

What are climate services and why do they need to be standardised?

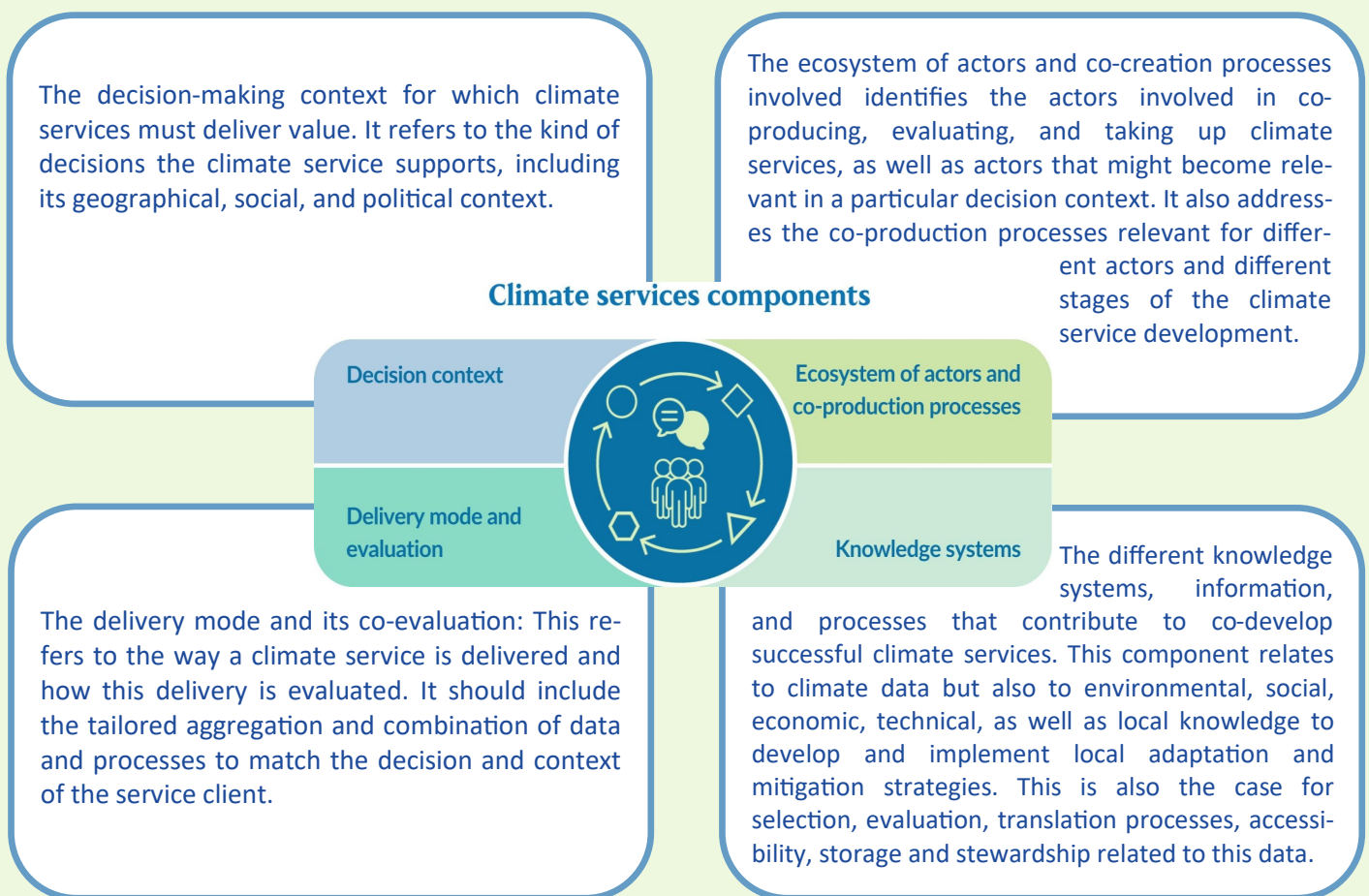
Climate information and climate services are two different things

Climate information is information about the past, current state or future of the climate system.

Climate services involve the provision of climate information to assist decision-making. They should be based on scientifically credible information and expertise, developed through appropriate engagement between users and providers, made accessible through effective mechanisms, and responsive to user needs.

Four climate services components

Climateurope2 has identified four main components as a step towards defining the boundaries of climate services, which will help identifying what constitutes a quality-assured and equitable climate service.



Standardisation

Why standards?

Best practices, guidance, and standards serve as a form of governance, ensuring quality, legitimacy, relevance and usability of climate services.

CEN and CENELEC, European Standardisation Organisations, have already initiated the process for the standardisation of climate services.

Equitable standardisation

Europe should aim to place equity at the centre of standardisation processes, the resulting standards, and the climate service community.

This infosheet is based on the content of the Climateurope2 publication [Standardisation of equitable climate services by supporting a community of practice](#) and the podcast [What are climate services and the importance of standardisation?](#)