



saving data saving lives

JANUARY 2008 Issue

IEDRO 

saving data saving lives

INSIDE:
Data Collections
Success
Project Updates



International Data Rescue Organization

International IEDRO SUCCESS



“Open and unrestricted exchange of digitized data.”

10,220,000 observations rescued



Patagonia Glacier

t h e M I S S I O N

The mission of the International Environmental Data Rescue Organization is to assist the scientific and educational communities of mainly developing countries locate, rescue and digitize all environmental data currently at risk on perishable media, and to make those digitized data freely and openly available to the world scientific and educational communities before it is too late.

rescued

San Carlos, Maldonado, Uruguay



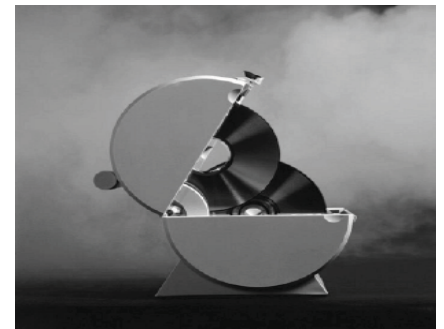
Uruguay
190,000 surface observations rescued

Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger,
Senegal and Zambia
328,000 upper-air observations rescued



Nairobi, Kenya

Punta Arenas, Chile
(a private museum)
504,000 surface observations rescued



data rescue

TOP FIVE REASONS

ONE

To predict the spread of diseases (malaria, yellow fever, West Nile Virus) so that doctors can reach and protect the children and the elderly before the disease hits.

TWO

To understand climate change and global warming by comparing past weather conditions with what's happening now.

THREE

To help keep the Earth's 1.8 Billion subsistence farming families from starvation by showing them the rainfall they can normally expect so that they can grow appropriate crops and save enough to get through the famine years.

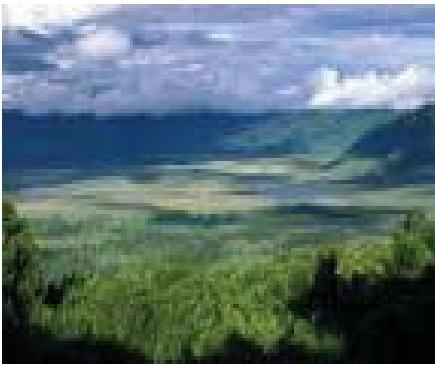
FOUR

To show engineers and builders the past extreme weather events so they can build bridges, dams, buildings to withstand these events when they occur again.

FIVE

To show weather forecasters what weather patterns produced tornados, floods, hurricanes so that they can better predict those killers now.

International data rescue news



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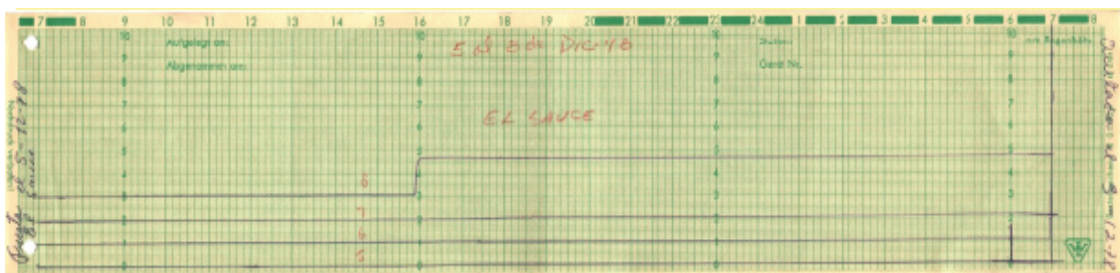


Techie Update

Strip chart
digitization program



The CD ED sent contains the actual strip chart digitization program and not just a presentation of what it does. Fantastic effort Ed! It was a hit at our booth at the American Meteorological Society meeting in New Orleans next week. Ed will be working with Jean-Paul and others to map out a strategy for continuing the development.



Valuable Chile Surface Data

A professional colleague, Dr. Gil Compo has let IEDRO know how valuable our newly digitized Punta Arenas, Chile surface data (504,000 observations) was to his group's reanalysis of the pressure patterns around South America in the mid 1880s to the early 1900's. The data set we got from the private museum was so complete that Dr. Compo's group used it as the baseline for their project. It is wonderful to hear how data rescued by IEDRO is used.

Torres del Paine, Chile



IEDRO in New Orleans

88th Annual Meeting of the American Meteorological Society

IEDRO's participation in the Annual AMS meeting was a great success. IEDRO Booth #127 had hundreds of interested visitors. Over 30 new contacts have been added to our mailing list. Our presentation on why we rescue data created a great deal of interest in our organization. Equally of interest, especially to the hydrologists, was Ed Root's Strip Chart Digitization Program running continuously on the other PC. Particularly interested was the Director of the Peru National Meteorological Service who will be contacting Ed in the near future. They offered to provide us with a CD copy of their program which might be of interest.

We also got a boost from a commercial colleague who gave suggestions as how to improve our booth and our presentation.

As IEDRO moves forward with help from our partners and volunteers, we can build upon this success to improve our booth and presentation for the next AMS Annual Meeting in Phoenix in 2009.

Thank you to all who supported our efforts

Dr. Rick Crouthamel
January 2008

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Project Niger



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