

CLIMAGRI – Climate Change and Agriculture

FAO/UCEA CLIMAGRI*med* PROTOCOL FOR COLLABORATION

Development of a network in the Mediterranean region on climate change and agriculture

Technical component (iii)

Quality and homogeneity of meteorological data for construction of climate change scenarios

International Consultant on Climatological Data Analysis

Report of the First Mission to Morocco

Duration: 1 – 3 July 2004

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Evaluation of the existing situation of the meteorological sector in terms of data availability, methodologies for analysis, logistic infrastructures and identification of a suitable counterpart for an effective transfer of methodologies: DMN seems to be a suitable counterpart as it is the Moroccan National Office for Meteorology and Climate. DMN has good data availability with a large number of digitalised records for the last 30/40 years and a few longer records, even if the actual data availability has to be investigated in more detail. It has an internal research team, good facilities for data analysis and good logistic infrastructures. It has performed interesting research concerning the characterisation of the Moroccan climate and is working on interesting projects covering both meteorology and climate. The studies on climate change and variability may benefit from wider use of homogenisation techniques and of larger availability of digitalised data.

Factors which could hamper the implementation of activities: I didn't identify any particularly critical factor. As for all international projects, in the future it may be necessary to define the conditions under which the Moroccan data can be used within the project.

Work plan and schedule of activities:

Preparation of data and metadata (first 6 months)

Identification of a set of stations and variables to subject to homogenisation.

Preparation of the data and metadata records.

Quality control and homogenisation (months 6 to 9)

Detailed work plan will be prepared in the second meeting

Data analysis (months 9 to 15).

Detailed work plan will be prepared in the second meeting

Dataset identification: a first proposal of the study area was performed. In the next months DMN scientists will make the final station selection.

Activities to be completed before the first mission of the counterpart: before the first mission of the counterpart it is necessary to finish the preparation of the data and metadata records.