Climateurope2

Recommendations for Assessing and Increasing the Impact of Climate Services

D4.6 provides a cohesive assessment of the current state of the Climate Services (CS) market, consisting of insights gained from an eDelphi study with key CS market actors as well as an in-depth analysis of the relevant scientific publications on the topic of CS impact assessment and increase.
An updated, ranked, catalogue of best practices and malpractices was provided and summarised, along with recommendations for increasing and assessing the impact of CS. A step-by-step process for assessing the impact of CS was introduced:

1. **Define the evaluation purpose and scope**
2. **Develop an impact pathway as part of project design**
3. **Define a baseline**
4. **Select the appropriate evaluation methodology (qualitative or quantitative)**
5. **Account for attribution and confounding factors**
6. **Reflect on external validity and scalability**

The full set of recommendations issued in this report is summarised below:

*Summary of Recommendations issued in D4.6**

Recommendations for assessing the impact of Climate Services

- Promote flexible, user-oriented evaluation frameworks
- Encourage adoption of standard yet adaptable indicators
- Embed evaluation mechanisms from the early design stages
- Use participatory methods to capture user experience and value
- Share results and lessons learned openly across the sector

Recommendations for increasing the impact of Climate Services

- Prioritise co-production and long-term stakeholder engagement
- Ensure services align with operational and policy needs
- Invest in communication, visualisation, and capacity building
- Foster institutional coordination and system integration
- Leverage innovation and technology to reach under-served users

Recommended best practices for the Climate Services Market

- The upskilling of internal staff on the user-side, as well as the support of this upskilling on the provider side.
- A collaborative and open knowledge-sharing approach between providers and users of CS.
- Centering the user in the CS development process and setting up recurring feedback mechanisms between user and provider.
- To avoid misunderstandings and misinterpretation, ensure clear documentation, metadata, and/or data labelling to support correct interpretation of CS data on the user side.
- Facilitate better science communication both within the scientific community and from the scientific community towards end users.

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*this summary is based on the content of the Climateurope2 deliverable D4.6 Updated recommendations for assessments and increase of CS impact, catalogue of best practices and malpractices; foresight of demand evolutions and market developments, which can be found on: https://climateurope2.eu/resources/public-deliverables. The final set of recommendations will be published in June 2026.