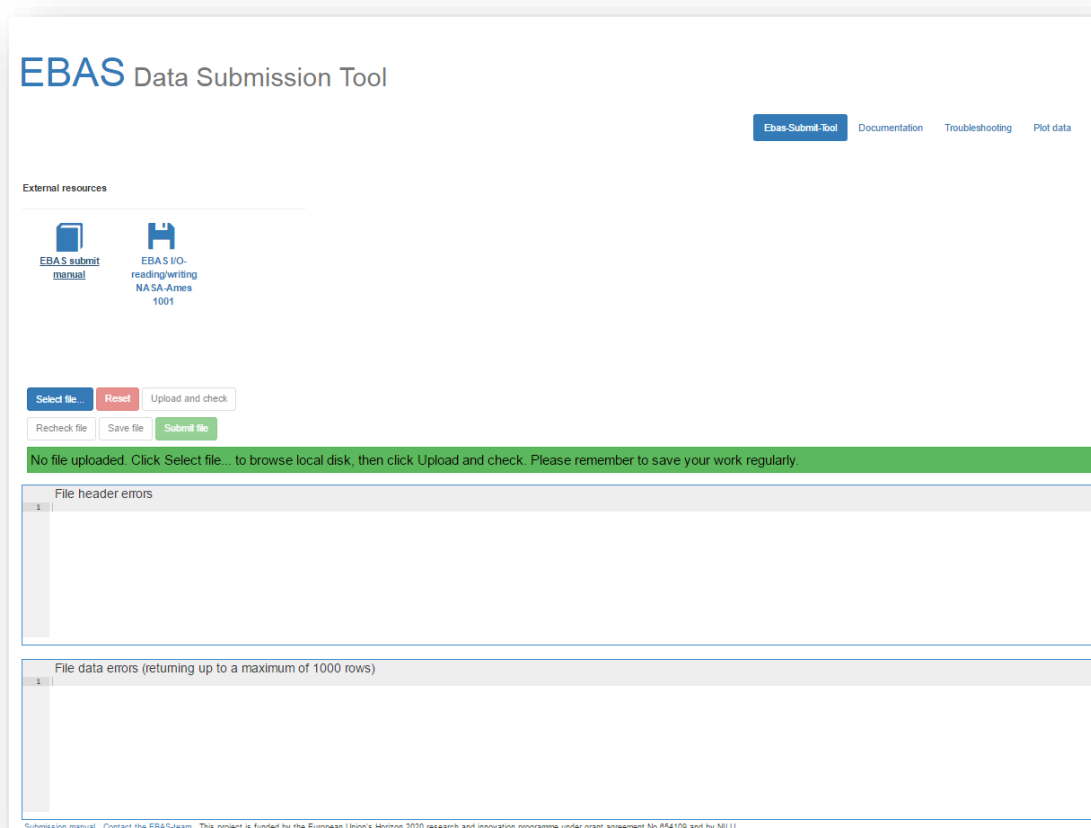


Deliverable D3.6: First version of QC tools for NA3 data submission available

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The EBAS data submission and validation tool for ACTRIS near surface data



The new EBAS data submission and validation tool <http://ebas-submit-tool.nilu.no/> is a web based portal developed as a part of the ACTRIS and EBAS data centre activities. The purpose of the tool is to improve the process related to the annual data submission of near surface to the database EBAS, both on data submitters side and on the data centres side.

The EBAS Data Submission Tool is an online file format and meta data checker, and a data submission system. It is designed to give the data submitters direct feedback on the formatted NASA Ames files and to deliver files through online data submission.

The tool aims to:

- Check the consistency of their NASA Ames file
- Upload data to EBAS submissions in case it passes the check.

The tool facilitates validation and submission of files, allow plotting of data prior to submission, and troubleshoot validation errors. For the data submitters, the tool enable instant feedback (both errors and warnings) on file formats, the templates used, metadata included, and facilitates checking of data through online plotting prior to submission to the data centre. This results in fewer errors in the submitted data, which again leads to higher quality of the data delivered to the data centre and shift of resources within the data centre to emphasize other quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) work.

The tool was presented as a beta-version at the ACTRIS-2 WP3 meeting in Athens in November 2015. At the meeting a test user group was formed, and the tool was thoroughly tested over the following 3 months period by the test group, and internally at NILU- The outcome of the tests made it possible to further improve the tool before it was released for use by all data submitters in March 2016, well in time for the submission deadline on 31 July.

The format checker is directly linked to all (ca 40) data format templates located at <http://ebas-submit.nilu.no/> and the ftp server designed for incoming data <ftp://ebas-submissions.nilu.no/incoming>. A built-in feature for online modification of header during check- and submission- procedure steps, facilitates a relatively quick and easy checking procedure on the users side. The use of the tool was at the expected level, where about 20-25% of the data sets was tested herein before being sent to EBAS. Especially data submitters from the trace gas community were well represented among those who used the new tool for the 2016 data submission. Documentation of how to use the tool is also available from the site <http://ebas-submit-tool.nilu.no/>

The tool have already users from over 40 countries, and 34 of these countries have two or more sessions, using the application more than once. An overview of the uses countries for this first period is shown below:

Country	Sessions	Sessions
	1,418 % of Total: 100.00% (1,418)	1,418 % of Total: 100.00% (1,418)
1. Norway	363	25.60%
2. United Kingdom	178	12.55%
3. Germany	165	11.64%
4. Australia	107	7.55%
5. Slovenia	83	5.85%
6. France	62	4.37%
7. Finland	61	4.30%
8. Italy	55	3.88%
9. Spain	51	3.60%
10. Latvia	35	2.47%
11. Greece	28	1.97%
12. Switzerland	26	1.83%
13. Bolivia	22	1.55%
14. Czech Republic	22	1.55%
15. Netherlands	22	1.55%
16. Poland	18	1.27%
17. Iraq	17	1.20%
18. Argentina	15	1.06%
19. (not set)	10	0.71%
20. Russia	9	0.63%