Targeting southern Mediterranean countries deficiencies and needs on the development of high-quality and long climate records

By Azzedine SACI, Office National de la Météorologie ALGERIA Southern Mediterranean countries, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Egypt were administered in the past by European administrations. A lot of paper archives and data reports are in the archiving centres of France for Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia, Italy for Libya and United Kingdom for Egypt.

Difficulties encountered in the country for the realization of long series of high quality data

- Before the advent of computer science in 1990s, archival documents were manipulated to collect climate information which leads to disorder in the document storage, loss of documents, and a boost in the deterioration of paper. (Climatologists, university etc)
- The conditions were not very satisfactory archiving, usually in basements or damp basements.
- The archives staff does not consist of the best agents, are generally undisciplined affected.
- In certain cases archives are deposited without tidying up in dusty rooms
- To this just added the irregularity in the functioning of climatological stations where the presence of gaps in the documents.

Difficulties encountered in the country for the realization of long series of high quality data

- The relocation of the archives is a source of waste materials
- Climate services have always had poor relations to national meteorological services.
- With the introduction of computer systems in the meteorological services for key entry and control of climate data (CLICOM) and the establishment of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (1993), the archives are beginning to resume their importance.
- The archives are darn seriously in hand by the allocation of space, adequate storage on shelves starting the digitization of information and digitization of paper documents, regulating access to the archives.
- Currently, the realization of a long series of climate data meets difficulties:
- Loss of documents (handling, moving ...)
- Alteration of documents (poor storage conditions, illegible)
- Irregularities in the functioning of networks Climate
- Documents not available

Requirements

- Inventory of existing documents Scanning documents
- Search documents existing at the centres of archiving and international institutions on the country during the period of European administration
- Entering and checking data
- Homogenization techniques of long data series
- Financial Support