ERA-NET Cofund for Climate Services

Newsletter fourteenth issue, April 2020
distributed by the JPI Climate Central Secretariat

The 26 projects funded under ERA4CS continue to implement their activities to advance Climate Services in Europe.

Follow the progress of the projects on our website.

Message from the ERA4CS Coordination team

We hope that all projects actors can continue working in this strange period and do not suffer too much from the sanitary crisis.

Twenty-six collaborative research projects reached the last year of implementation of activities and the final results will be delivered in 2021. The coordination recommends that all projects needing a cost-neutral extension request it without delay, as administrative steps to grant these extensions may take time. The latest possible end date remains at present 28 February 2021 for all projects.

Within ERA4CS we are now looking into the future of climate services (CS) and the sustained use of products developed. There is an exchange on the potential set up of a knowledge hub on climate services integrating the knowledge produced in climate services intelligence at the service of stakeholders at all levels. A virtual meeting will be organised on 9-10 June, entitled "Future needs for research on
climate services" to co-design of CS with their users and the needs of the private sector for supporting research and data, tools and product development for CS.

ERA4CS has a major role in supporting the Scoping Forum Process of JPI Climate and will forward its recommendations on co-alignment of national activities and synergies between the climate-relevant JPIs. A series of other workshops are already and will be supported by the ERA4CS project towards the Scoping Forum Symposium in the end of 2020.

The final meeting of ERA4CS projects is currently planned to be a physical meeting in Brussels on 3 December 2020. This meeting will be the opportunity to discuss the procedures for the final assessment of the ERA-Net, identify the key exploitable results of ERA4CS and prepare their communication at the next ECCA conference and in other arenas. Further information will be given in due time, with due regards to the evolution of the sanitary crisis.

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**ERA4CS project news**

### Workshop on establishment of a Knowledge Hub on Carbon Neutrality

The workshop to progress in establishing a Knowledge Hub on Carbon Neutrality took place as a virtual meeting on 18-19 March, supported by the ERA4CS project and hosted by the Research Council of Norway. The objective was to consider the purpose, management, operational structures and supports, including funding models, for a European Knowledge hub on Carbon Neutrality and the Balance of Greenhouse Gas emissions and removals.

47 participants (experts involved in IPCC and other relevant programmes, national funders and stakeholders and the European Commission) discussed on the elements of a provided draft of the establishing document. Besides the common understanding of the usefulness of such a JPI Climate led initiative, valuable input
was gathered to further define the thematic focus and added value of the Knowledge Hub as a contribution to global efforts in achieving carbon neutrality. The comments will serve to deliver an updated document for further discussions. The initially planned closed funders’ session was cancelled due to the virtual setting of the workshop.

Workshop on the operationalisation of the Knowledge Hub on Sea Level Rise

Establishment of a Sea Level Rise Knowledge Hub

22-23 APRIL 2020

The Italian Ministry of University and Research (MIUR) together with the Fondazione Centro Euro-Mediterraneo sui Cambiamenti Climatici (CMCC) and the core group members of the two European Joint Programming Initiatives "Connecting Climate Knowledge for Europe" (JPI Climate) and "Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans" (JPI Oceans) supported by ERA4CS project have organised a workshop on the operationalisation of the Knowledge Hub (KH) on Sea Level Rise.

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak the workshop, which was originally supposed to take place in Bologna (Italy), was held as a video conference on 22-23 April 2020, two-and-a-half hour sessions per day. The first day, which was open to external experts, convened more than 70 participants from 15 European countries. Participation on the second day, which was focused on operational discussions and restricted to the JPI Oceans and JPI Climate members, and the respective funding authorities, saw the active involvement of 44 representatives from 15 countries. The workshop agenda is available here.
The workshop demonstrated the great importance of providing a networking platform to promote research, exchange, synthesis, integration and generation of knowledge on regional and global, historic and future sea level rise to support development and implementation of related policies at local, national and European level.

The KH on Sea Level Rise will facilitate the interaction between research and policy professionals with different disciplinary backgrounds and expertise by assessing and communicating recent scientific and socio-economic developments. The KH will actively contribute to the ongoing debate providing scientific knowledge for the political agenda and public arenas.

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**JPI Climate E-magazine**

The [JPI Climate e-magazine](#) is available with the support of the SINCERE and ERA4CS projects.

This e-magazine is the result of the work developed by SINCERE, in close collaboration with the coordinators from the research projects featured in it, and has the intention to increase the societal impact of these projects, by disseminating their results and achievements in ways that are understandable to lay audiences.

The e-magazine is meant to be a living document and to integrate the results from future research projects funded by JPI Climate. As a living document, we are always looking for suggestions on how to improve it, so please feel free to provide us with feedback on its contents and how these can be improved. We invite you to help us with this by disseminating this e-magazine through your contacts and networks.
All relevant information can be found on the ERA4CS website www.ERA4CS.eu.

ERA4CS funded projects' news

AQUACLEW Workshop for students on climate services

The University of Cordoba (UCO) gave a workshop for students from the University of Granada on climate services (CS) in December. This workshop is part of an experiment carried out across Europe (Germany, Austria, France and Spain), in which engineering students in bachelor and master programmes (agronomic, civil, forestry, geotechnical, hydraulic) act as potential CS users with a similar background knowledge. The experiment assesses the role of previous knowledge in the user’s perception of climate services (CS) and the value of co-development in improving climate data quality in a CS. The experiment compares trained and untrained student groups through an on-line role game experience, in which they become consultants for a day, being hired by a water management authority to
make a decision regarding the management of a lake in a climate change context. Student knowledge is evaluated before and after the experience for both cases, assessing the role of the training. These workshops started last year and will continue during this winter. Initial results will be presented at EGU in May.

This work is led by the University of Cordoba as a partner of the AQUACLEW project (www.aquaclew.eu). In the AQUACLEW project, we investigate how to increase user uptake in a broad community using general information from a web interface, as well as tailored user-specific decision-support in multiple case studies.

INNOVA has released its 5th Emagazine

Taiwan mega-city Kaohsiung: how to beat extreme climate events in a tropical metropole.

One of the five coastal cities under the project Innovation in Climate Services Provision (INNOVA) is Kaohsiung, one of the three larger Taiwan cities in the South of Taiwan. The densely populated city suffers rising temperature and extreme weather events as a result of climate change. Consequences are damage of infrastructure and industrial facilities, problems with environmental hygiene and declined agricultural and fisheries production. To cope with these problems a wide
range of measures has been taken like wetland and mangrove restoration, realising 15 metropolitan style detention basins and establishing green roofs, buildings.

The tropic metropole Kaohsiung already faces a wide variety of disasters. The influence of climate change makes them even more complex.

Full information on the Emagazine can be checked here

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**URCLIM held its 4th General Assembly**

The ERA4CS-funded project URCLIM held its 4th General Assembly in February 2020. Through the two-day meeting, after reviews of current activities and results, a training session about geoclimate chain, which created urban maps for atmospheric models, has been organised by our partners from CNRS.

The aim was to enable our European consortium to run geoclimate chain visualisation on our own computer from OpenStreetMap data on the territory of our choice. Our partner from Meteo Romania was particularly interested in this method applied to Bucharest. From this meeting, we also paid attention to open access issues and we are all committed in doing our best to make our URCLIM related papers more accessible! You can already find some papers on the “Research papers” website’s section. More recent and less recent papers will be openly published soon.

Last but not least, another point, less technical but not less important, was the amendment of the project! During the GA4, the extension of the project duration has been discussed. The General Assembly unanimously voted for a six-month extension of the project.

Stay tuned for more to come about URCLIM! Stay tuned and follow us on Twitter @UrclimProject!
Clim2power project developments

The project has prepared Spring forecast for Portugal with the EPISODES method and Seasonal Runoff Forecast for the Upper Danube region.

Clim2power Advisory and User Board Meetings at DWD Headquarters, Offenbach
Clim2power’s Project Advisory Board Meeting was held on 26 and 27 February 2020, project partners met on Wednesday 26 February to discuss recent and future developments of project’s research activities and outputs. As the project reaches its final stage, the consortium coordinates efforts to maximise the impact of the data, information and knowledge generated since the beginning of Clim2power, in September 2017.

On Thursday 27 February, the members of the Advisor Board provided timely guidance on how to better develop and exploit the results of these almost 3 years of work, during the 2nd Annual Advisory Board Meeting. The consortium thanks them for their advice and support.

During these intense 2 days at DWD, we discussed the energy indicator results for Europe within Clim2power’s web-based Climate Service for both the seasonal and long-term cases, the climate, hydrological and energy system model developments, and a shared strategy for end-user engagement.

Factsheet on Climate Modelling was co-designed by partners to engage with high-schools students. A downloadable version of this document in Portuguese is already available in our website, and another version in German will be published soon.

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**AQUACLEW partner exchanges with experts on hydropower management in Québec, Canada**

INRAE, French partner in the AQUACLEW project, visited Université Laval in Québec (Canada) for two weeks, from 6 to 24 February 2020, to foster collaboration on the management of water reservoirs and optimization of hydropower production. Worldwide, hydropower plays a crucial role in the context of energy transition and renewable energy targets. It generates by far the largest share of electricity from renewable energy sources. Québec is Canada’s leading producer of hydroelectricity, which accounts for almost 97% of all the electricity used in the province. Université Laval has developed expertise on hydropower systems optimization and adaptation of reservoir management to the impacts of climate change. The 2-week exchange is part of a long-term collaboration between INRAE and Université Laval. Within the AQUACLEW project, the collaboration was enhanced to also include the study on how we can improve the representation of
the indicator developed in the AQUACLEW project to illustrate the conditions under which water volumes might (or not) be available to reservoir optimization and hydropower production under future climate change conditions. International collaboration allows us to move towards a more robust indicator of climate change impact on the hydropower sector, paving the way to foster the use of research results in operational planning and management. The collaboration started thanks to the AQUACLEW project will continue, with results of the study carried out together expected to be published in a scientific paper by the end of summer 2020.

Figure 1 - « The Saint Lawrence River at Quebec: the river is regulated by the Moses-Saunders Power Dam, located at the border between the United States and Canada, with an installed capacity of 1,957 MW

This work is led by INRAE as a partner of the AQUACLEW project (www.aquaclew.eu). In the AQUACLEW project, we investigate how relevant indicators can be co-developed with electricity companies and be used to improve the assessment of the impacts of climate change on the management of hydroelectric reservoirs.
ISIpedia: The Open Climate Impacts Encyclopedia to be launched in May

ISIpedia is an open-access, inter-sectoral climate impacts online encyclopedia that was set up to become the reference for accessing consistent, multi-sector, politically relevant and user driven climate impact simulations. Users of the online platform will gain access to and can contribute to relevant datasets and analyses of the underlying impact model simulations, as well as written and visual syntheses of country-based climate impact projections.

Information is sorted according to three types of studies: 1) detection and attribution of observed impacts of climate change, 2) future projection of the impacts of climate change, and 3) impact model evaluation, i.e. a test of our current understanding of individual processes as represented in the models. Country-based reports are automatically generated on the basis of projected impacts of climate change and illustrated through interactive graphs and figures. Scientists who have recently published a study on climate impacts approach the ISIpedia editorial team or are invited to translate their own findings into an associated ISIpedia article which is then made accessible via the portal.

ISIpedia is based on the cross-sectoral and multi-model simulations of the Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project, phase 3 (ISIMIP3) that provides consistent data sets and a harmonized framework to drive sectoral climate impact model simulations while ensuring comparability of results. ISIpedia was co-developed integrating expertise of the ISIMIP and the ISIpedia Assessment and Editorial Teams, and stakeholder feedback contributed by a Stakeholder Engagement Team. Thus, ISIpedia brings together world-class scientists and stakeholders such as climate-adaptation-policy experts, implementation practitioners, climate experts from the financial sector, etc. Ultimately, ISIpedia is a climate service portal offering tailor-made access to state-of-the-art climate impact assessments and data to relevant stakeholders and the interested public.

The beta version of ISIpedia will be launched in May. Content will be added
successively and you can be curious about further articles and features to be implemented soon.

Some screenshots giving a first impression of what the web portal looks like:

**Final SENSES co-production workshop in Potsdam**

In March 4-5, 2020 the last SENSES co-production workshop took place with stakeholders from policy, business and finance. The goal is to make climate change scenarios more accessible and usable to selected user groups by effective means to communicate key insights and empowering users to explore scenario information. Central to the exercise was to bring the individual products together and to co-develop the SENSES toolkit and portals, which will be the central service access point for the users.
The workshop produced great interest again and despite the upcoming corona crisis a large number of stakeholders attended to give input on the results and express wishes and critique. The focus of the workshop was this time on the presentation of already developed material, getting feedback from stakeholders and to identify gaps in the choice of information.

Feedback was collected in a one-to-one evaluation, where users had to conduct a quiz in order to examine the effectiveness of the communication products developed within SENSES. The feedback was very positive and foremost the stakeholders see great potential in the SENSES approach of user empowerment and staged access to the content for varying background knowledge. Another highlight was the co-production of regional extensions for the finance sector on global socio economic scenarios.

Stakeholders expressed the wish that the SENSES should definitely have an afterlife and not only the products but also the community should be kept alive. The users see the science of climate scenarios (esp. mitigation scenarios) and their users have grown a big part together in the course of the project. The stakeholders expressed gratitude for the high level exchange.

Again, a joint progress on methodologies and (visualization) tools was successfully made to empower stakeholders to extract valuable information contained in scenario results and to answer their questions.
The AQUACLEW case study

Researchers of the University of Granada (UGR, Spain) participated in the workshop "Delta del río Guadalfeo. Colapso o regeneración" which looked at the current state of the Guadalfeo river delta and the adjacent coastal region and focused on proposing efficient management strategies. The workshop gathered people from different regional and local administrations as well as multidisciplinary expert scientists working in this region. The AQUACLEW case study researchers discussed the needs of the participants for climate services that provide local wave climate projections in order to characterize climate change related impacts in coastal areas.

UGR is a partner of the AQUACLEW project (www.aquaclew.eu). In the AQUACLEW project, we investigate how to advance the quality of climate services.
Two recent publications for the INSeaPTION project


JPI Climate will lead on the organisation of ECCA2021

JPI Climate with the SINCERE, ERA4CS and AXIS projects will lead on the organisation of the next ECCA 2021. This will be an excellent opportunity to work together on showcasing the successful interlinkages between climate knowledge, climate finance and innovative adaptation practices.

If you would like to receive relevant updates and information on ECCA2021, please register here

What climate services can do for us

ERA4CS video
How can ibexes, football addicts and cities benefit from climate services? The short animation from the ERA4CS consortium shows the opportunities of using reliable climate information to cope with current and future climate variability.

Available on YouTube

News and interesting events

SOLSTICE

76 applications received for the SOLSTICE Call

3 February was the deadline for submission of project proposals to the JPI Climate "Enabling Societal Transformation in the Face of Climate Change" (SOLSTICE) Call.

The Call Secretariat received a total of 76 applications to this Call, highlighting the great interest that SOLSTICE generated in the Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) community.

We want to thank you all for the work that you have put into this call.
SOLSTICE is a joint transnational call for proposals. SOLSTICE consists of 10 European countries (Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Italy, Ireland, Latvia, Norway and the United Kingdom) who have partnered to offer funding opportunities to all SSH communities.

The Call addresses three themes:

*Social justice and participation*

*Sense making, cultural meaning and risk perceptions*

*Transformative finance and economy*

To find out more about SOLSTICE go to: [https://www.solstice-call.org/](https://www.solstice-call.org/)

Check out the video of Dr Frank McGovern, the Chair of JPI Climate, endorsing the SOLSTICE call.

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Dear Climateurope Network member,

We are pleased to invite you to an upcoming webinar on the 14th May 2020 @14:00-15:30 CEST, entitled: 'Visualization of climate information for climate services'.

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Climateurope
Linking science and society

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"Climate change and its potential impact are difficult to communicate: it seems far away in time and space and the influence a single person has seems nihil. Besides, alarmistic messages tend to paralyze instead of resulting in actions. So how could we improve a safe landing of the climate change message to policymakers and decision makers, so they can base their decisions on the right information? Making use of visualizations can be highly effective. However, a wrong use of visualization, such as using again and again a starving polar bear, can be counterproductive. In this webinar 2 experts: Bernadet Overbeek, advisor weather and climate of the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI) and Isadora Jimenez, communication specialist at the Barcelona Supercomputing Center, will show examples on the use of visualization in short presentations (each 15 min.) and we will discuss do's and don'ts in visualization of climate information, good examples of visualization, etc."

Please find more information about the webinar here along with details about how to register to take part.

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**Online workshop - 3rd Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) Energy**

The online workshop - 3rd Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) Energy will be held on **Tuesday 19 May 2020** (10:00-12:00BST; 13:00-15:00BST)

The Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) Energy is pleased to invite you to a workshop to explore how the C3S Energy Operational Service can benefit research, energy planning decisions and policy. It will include a showcase of the C3S Energy climate service for the energy sector and explore the value of its data to two case studies. It will also be the official launch of the C3S Energy Demonstrator. This visualisation tool shows the climate and energy variations across Europe in addition to providing a wide range of climate and energy information, including fact sheets, methods and assumptions, key messages, case studies and FAQs.

To register: [CLICK HERE](#)
ERA4CS Virtual workshop
Future research needs in support of climate services
9-10 June hosted by UEFISCDI

6th International Climate Change Adaptation Futures 2020 Conference

28 October - 1 September 2020, New Delhi, India

Climateurope festival

16-18 June 2020, Riga, Latvia, This event was postponed, please check here for update

Second JPI Climate Scoping Forum Symposium

December 2020, Germany
JPI Climate is also present in the social media
Join us in our group of 260 members in LinkedIn and the 2195 followers on Twitter, subscribe to our newsletter, watch our website and have a look at our videos on Youtube if you want to learn more about JPI Climate

*All relevant information can be found on the ERA4CS website* [www.ERA4CS.eu](http://www.ERA4CS.eu).