

4th ACRE Meeting Report

KNMI, Utrecht, Netherlands, 21st-23rd September 2011

Many talks on rescued data – this is channelled into ISPD (International Surface Pressure Databank) and ICOADS (marine data only) through ACRE. IEDRO data is sent to NOAA. **Could channel this into ISTI too?** Efforts also in France to rescue data from asbestos ridden archives – AAA project.

Country specific efforts – takes time and lots of effort – collaboration with other related disciplines (historians, social scientists etc.) is very valuable e.g., Fiona Williamson from the School of Humanities, UEA, UK. Many countries are only interested in precipitation – very little effort has been put into temperature so the importance of this for climate research must be made clear.

DANS (Data archiving and networking services) hosted at KNAW, Netherlands (Peter Doorn) can help host smaller amounts of data but may be a useful contact in terms of the practicalities of archiving.

Data is not freely traded – need to offer something in return – reanalyses fields, climate statistics/tools, shared data with surrounding countries or from other periods where data is owned by ex-colonial rulers and may be freely exchangeable.

Non-instrumental data is very valuable (photos, anecdotes, extreme event reports etc.). **Could this be digitally linked with ISTI databank observations that match in time and space? It would make the databank very appealing to historians/enthusiasts and may bring in alternative sources of funding (heritage funds).** International Council of Archives (<http://www.ica.org/104/discover-ica/discover-ica.html>) in Paris – a holding for all types of data.

Talk received well:

Can ISTI link to other types of data – population, economics, health etc.?

Confusion between the GOSIC website and www.surfacetemperatures.org. GOSIC is for the databank and www.surfacetemperatures.org hosts the Initiative concepts and details. May need some clarifying.

2012 release of the ISTI databank– monthly data only or all resolution data?

How will ISTI link up with existing regional efforts like ECA+D? The working groups already have representation from all regions and so this is being taken into account. High value of regional efforts but also provision through a global databank and portal.

Data formats – ICOADS use IMMA and a new version is coming out. **Can ISTI be aligned with formats in other databases?** ICOADS are also going with the unique identifier. Also consider the format that will easily go into things like ERA-CLIM. May need to consider BUFR data (possible contacts: Jeremy Tandy – Met Office, Bryan Lawrence - BADC). ERA-CLIM uses same levels planned as ISTI (stage 0 to 5). **Format for metadata, QC flags, uncertainty intervals, should be common across as many programmes as possible – ICOADS, ERA-CLIM, ISPD etc.**

Hourly ISD data doesn't always match up with monthly or even daily CLIMAT messages/averages. How to reconcile this?