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Drought in Central Europe— from drought response to preparedness

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Photos: Jan Vopravil (left); Petr Hlavinka (right)

SPECIALS of Climate Research (CR) present important new information on climate phenomena, measured and assessed by closely coordinated group efforts. They concentrate on specific research themes or geographic areas.

CR SPECIAL 33 highlights some of the main findings from the interdisciplinary drought research (InterSucho) project (sucho: Czech for drought). The aim of the InterSucho project was to understand drought as multifaceted extreme events at a regional scale with focus on the Czech Republic and Central Europe, and across various time scales. Some of the topics covered in this Special are:

- *Characteristics of historical and more recent drought events derived from documentary data*
- *Observed drought trends, including observed trends in drought impacts*

- *Response of agriculture to drought on seasonal and long-term scales*
- *Expected changes and challenges arising with ongoing climate change*
- *Methods to increase drought resilience starting from spatially explicit estimation of drought related hazards to drought planning*

Contributions to this CR SPECIAL provide—for the first time—a comprehensive overview of drought and its impacts, as well as possible measures to increase resilience in the region, which is considered to be one of Europe's climate change hot spots.

We are pleased to make the online version of this CR SPECIAL available with Open Access.

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