DESCRIPTION

The journal Climate Services publishes research with a focus on science-based and user-specific climate information underpinning climate services, ultimately to assist society to adapt to climate change. Climate Services brings science and practice closer together. The journal addresses both researchers in the field of climate service research, and stakeholders and practitioners interested in or already applying climate services. It serves as a means of communication, dialogue and exchange between researchers and stakeholders. Climate services pioneers novel research areas that directly refer to how climate information can be applied in methodologies and tools for adaptation to climate change.

It publishes best practice examples, case studies as well as theories, methods and data analysis with a clear connection to climate services. The focus of the published work is often multi-disciplinary, case-specific, tailored to specific sectors and strongly application-oriented. To offer a suitable outlet for such studies, Climate Services journal introduced a new section in the research article type. The research article contains a classical scientific part as well as a section with easily understandable practical implications for policy makers and practitioners.

The journal’s focus is on the use and usability of climate information for adaptation purposes underpinning climate services.

The following topics are within the direct scope of the journal:
• The use of climate modelling and climate impact modelling to strengthen climate services;
• Prototypes, climate service tools, concepts and infrastructures for climate services;
• Use of climate services in relation to vulnerability and risk assessment and adaptation;
• Sectoral and cross-sectoral case studies for climate services;
• Development of adaptation and mitigation strategies for climate services;
• Climate adaptation, governance, economic aspects and institutions in support of climate services;
• Climate services studies to identify and overcome barriers to climate change adaptation;
• Evaluation of climate services;
• The role of climate communication strategies and use of climate information in decision making for climate services;
• Transdisciplinary stakeholder dialogues in connection with climate services; and
• Discussion of current practices (both regarding value creation and value protection - or risks and opportunities) and corresponding recommendations for climate services.
Climate Services, together with its excellent board members, aims to publish high-quality, novel and groundbreaking research pioneering the relatively new field of climate services. The journal ensures its high quality by a thorough peer review process, following international peer review standards. We invite all people working in the field of climate services to consider publishing their work, research results and experiences in the Climate Services journal.

In case you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us; jclimateservices@hzg.de

What do we mean with climate services?
The journal adopted the definition of climate services from the European Commission’s Roadmap for Climate Services (2015). According to this definition climate services cover “the transformation of climate-related data - together with other relevant information - into customized products such as projections, forecasts, information, trends, economic analysis, assessments (including technology assessment), counselling on best practices development and evaluation of solutions and any other services in relation to climate that may be use for the society at large.”

Hence climate services providers develop science-based and user-specific information relating to past, present and potential future climate and therefore assists society to adapt to climate variability and change. Information about climate, climate change, and impacts on natural and human systems as well as mitigation and adaptation strategies is tailored to the specific user requirements. Climate service users include economic, administrative, political and scientific stakeholders, across sectors and disciplines in society.

Complementary journal
Intending authors should also note that there is a complementary journal: Climate Risk Management. Climate Risk Management focuses on the observation of relationships between climate conditions and consequences in human and/or natural systems across multiple space and time scales; risk assessment and risk management approaches for climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture, forestry and fire management, health, mining, natural resources management, water management, the built environment, and tourism; analysis of relevant institutional developments and arrangements relevant to adaptation; and the exploration of connections between climate risk management, disaster risk management, and sustainable development.

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

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The journal Climate Services invites the submission of full length climate service research papers, review articles, perspectives and short communications.

Research papers
Climate Service research papers report the results of original research and its (potential) application. The article consists of a scientific research paper and an additional Practical Implications chapter.

In the research paper (max. 8,000 words) the scientific background to climate services is provided, consisting, e.g., of the description of methods, models, newly developed theories or the analysis of data.

The practical Implications chapter (max. 1,200 words) is an easily understandable, stand-alone text where practical aspects of the article are presented. It provides policy makers and practitioners with all relevant information to understand and apply presented climate services. Practical implications could contain e.g. a case study or the practical application of a method. The Practical Implications chapter should be integrated in the research paper directly after the Abstract.

All practical implication for policy makers and practitioners are included in the article, but they will also be distributed separately in a Climate Services Policy and Practitioner Brief, in order to reach a broader audience.

Review articles
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Short communications are meant to highlight important research that is novel or represents highly significant preliminary findings, and should be less than 4,000 words.

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