

Availability, quality and homogeneity of the Italian records of meteorological data

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Around the mid 1990s, the authors set up a broad-based research program with the aim of better understanding the evolution of Italian climate in the last 100/150 years. The program was developed both within European (UE IMPROVE and ALPCLIM projects) and National projects (National Research Council (CNR) project "Reconstruction of the Past Climate in the Mediterranean area"). At present time it is in progress within the "Progetto Finalizzato CLIMAGRI", a project of the Italian "Ministero per le Politiche Agricole e Forestali" and within the project "Local climate variability in relation to global climatic change phenomena" funded by the Italian "Ministero per l'Istruzione, l'Università e la Ricerca" and by Genoa, Milan, Trieste, Turin and Udine Universities.

Within this project a great effort was spent in data recovering and homogenising allowing to develop good expertise in these fields. In the presentation the part of the project concerning data recovering and homogenising was discussed. The aim was both to give evidence of Italian data availability and to present a proposal consisting in developing some cooperation allowing to set up a multi-national Mediterranean data set of high quality daily homogenised meteorological records. Such a data set would permit to all participating countries to have a clearer picture of the signals connected with the recent warming.