The WMO MEDARE Initiative: past activities, current status and prospects: identifying the workshop targets

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OUTLINE

- Looking at MEDARE past and current efforts and achievements: Where we are?
- Prospects for the future and focusing the WS and MEDARE targets and challenges

BACKDROP

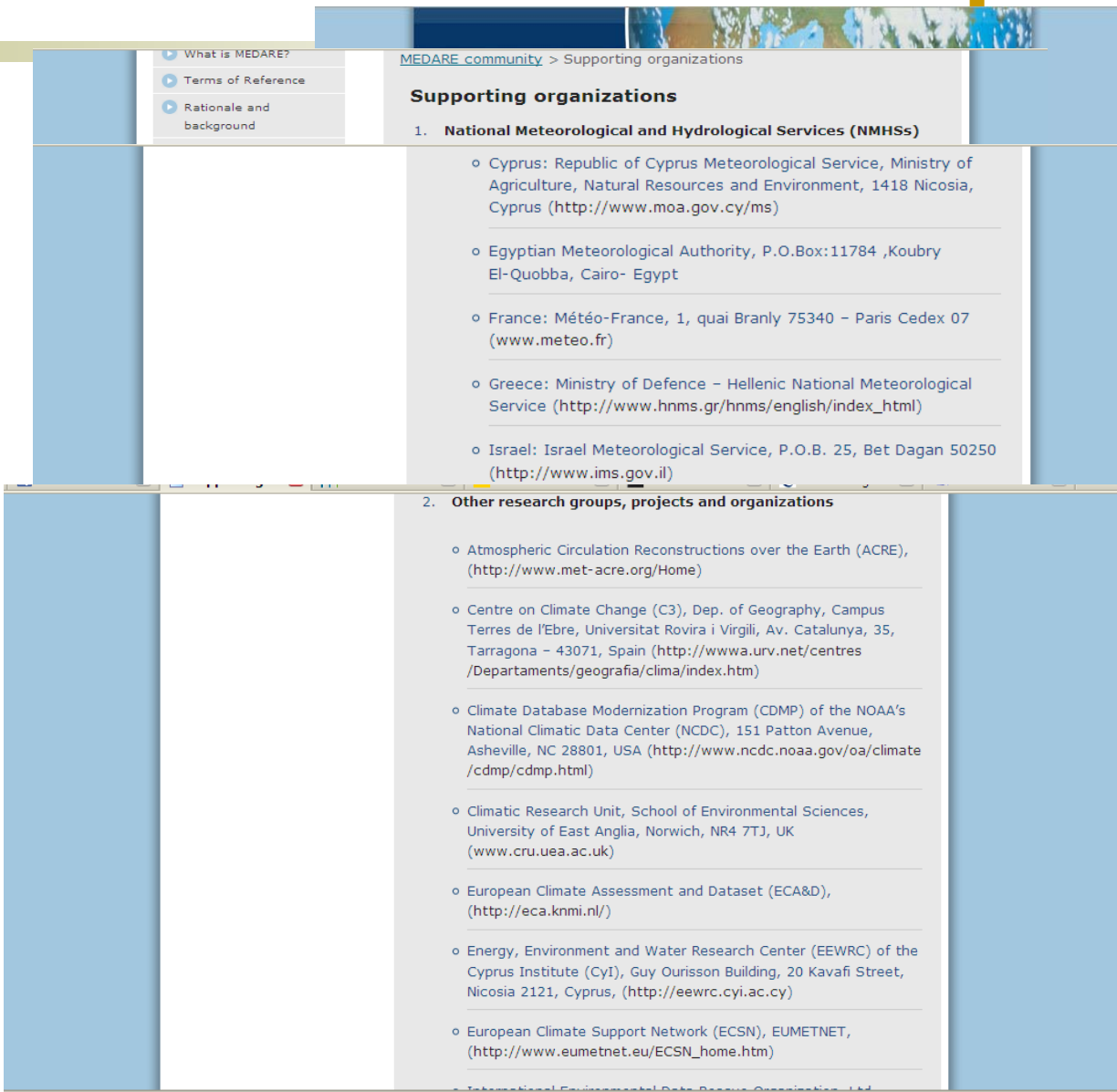
Antecedents:

- **The WMO/WCDMP *International Workshop on Rescue and Digitization of Climate Records in the Mediterranean Basin* (Tarragona, November 2007)**
- **And the activities unofficially began before…**
- **Getting WMO EC-60 endorsement to MEDARE (June 2008): "The Council endorsed the MEditerranean climate DAta REscue (MEDARE) initiative…. It urged all Members, and particularly those in the Mediterranean Region, to support the initiative"**

SETTING UP MEDARE ORGANIZATION

Management groups:

- **Steering Group: A 3-years rotating steering group to allow all MEDARE countries to be part of the system**
- **The first MEDARE SG is composed of**
  - **Chairs:**
    - **Pierre Bessemoulin (WMO: former CCl President)**
    - **Manola Brunet (co-chair WMO/CCl OPAG2)**
  - **Members:**
    - **Phil Jones (CRU, UEA)**
    - **Sylvie Jourdain (Meteo France)**
    - **Tania Marinova (Bulgarian NMHS)**
    - **Serhat Sensoy (Turkish NMHS)**
    - **Azzadine Sazi (Algerian NMHS)**
    - **Elena Xoplaki (UBern)**
- **Supporting organisations (most of the Med NMHS involved: 23 + 11 research centres & integrated by 100 scientists)**



The Working Groups

Working groups, members and NMS participants officially nominated by PRs:

WG1. Inventorying/assessing/approaching old material sources and holders: 23 member from Algeria, Andorra, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Republic of Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Malta, Italy, Jordan, Montenegro, Morocco, Republic of Serbia, Republic of Slovenia, Romania, Spain, Switzerland, Syria, Turkey, UK.

WG2. DARE techniques and procedures (including digitization): 18 members from Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Republic of Cyprus, Egypt, France, Italy, Greece, Jordan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Morocco, Republic of Serbia, Republic of Slovenia, Romania, Spain, Syria, Turkey.

WG3. Approaches on best practices for quality controlling and homogenizing specific climate variables: 25 members from Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Republic of Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Egypt, France, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Libya, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Morocco, Republic of Serbia, Republic of Slovenia, Romania, Spain, Switzerland, Syria, Turkey, UK.

WG4. Promotional activities, bringing MEDARE to the wider scientific and other communities: 15 members from Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Republic of Cyprus, Egypt, Jordan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Morocco, Republic of Serbia, Republic of Slovenia, Romania, Spain, Syria, Turkey, UK.

MEDARE ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Publicising MEDARE & Raising awareness**
- **Tools for raising awareness on DARE & D**
  - Brochure, poster, DVD
  - MEDARE proceedings from the 1st WS
  - Implementation of MEDARE web site: http://www.omm.urv.cat/MEDARE/index.html
  - Implementation of MEDARE Metadata portal: http://app.omm.urv.cat/urv/
- **Conferences attendance & publicising:**
  - WMO/CCl/ETCCDI: Vietnam, December 2007;
  - UNFCCC Expert Meeting on Methods and Tools and Data and Observations under the NWP on Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change (March 2007). Recommendation:
  - *"Enhance and promote data recovery, as historical data is of great importance for improving the reliability of predictions and projections of climate variability and change"*
  - European Geophysical Union Annual Meeting (Vienna, 2008)
  - WMO/CCl Expert Team on the Rescue, Preservation and Digitalization of Climate Records: Mali, May 2008;
  - WMO/CCl/ETCCDI/ENSEMBLES Mtg: Holland, May 2008,
  - The 31st International Geographical Congress: Tunis, August, 2008
  - Climate Extremes During Recent Millennia and their Impact on Mediterranean Societies", National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece, 13-16 September 2008
  - EMS/ECAC Meeting: Amsterdam, Holland, September, 2008
  - AEC Int. Conference: Tarragona, Spain, October 2008
  - CLIVAR-ES Workshop: Madrid, Spain, February, 2009
  - Plinius 11th Conference, Barcelona, September 2009
  - ACRE Meetings: Bologna May 2009, Exeter Sep 2009
  - TECO Antalya, Feb 2010

Summing up

- Actives in organizational aspects: setting up WGs with concurrence of NMHSs PRs, MG…
- Publicising MEDARE (conferences, meetings attendance) & bringing MEDARE message to wider audience: scientific community
- Raising awareness: particularly proud of WG4 efforts producing posters, brochure translated into 9 Med languages
- But not like for being completely satisfied with…

REMEMBERING MEDARE GOALS & SUMMING UP WHERE WE ARE

To develop high-quality and long instrumental climate datasets for the GMR, through:

- Seeking and mobilizing resources at the national, regional and international scales in support of DARE activities over the GMR.
- Undertaking specific data rescue (DARE) projects at the national, regional and international levels in a collaborative funding context.
- Researching on DARE issues, contributing to and integrating new advances in the field.
- Developing a web-based data and metadata exchange infrastructure.
- Organizing workshops, seminars, exchange fellowships, summer schools, etc.
- Training young scientists in DARE techniques and procedures.
- Raising awareness on the key and essential role of developing high-quality climate data sets amongst NMHS managers and staff, stakeholders, policy-makers, social agents and society.
- Publicising MEDARE aims and activities amongst related meetings, workshops, projects, programs and initiatives.
- Capacity building on DARE procedures through demonstration and training.
- Establishing durable links and synergies with other related projects and initiatives.

SUMMING UP: STRENGTHS & WEAKNESSES

- **Strengths:**
  - **Under the umbrella of WMO. This ensures us international vissibility**
  - **MEDARE successful formula (bringing/working together scientists from NMHSs & Universities) has been key for achieving high visibility among international bodies (WMO, GCOS, UNFCCC) with several RAs wanting to follow our initiative. A high expectance has been raised and we shouldn't disappoint it**
  - **Many things have been done for raising awareness on DARE & D or for bringing MEDARE to the scientific community and linking it to other DARE projects,**
    - **Spreading MEDARE message in forums and conferences**
    - **Work done nationally to enhance data availability (we will learn more on this tomorrow)**
    - **Fulfilling in the MEDARE metadata portal by most of the participants**
  - **But lots more things can be done even in the fields we have been actives (it's just a question of will and cooperation), such as:**
    - **Widening usage of our site for further fostering documentation exchange (e.g. on-line publication of DARE & D members' reports/assessments…)**
    - **Further raising awareness among national & international stakeholders & policy-makers: disseminating our brochure & message**

SUMMING UP: STRENGTHS & WEAKNESSES

- **Weakness:**
  - On data & metadata development: still far away of seeing accomplished our main goal (all responsibility)
  - On carrying out real DARE & D projects: only WMO/WCDMP support us financially, but this assistance is mainly limited to meetings. WMO funds are very limited !!
  - On capacity building on DARE & D procedures & techniques (also little actives due to absence of funds)
  - On researching on DARE & D techniques & procedures (WGs 1, 2 & 3 not very actives on this, but difficult to cope with it without having data)
  - Absence of funding constrains our ability to undertake real DARE & D projects or capacity building activities
- **So lots of things to do for achieving an enhanced Med data availability and capability in DARE & D**

Getting MEDARE funded: one of our main challenges

- **WMO/WCDMP funds very limited and mainly destined to fund expert meetings. So, don't expect your NMS/country gets resources to recover/develop your long records only from WMO (it's not the World Bank)**
- **So, MEDARE needs to get competitive funds from international, European and national funding Agencies, in order to carry out projects & capacity building, but also for networking**
- **But, it is not easy to get funded projects based just on recovering/developing high-quality data and capacity building in DARE & D**
- **So, to define solid research proposals that allows us to also develop data has to be the focus… and also to get funded our network, as it can be the venue for capacity building**

Focusing the WS targets and MEDARE challenges

- Assessing progress done by countries since 2007 and the difficulties encountered
- Defining, agreeing and targeting the key and long climate (temp, precip, pressure) records to be developed (rescued, digitised, QC'ed & homogenised) on a country-by country basis and discussed by sub-regions: western, central eastern Med
- Agreeing strategies to get funded DARE projects & activities for capacity building and networking on DARE&D: Needs all involvement and further discussion on the 3rd day
- Discussing a proposal on MEDARE data exchange policy to be approved by the PRs within WMO that support the initiative
- To continue providing metadata for the identified Med climatological reference networks to be used even at national scales for better detecting, predicting and adapting the countries to climate change impacts and for other climate applications and services

HOPING THIS WS WILL BE AN USEFUL INSTRUMENT TO ADVANCE IN THE ENHANCEMENT OF CLIMATE DATA AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OVER THE GMR


THANK YOU &
COMMENTS, IDEAS ?