How to use the REXUS Observatory



Structure

Dataset: The REXUS Observatory's data publishing unit is known as "dataset," which refers to a parcel of data. It might, for example, be the temperature values for a certain location at a particular time. A dataset is made up of "metadata" and a number of "resources" that contain the actual data. CSV and Excel files, as well as graphics and linked data in RDF format, are examples of data formats. Last, but not least, a dataset might either have a high or low amount of resources in it.

Metadata: A loose term of metadata is "data about data". Metadata identify and explain all characteristics of a given dataset (i.e., the who, why, what, when and where) that allow the physical format, content and context of the data to be understood. All datasets are accompanied with metadata, which are provided via the Data collection protocol.

Pilots: All datasets provided via the Observatory are related to one of the pilots of the REXUS project, i.e., the Nima-Amaime Subwatershed, Spain National Territory, Isonzo river basin, Pinios river basin and Lower Danube river basin. In the first version of the observatory, indicative datasets from all pilots are successfully collected.

Sectors: Several sectors are introduced in order to better categorize the datasets in the Observatory. A dataset can belong to more than one sector. Multiple sectors have been defined for the 1st version of the repository, but only three are populated with data so far: Water, Climate change and Pilot data. These sectors provide a straightforward method for users to find and access data based on their interests.

Administrator: The repository has an administrator who is in charge of maintaining the content and users, as well as assigning authorization rights to users.

User: The repository can be accessed only from the partners of the REXUS project. These users can view the uploaded datasets and access them through the interface

Welcome Page

The welcome page of the REXUS Observatory introduces you to the Observatory and allows you to login with your credentials, in order to access the datasets. The welcome page contains a small description of the project and the Observatory, along with statistics showing (i) the number of pilots, (ii) the available datasets and (iii) the sectors provided in the tool (Figure 1).

When the login is complete, you will be redirected to your "Dashboard", where you will be able to see activity from items you are following, i.e., Pilots, Sectors and Datasets. At the top of the page, there is a menu for allowing you to easily navigate to the Datasets page, the Pilots page, the Sectors page and the About page (Figure 2).



Figure 1: Welcome page of the REXUS Observatory

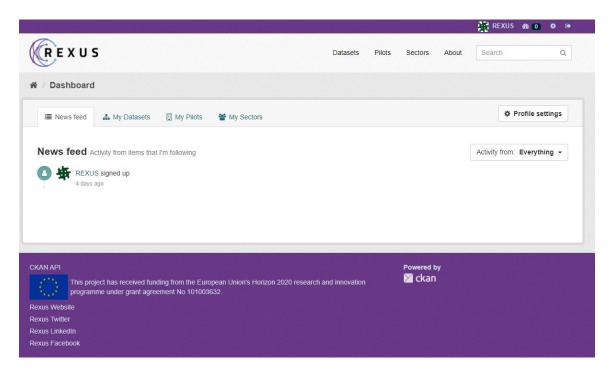


Figure 2: Landing page after Login

Login

At the welcome page you are provided with a login button. In order to have access to the Observatory you should login to the REXUS account that is shared among consortium partners. (Figure 3)

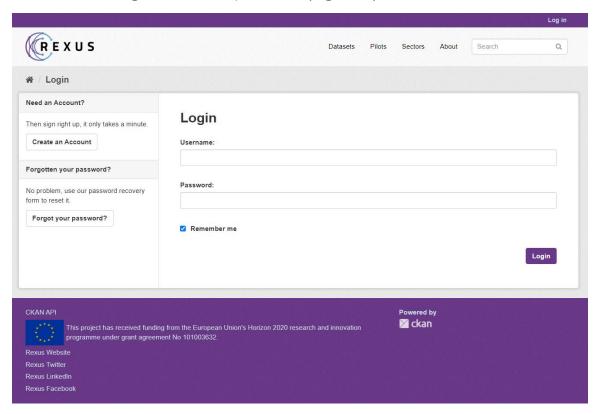


Figure 3: Login page

Pilots

You can navigate to the Pilots page of the Observatory by selecting "Pilots" from the menu (Figure 4). Each pilot has a dedicated page, where you can find information about the pilot (tab "About") and look at the latest activities relating to the datasets of the specific pilot (tab "Activity Stream") (Figure 5).

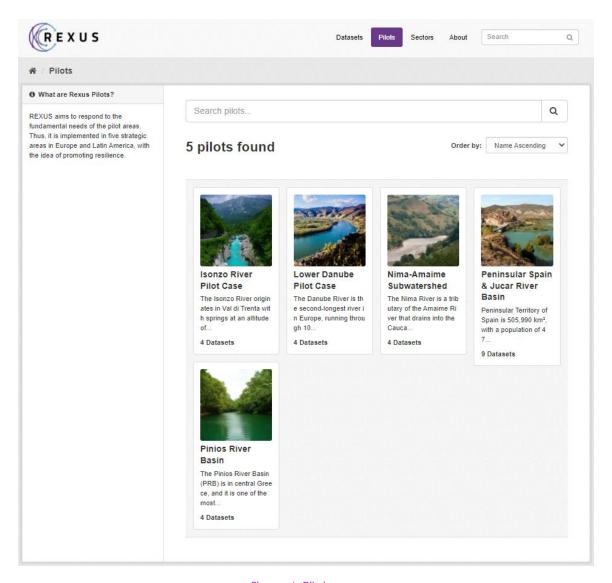


Figure 4: Pilot page

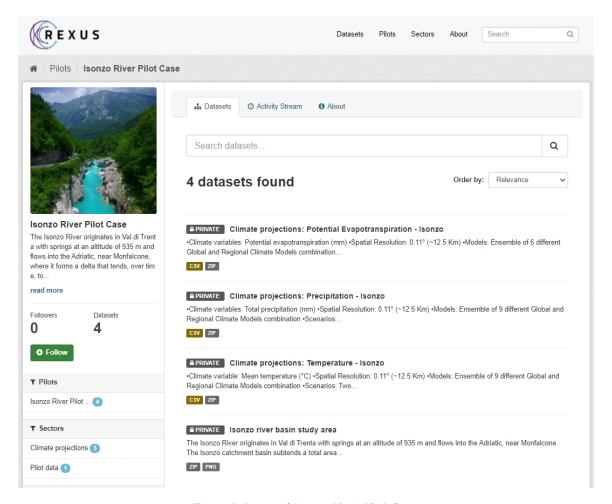


Figure 5: Page of Isonzo River Pilot Case

Sectors

In the Observatory, you will find different sectors related to the certain thematic aspects of the five pilots of REXUS pilots, by selecting "Sectors" in the menu bar (Figure 6). Each sector has a dedicated page, where you can search within its datasets (tab "Datasets") and look at the latest activities relating to the datasets of the specific sector (tab "Activity Stream") (Figure 7).

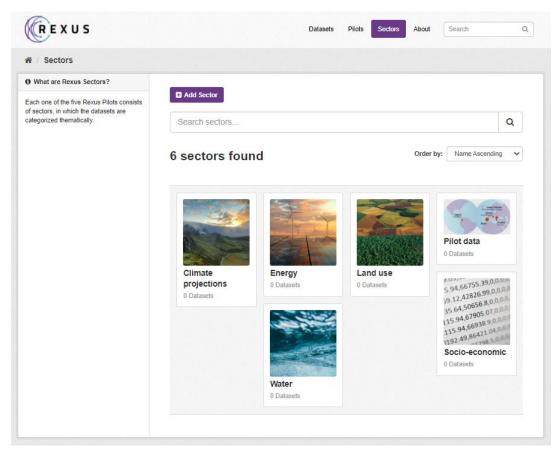


Figure 6: Sectors page

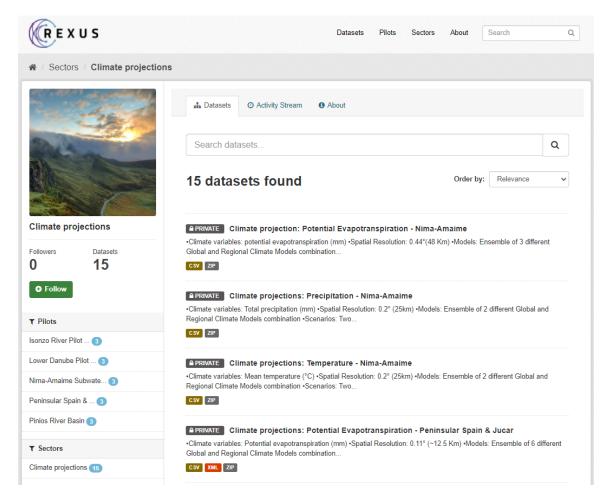


Figure 7: Page of Climate projections sector

Search for datasets

To find datasets in the Observatory, you can type any combination of words (e.g., "water footprint", "temperature", etc.) in the search box on any page. The Observatory will then return all corresponding search results as a list (Figure 8).

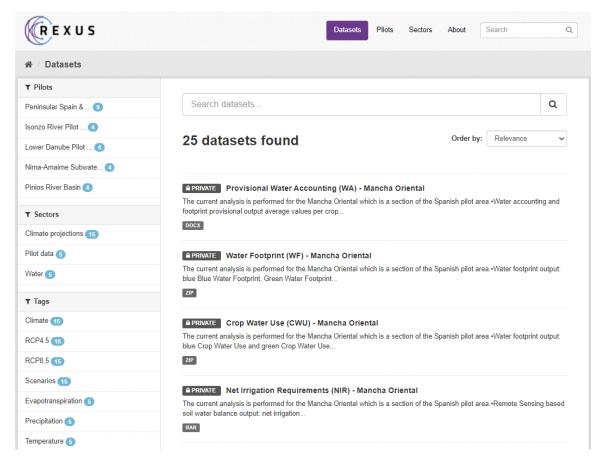


Figure 8: Datasets page

On the search result page, you can sort the results based on relevance, name, modification date or popularity by selecting "Order by". You can also limit the results using the filters on the left column (Pilots, Sectors, Tags, Formats). You can combine filters, selectively adding and removing them, and modify and repeat the search within existing filters still in place.

Additionally, you can select "Pilots" from the menu in order to view the five pilots and then select the one you are more interested in and be directed to that specific pilot's page. By typing a search query in the main search box on the page, the Observatory returns search results as described above but restricted to datasets from the specific pilot (Figure 9). Apart from typing in the search box, you can explore the datasets in that specific

pilot. Respectively, you can select "Sectors" from the menu and follow the same process to explore the datasets thematically.

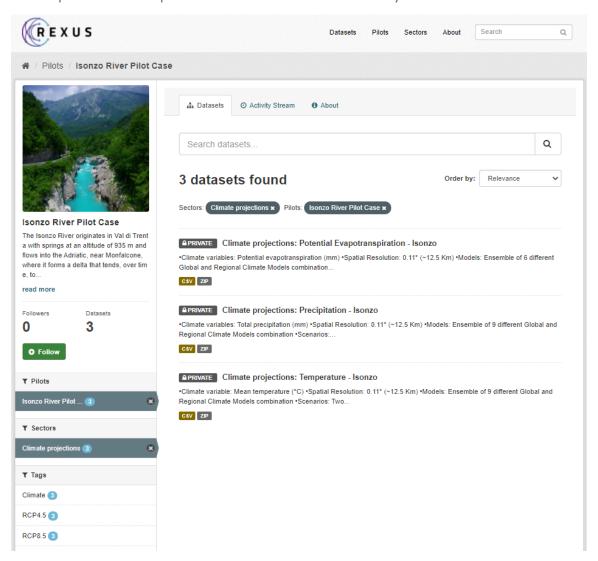


Figure 9: Datasets in the pilot's page with applied filters

Dataset

Once you find a dataset you are interested in and select it, the Observatory will display the dataset page (Figure 10). On the overview page of a dataset, you will be able to see three tabs: "Dataset", which shows the data and resources belonging to this dataset as well as additional information (metadata), "Sectors", which shows the sectors this dataset belongs to and "Activity stream", which shows the history of recent changes to the dataset. On the left part is a static column that displays the title of the dataset and the pilot that it relates to.

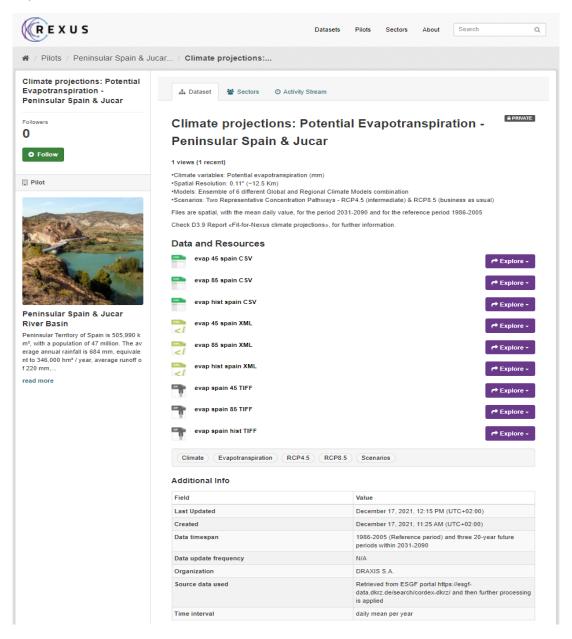


Figure 10: Dataset overview page

On the "Dataset" tab you can see all the information of the dataset including the title, the description, the list of data and resources, the keywords associated with the dataset and the additional info. The "Explore" button on the right of each resource offers the following options:

- More information which shows the page of the resource including additional information
- Download which downloads the file directly

The list of keywords and the additional information presents the metadata of the dataset, provided through the data collection protocol (Figure 11).

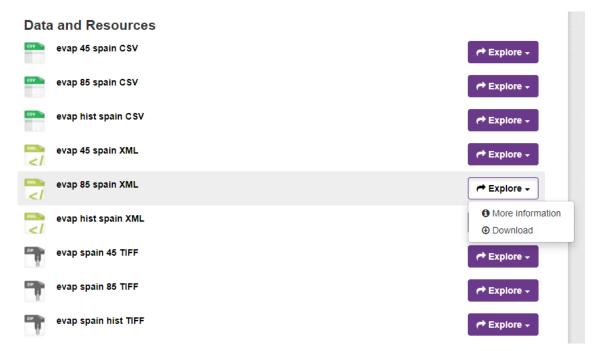


Figure 11: Download Data and Resources

Data preview and visualization

In the resource page, information for the specific file is presented and you have several preview options. The type of the file is presented on top, along with a link to its original source and the description of the dataset (Figure 12). Files in the format of CSV and XLS spreadsheets are previewed in a grid view, with map (after definition of the coordinate data fields in the file) (Figure 14) and graph views also available if the data is suitable.

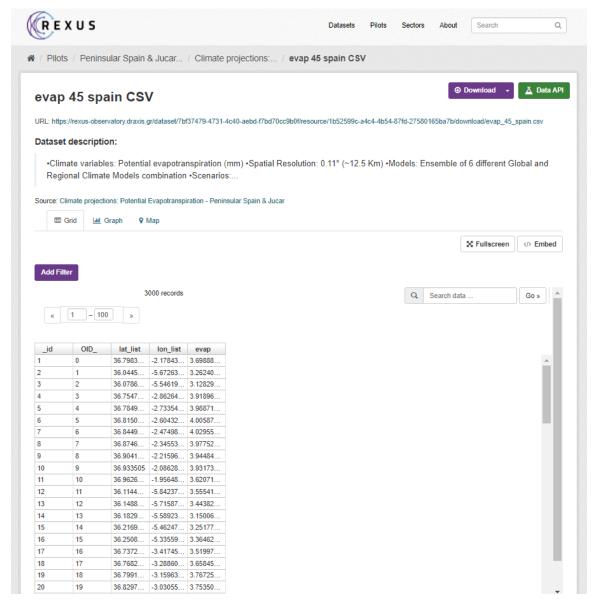


Figure 12: Dataset explore page, preview of data in grid

The "Graph" option allows you to create diagrams of five different types and select which fields of the file you wish to display on the two axes of the

graph (Figure 13). As a result, you are able to dynamically create any combination of data and get valuable insights for the dataset.

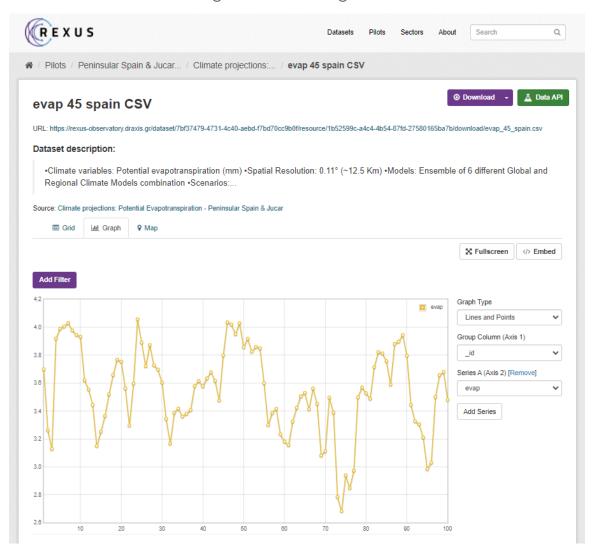


Figure 13: Dataset explore page, preview of data in a line graph

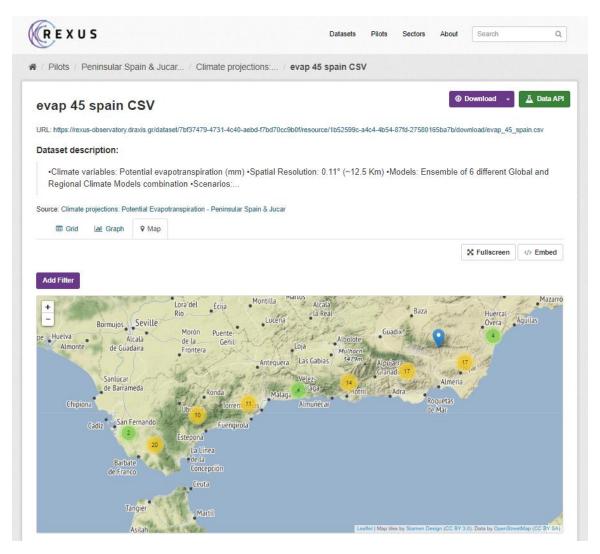


Figure 14:: Dataset explore page, preview of data in a map

Download and API

Apart from downloading a resource directly from the dataset page, you can navigate to the resource page where you are presented with more options. The download button is still available at the top of the page, where you can select the file format you want to download (Figure 15). Furthermore, the API option is available, which allows you to access the data directly for use in your solutions. By clicking on the "Data API" option, you are presented with a pop-up, where all the information for the API is available. More specifically, the available Endpoints are presented, along with several examples to guide you. Links to documentation are also included (Figure 16).

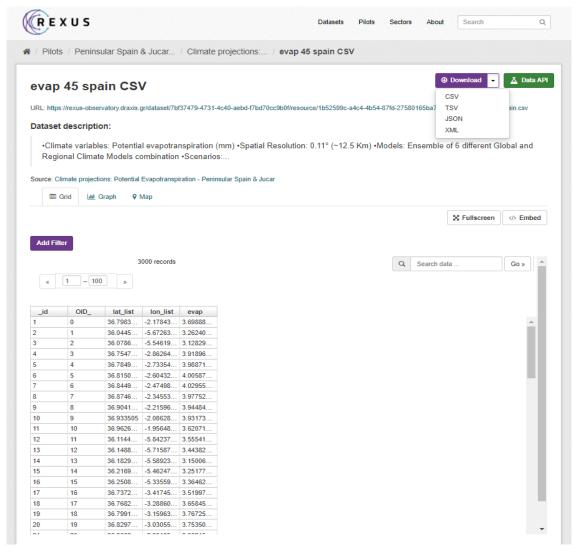


Figure 15: Download files in resource page

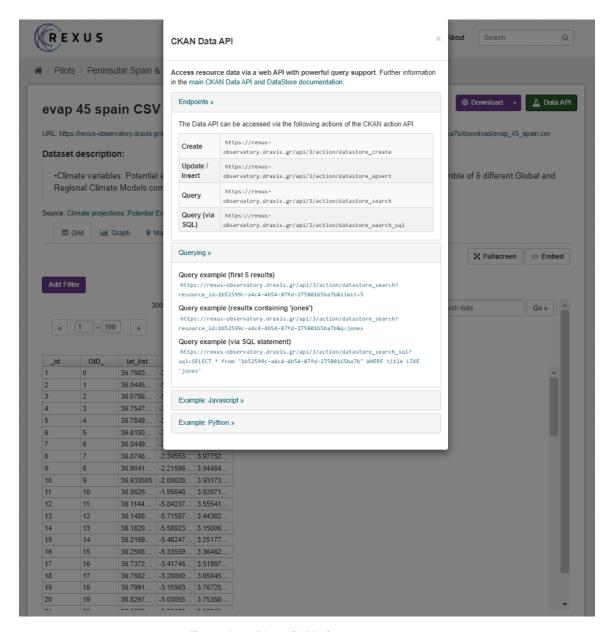


Figure 16: API available in resource page