



## **Support to Climate Data Dissemination in a Worldwide Data Federation by IS-ENES2**

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Thousands of users accessed climate data produced as part of the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project Phase 5 (CMIP5). The data were created by about 30 different institutes and disseminated to a large variety of end users via a worldwide distributed infrastructure (Earth System Grid Federation, ESGF) consisting of data nodes and data portals. Part of the data was also used for the 5th Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and preserved in a long term archive.

A support activity was funded within the IS-ENES2 FP7 project to support the various aspects of data dissemination for large intercomparison projects like CMIP5 and CORDEX. The activity was structured into the following parts:

Support for data providers:

- Development of basic data quality assurance tools, to be applied by data provider prior to making data accessible in the data federation
- Support in installing and using the quality assurance tools
- Agreements on best practices of data dissemination (e.g. search facets to be supported across sites etc.)

Support for data users:

Establishment of basic user support infrastructure components and services:

- Askbot based internet forum for user support questions and answers
- Support pages on central portals
- Continuous maintenance of user support mailing lists

Support for data centres and for fostering their collaboration:

- Development of automatic consistency checking routines for data federation portals operated at different sites
- Organization of data node installation and operation support events
- Collection of distributed data usage statistic metrics
- Development of Data Management Plans (DMP)
- Activities towards common data access policies

The experiences gained within the IS-ENES2 support activities will provide the basis of activities for improving the user support process in the future, especially in the context of upcoming large intercomparison projects like CMIP6, which will use the same distributed infrastructure for data dissemination to end users.