

With a multitude of existing portals providing access to different sources of climate information, CLIPC acts as a “one-stop-shop”, offering information about and access to data from a wide variety of sources. The CLIPC portal also offers a toolkit, allowing the climate impact indicators and climate datasets produced in CLIPC to be viewed as overlays on the base map.

Links between the CLIPC portal and the European Climate Adaptation Platform Climate-ADAPT (<http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/about>) are being explored. Already, a description of the CLIPC portal has been included in the Climate-ADAPT database, linking to the CLIPC portal on the Climate-ADAPT website. CLIPC and its components are fully compatible with the Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) objectives and future use of the portal and/or components in the operational phase of C3S is being explored.

CLIPC is a Collaborative Project (2013-2016) funded by the European Union under the 7th Framework Programme. Contract N°: 607418. It is coordinated by STFC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (<http://www.stfc.ac.uk>) and operated by a 22-member consortium.

CLIPC FINAL DEMONSTRATION AND EVALUATION WORKSHOP FOR USERS



WORKSHOP

Date and location:
Thursday 20th October
2016 – BRUSSELS

Further information at
<http://tinyurl.com/CLIPCworkshop>



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Climate Information Platform for Copernicus



Providing access to climate datasets, tools and information to assess the impact of climate change



A comprehensive catalogue of climate data and impact indicators

Advanced data discovery, visualisation, transformation and delivery



Documentation on data quality and uncertainty

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In order to adapt to and moderate the effects of climate change, trustworthy, relevant and salient information needs to be made available to those responsible for planning decisions. The CLIPC project has developed an integrated platform of Climate Data Services to provide a single point of access for authoritative scientific information on climate variability and change, and climate change impacts. This project has been conceived to support the Copernicus Climate Change Services (C3S), which will deliver a new generation of environmental data for Europe's citizens, decision-makers in the public and private sector, and academics.

The CLIPC portal

The CLIPC project enhances access to climate and climate impact information, and supports the translation, post-processing and visualisation of climate data in order to tailor climate and climate impact information to user needs.

The CLIPC portal provides quick and easy access to Europe-wide climate and climate impact data, along with the supporting information required for its effective and meaningful use. This information meets the highest feasible standards in terms of credibility (from a scientifically trusted source, as evidenced by clear metadata), legitimacy (through an internationally-supported mechanism) and saliency (linked to user needs, including comprehensive access to available climate and climate impacts indicators, but also data translation, visualisation functionalities and adequate guidance).

Specifically, the CLIPC portal provides direct access to reliable core data sources, harmonised metadata and post-processing tools, and indirect access to additional data sets. It provides a comprehensive overview of data supply, indicator availability and guidance, and a combination of satellite and ground-based data and modelling results.

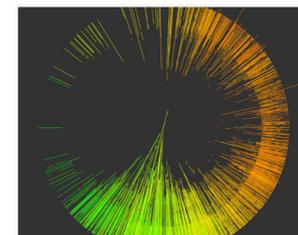
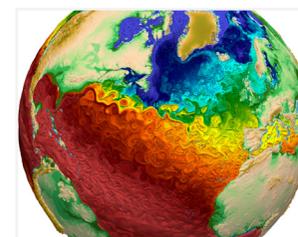
In addition to improved access to existing datasets, CLIPC offers a novel impact indicator toolbox, which includes an explorative tool for users to combine datasets, along with guidance on how to interpret the produced combinations.

A unique aspect of CLIPC is expert-based qualitative uncertainty information of impact indicators for which a quantitative analysis is not always possible. Special attention is placed on communicating information about the confidence users may have in the various data sets and indicators in a qualitative and transparent way. Despite the value and importance of this information, the CLIPC portal does not aim to replace expert consultancy – it is a decision-support system that still may require tailoring to satisfy specific user needs.

Who are the users of CLIPC?

Anyone could be a CLIPC user, but the platform design needs to focus on particular requirements. CLIPC is organised around the needs of four categories of scientific and non-scientific users: climate scientists, climate impacts researchers; intermediaries such as consultants, and end users such as policy makers, private sector decision-makers and citizens.

End users, particularly those without a scientific or technical background, often rely on others for their information, and so CLIPC user engagement has focused on the first three categories. The CLIPC platform is taking into account user needs, based on a survey of needs, interviews, and a user panel that provides feedback on new versions.



Guidance for different users

The CLIPC portal allows access to climate and climate impact information for a variety of users including climate scientists, impact researchers, intermediary (or boundary) organisations (e.g. consultants, Environment agencies) and societal end users (including policy makers and NGOs). Different users have different requirements, needs and skills, and usually look for more than just mere access to data – they need information that is relevant, robust and legitimate.

A distinction between expert users (users with relatively high level of scientific understanding and technical skills to download and manipulate data) and non-expert users (users without the aforementioned characteristics) is important for the design of digital information portals. The CLIPC portal's design speaks to all user categories, allowing them to navigate through the portal in a natural way.

The portal has several different types of guidance, including:

- Examples of use cases;
- FAQs;
- Traffic lights and other types of 'warnings' / recommendations;
- Glossary.

User type	Top 3 features ranked by majority as Very important/important
Climate scientist	Free open access Availability and quality of metadata Verifiability of information and data provided
Impact researcher	Free open access Accessibility of data Amount of data available
Intermediary/boundary organization	Free open access Explanations of climate data and climate impact indicators Usage of understandable language
Societal end user	Free open access Diversity of subjects Usage of understandable language

Table 1: Most relevant user needs for the portal, by user category