologies.

Based on this, while working with all local climate service providers, Met Éireann are attempting to establish an agreed National Climate Service Framework, closely guided by the Global Framework for Climate Services, relevant guidelines from WMO Technical Commissions, and European climate service best practices.

Met Éireann aims to blend existing EU initiatives such as Euro-CORDEX and EC-Earth, along with downscaled Irish high resolution climate reanalysis and climate projections. The difficulties of hosting these big data sets with user download facilities are examined. The advantages and disadvantages of using the Copernicus Climate Data Store for the provision of these national services are also considered.

Examples of identifying stakeholder needs, prioritising these developments and attempts at the standardisation of climate services in Ireland are presented.