CLIMATE SERVICES SUPPORTING TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Climate change affects tourism in the north

Climate in Finland is warming faster thatnthe global average, and the temperatures are expected to increase by several degrees towards the end of the century. In the Southern Finland wintery conditions become less frequent and in the Northern Finland the length of the snow cover period may shorten by a month by 2050. Wind conditions may become more challenging as well. Still, the characteristic variability of the Finnish climate remains.

More information: ***www.climateguide.fi***

The tourism sector looks for accessible and accurate climate services

Climate services aim to produce user-oriented climate information for different industries. In Finland the tourism sector expects adequate temporal and spatial accuracy to support decision making. Increasing awareness of climate change among the industry and its clients is considered important but the specifics in local impacts should be accurate. Skiing continues in the north also in the future and artificial snow can alleviate if conditions get worse. Seasonal forecasts can support ski resort business planning if they become more accurate. Shorter six week forecasts for Finland are currently developed within the CLIPS project, where pilot phase is open for participants.

More information on the six week forecasts: ***clips.fmi.fi***

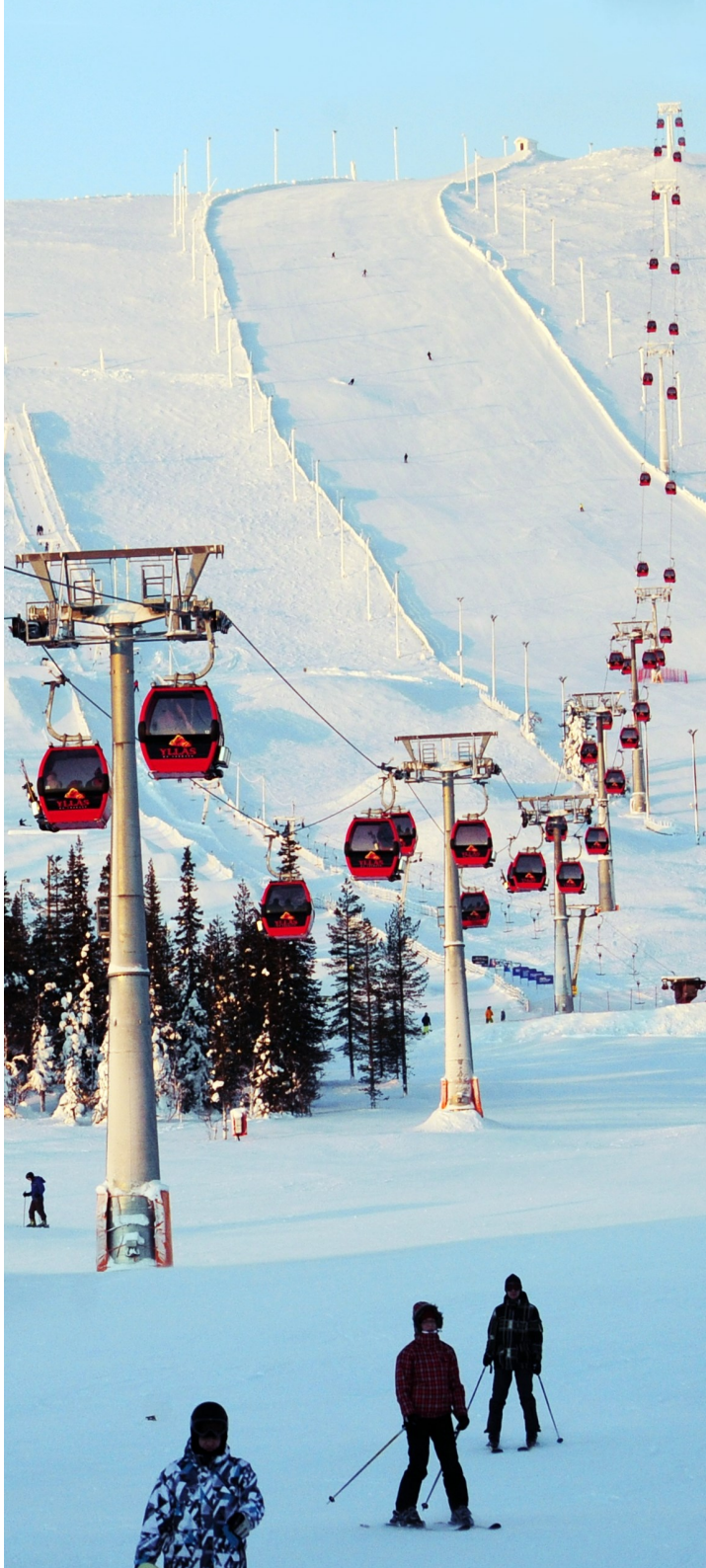
EU·MACS

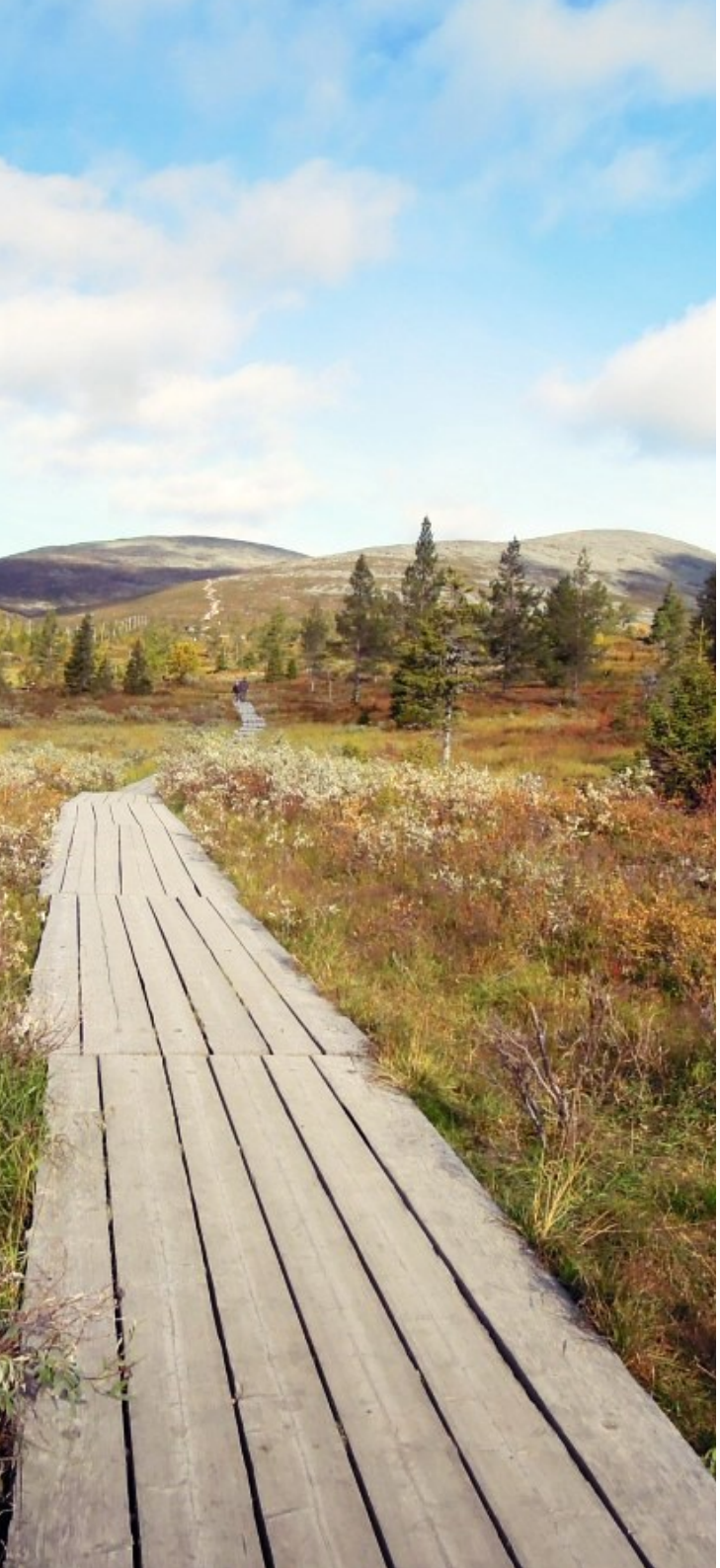
Finnish Meteorological Institute is researching climate services for tourism sector within the EU funded EU-MACS project.

More information: ***www.eu-macs.eu****, twitter: @EUMACS_H2020*

Researcher Atte Harjanne (atte.harjanne@fmi.fi)

ILMATIETEEN LAITOS
METEOROLOGISKA INSTITUTET
FINNISH METEOROLOGICAL INSTITUTE





Adapting to changing climate

Change is always an opportunity as well. Winter tourism businesses can adapt to climate change by investing in year around services and preparing for deteriorating snow conditions with artificial and stored snow. Ability to react flexibly to the changes in the length of winter season is important as well. Scenarios of climate change and its impacts can be used to guide long term investments in new infrastructure.

In the Alps climate services are already in use

In Austria tourism sector has succesfully used climate services in adapting to climate change. The state of Lower Austria conducted an assessment on the future snow conditions within the ski resorts of the region as part of the development of a new tourism strategy. Based on the results the state has focused infrastructure development to higher laying areas and improved conditions for year round tourism.

In the state of Styria a municipality owning a local ski resort ordered an assessment on how to prepare for changing climate in investment planning. A study combining climate science and economic assessment guided the ski resort to optimize the use of snow making equipment.

Finnish Meteorological Institute participates also in the MARCO project, the sister project of EU-MACS. The project takes a broader look on current use and demand of climate services. Work in MARCO has already brought up encouraging examples of services use that could be utilized also in Finland.

More information: ***marco-h2020.eu***

www.eu-macs.eu

ILMATIETEEN LAITOS
METEOROLOGISKA INSTITUTET
FINNISH METEOROLOGICAL INSTITUTE

EU·macs