Climandes

User-tailored Climate Services for the Andean region

MeteoSwiss and SENAMHI Peru join forces in the Climandes project for climate-smart agriculture to promote food security and poverty reduction.
Climate services are key to increase climate resilience of vulnerable populations. MeteoSwiss and SENAMHI initiated the Climandes project under the umbrella of the WMO-led Global Framework for Climate Services. Climandes provides high-quality climate services and establishes a user-dialog to meet the specific needs of Andean smallholder farmers. Ultimately, this initiative offers a pilot example on how such services can benefit climate-sensitive sectors and, hence, society at large.

High-quality climate services to support farmers
Climandes develops climate services tailored to the needs of agricultural sector stakeholders. A prerequisite for such services are high-quality climate observation records. For this purpose, capacities in data quality control and homogenization (removal of non-climatic influences) procedures are implemented at SENAMHI. Climandes introduces a drought and precipitation information platform and provides prototype seasonal forecasts to support Andean farmers in making their agricultural practice resilient to climate variability.

Improved knowledge for better climate services
SENAMHI and MeteoSwiss develop specialized trainings in meteorology and climatology to meet current and future needs for climate services. The WMO Regional Training Center in Lima, hosted by the National Agrarian University La Molina, promotes and offers these courses to countries in the Andes. E-learning is established as a teaching resource at SENAMHI and embedded in the WMO education and training program. Student exchanges within the region as well as between Peru and Switzerland support the development of the necessary capacities.

Understanding farmers’ needs to tailor climate services
In order to provide climate services that are meaningful to Andean smallholder farmers, an in-depth understanding of their needs and requirements is indispensable. Climandes bridges the gap between these users and providers of climate services through an ongoing dialogue. This participatory process supports the development, dissemination and application of climate services. In addition, Climandes informs policy-makers at the national and regional level about their return on current and future investments in climate services.

Objective:
Improve science-based decision making and socio-economic benefit in the Andean region based on high-quality and user-tailored climate services.

Approach:
Three intertwined modules:
Module 1: Development of climate services tailored to the needs of the agricultural sector in the Andean region.
Module 2: Enhancement of training in meteorology and climatology.
Module 3: Establishment of a User Interface Platform and demonstration of the socio-economic benefit of climate services.

Project Partners:
Coordination: World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
Funding: Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
Implementation: (alphabetically)
Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology MeteoSwiss, National Service for Meteorology and Hydrology of Peru (SENAMHI)
Collaboration: (alphabetically) ETH Zurich, Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), Jürg Sauter GmbH + Partner, Meteodat GmbH, Ministry of Environment of Peru, National Agrarian University La Molina, Regional Climate Center for Western South America, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, University of Bern, University of Zurich

Duration:
Phase 1: August 2012 – December 2015
Phase 2: January 2016 – December 2018

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