



ISIpedia, the open-access climate-impacts encyclopedia: An example of co-development of climate services by impact modellers and stakeholders

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Scientific knowledge about the current and future impacts of climate change worldwide has significantly increased over the recent years. The scientific community-driven Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project (ISIMIP), launched in 2012 with the participation of over 100 impact models to date, has uniquely contributed to this advancement. As part of the EU-funded ERA4CS initiative, the 3-year ISIpedia project that was launched in September 2017 aims to make the scientific information created within ISIMIP widely available and understandable to practitioners, by co-constructing climate services adapted to their needs.

Specifically, with its launch in September 2020, ISIpedia will be an open-access website delivering reports on the impacts of climate change for each country and global summaries of these impacts for specific (sectoral or cross-sectoral) topics. During its development phase, focus is laid on West Africa and Eastern Europe, where a dedicated stakeholder engagement process has taken place to involve future users in ISIpedia's development. The stakeholder engagement process encompasses a (1) an online stakeholder survey, (2) capacity-building workshops, and (3) feedback webinars.

In Spring 2018, a survey was conducted worldwide with a particular focus on West Africa and Eastern Europe in order to understand current and potential use of climate-impact information, existing barriers to its uptake and resulting specific needs. Its conclusions were complemented by comparing them with those of another survey with similar aims, but conducted in Senegal within another project (CLIMAP).

Stakeholder workshops were organized in both West Africa and Eastern Europe, and additional ones are currently planned in these regions. Through the workshops, representatives from national governments, NGOs or private companies, 1) take part in capacity-building activities designed to increase literacy about the impacts of climate change among the community of future users, and 2) work in small groups to assess existing climate-impact information and to identify relevant indicators. Ultimately, this process will provide a better idea of how the project feeds into the existing institutional structure and ecosystem of climate services.

Additionally, webinars will be organized to collect feedback from future ISIpedia users on its draft versions, so that they can influence how the website is designed, how the information is presented and what technicalities are required.

The outcome of all three aspects feed into the process of developing the new ISIpedia portal. The beta-version of ISIpedia will be available in mid-2019, therefore concrete examples of how the co-development between modellers and stakeholders were integrated in the design and content output, as well as lessons learnt from these exchanges, will be presented during the EMS annual meeting.