Data rescue task team call

July 11th at 13Z (9 EDT, 14 BST, 15 CEST)

Present on call: Peter Thorne, Jared Rennie, Jay Lawrimore, Hermann Machel

Apologies in advance: Stefan Bronnimann, Juerg Luterbacher, Rick Crouthamel

1. Update on Initiative as a whole - Peter

The Steering committee held a call the day prior to our call. The main focus of that call was finalizing the new Implementation Plan draft. The benchmarking working group had a meeting facilitated by NCDC in the first week of July. This started to nail down some of the details. The databank first version will be released upon paper acceptance. It is hoped that the benchmarks will be available by the end of 2013. We now need to ensure that groups turn up and participate in the creation of datasets and their benchmarking. In this regard everyone involved can help. There are generic posters and talks that can be provided to help to spread the word. Please just ask.

2. Update on databank and databank working group planned focus for next IP period - Jay

The databank has completed version 1 development pending acceptance of the methods paper. A formal first version release will occur at that time. The first version is over 31,000 stations. Many of these recoreds arise from data rescue efforts in which this task team have been involved. The Implementation Plan for 2013-2015 as currently drafted includes several activities. See attachment sent ahead of time.

Work is ongoing to define both real-time update and delayed mode update processes. At the present time it looks likely that a subset of sources will be appended on a regular basis and then there will be periodic period of record updates. These period of record updates will incorporate any new sources or additional stations from existing stations. So it is certainly not too late to submit data.

JL: Need to work somewhat more on the metadata. Data rescue team can help to improve this.
HM: There are some metadata in yearbooks which would need to be digitized but in principle are available.

3. Review of actions from prior call (where still relevant) - Peter

For context:
RA: With ACRE data we are going to be putting a batch to ISPD. Can make them available. Not clear how much temperature data there is and there are always other elements regardless.
JR: Have been taking any elements at this point, but only pulling through the temperature. Anything is fair game. Will take whatever you offer.
ACTION: RA to follow up with JR on data sharing this ACRE effort over e.g. dropbox.
JR: There was one source sent over dropbox, haven't looked at it yet.

ACTION: Jared and Stefan to engage on ERA-CLIM data rescue mid-July
Stefan: Request was forwarded. Antonia is working on it.
JR: Have looked a little more still pending.

ACTION: Jared Rennie to follow up with Hermann Machel on his German data
Currently in the databank and part of our merge process
HM: I have sent the data one year ago, on 18 July 2012.

ACTION: PT to advise Rob Allan of the Central American effort.
This was done

ACTION: PT to ascertain what Climdex software would be available to IEDRO and advise RC.
PT did this but not sure anything ever came after the initialization of contact with Lisa Alexander

4. Review of present data rescue activities and progress - All

Juerg: Here is a short update of subdaily meteorological data that we will provide within the next 2 weeks

- various stations in Labrador for the period 1881-1887 from DEUTSCHE UEBERSEEISCHE METEOROLOGISCHE BEOBACHTUNGEN
GESAMMELT UND HERAUSGEGEBEN VON DER DEUTSCHEN SEEWARTE HEFT I. DIE BEOBACHTUNGEN VON LABRADOR. DIE BEOBACHTUNGEN VON HATZFELDTHAFEN DIE BEOBACHTUNGEN VON WALFISCHBAY
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Environmental Data Rescue Program
- Pretoria 1905-1908 and Johannesburg (1905-1910)
- Tananarive (1890-1908)

More stations are currently under digitisation

JL: Undertake new station additions in annual updates.

Rick:
IEDRO will be sending an Implementation Team to Niamey, Niger on the 20th of this month to begin the installation of the <u>West Africa Climate data Rescue and Digitization Facility</u> at the ACMAD (African Centre for Meteorological Applications for Development) center.

The initial equipment will begin the transfer of abut 2,000,000 pages of historic hydrometeorological observations from 48 African countries now on deteriorating microfiche from the Belgian financed and WMO administered DARE-I program in the early 1990s. The data reaches back into the 1800s. Once the pages have been scanned and transferred to JPEG images, the second phase of the effort will be setting up dual-keying workstations where ACMAD staff will key the data from the newly rescued JPEG images into an electronic data base.

Eventually, we will work with ACMAD to gain permission from the various countries to allow these data to be entered into an open and unrestricted data base (such as those at NCDC) for the use of the world's researchers.

We shall keep everyone posted on the efforts.

On another topic, we have received over 12,000 pages of Bolivian surface observational records which will eventually be digitized using the same dual-workstation approach.

Peter: Albert Klein Tank noted that KNMI will be hosting Albert Mhanda for a month on African data on the databank call earlier this week.

HM: Made some temperature stations digization and in process of checking them. Within 2-3 months will send some data. These are German data from the last 150 years.

5. Discussion of task team plans and activities

How can the surface temperature initiative help data rescue activities? Are there concrete action items that we can add to the Implementation Plan that are acheivable in the next two years? We have a section towards the end of the Implementation Plan where collaborations with other groups can be documented and workplan items added.

JL: All depends on funding.
JL: How linked are we to IEDRO? Where does the data go?

PT: Links are somewhat variable to IEDRO as well as others. Some submit regularly. Others less so. Need to be clearer on data sharing and chase more. Can make sure calls happen more frequently and possibly ensure providers submit explicitly by checking with them on status of their efforts individually on a periodic basis.

6. AOB
Next call should be in the coming three months, not over a year's time.