



Seasonal-to-decadal climate Prediction for the  
improvement of European Climate Services

**THEME ENV.2012.6.1-1**

**G.A. no 308378**

**WP1.2 Dissemination**

**Deliverable 12.2 Leaflets and fact sheets**

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		P - Prototype	
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	X	O - Other	
<b>Dissemination Level/ Audience</b>		PP - Public	
	X	PU - Restricted to other programme participants, including the Commission services	
		RE - Restricted to a group specified by the consortium, including the Commission services	
		CO - Confidential, only for members of the consortium, including the Commission services	

Version	Date	Modified by	Comments
1	19/09/2013	Mar Rodríguez	First draft
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## 1. Executive summary

This deliverable focuses on the description of the dissemination material developed for the project: leaflets, fact sheets and a roll up. The material was especially designed and produced for the SPECS project in a way that an identifiable project image (branding) could be easily recognized by the target groups, including the public.

The leaflet is targeted to both technical and non-technical audiences. For this reason it has been designed in an easy way to explain a few basic concepts. A roll up of the project has been also designed following the same criteria. It is being used in each General Assembly as well as during the main public events of the project. The roll up may also be used at events where the project is presented. After one year from the beginning of the project, a list of fact sheets has been designed to disseminate among a large and varied audience the main features of climate prediction. The list is now under discussion with EUPORIAS to ensure that the fact sheets cover the topics that the users expect, to avoid using a top-down approach that has proven to fail until now. A yearly update of these fact sheets is planned to enrich the knowledge of both technical and non-technical audiences.

## 2. Project objectives

Not applicable.

## 3. Detailed report on the deliverable

### 3.1 Leaflet

Approximately 150 leaflets have been printed and are distributed during conferences, general assemblies and other events where SPECS is present. It is an alternative, non-electronic communication channel that enhances the dissemination efficiency. Additional copies will be printed whenever necessary. The leaflet is also available for download from the SPECS webpage.

The design of the leaflet is based on a paper folded in three in a way that 6 sides are formed with different sections. Two of the sides are used as front and back cover and the leaflet is folded in a way that these two sides remain on the outer part.

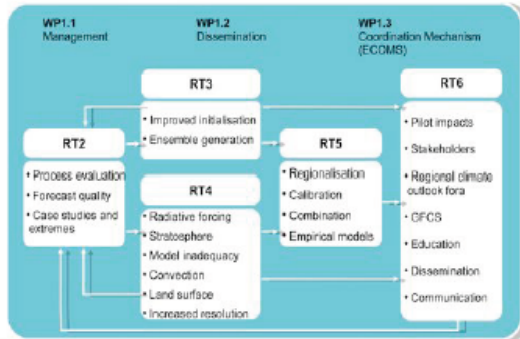
The leaflet includes the project logo, the EC logo, the 7th Framework Programme logo and a sentence that states the funding from the EC.

The SPECS leaflet mainly contains:

- The main objectives of the project,
- The context of the project,
- The name and logo of each project partner,
- Details of the main project contacts,
- The expected impact of the project.

The next two pages illustrate the SPECS leaflet.

Overall concept and interactions in SPECS; the table lists the six participating global forecast systems and the partners that will use them.



WP1.1: SPECS Management	WP1.2: SPECS Dissemination		WP1.3: Coordination Mechanism (ECOMS)				
WP1.2: SPECS Dissemination	WP1.3: Coordination via ECOMS across all FP7-Env Projects: EUPORIAS, NACLIM & SPECS		RT2: Evaluation of current s2d forecast systems	RT3: Forecast strategies	RT4: Improved systems	RT5: Calibrated predictions at the local scale	RT6: Towards climate services
Forecast System	CNRM-CM5	EC-Earth	IFS-NEMO	IFS-LM5	MP1-ESM	UM	
Project Partner	CNRM, CERFACS	IKM, SMR, IC, THEA	ECMWF, UCLM	CNRS	MPI, UHAM	URMET	

## The Impact of SPECS

The impact of SPECS consists in the provision of improved seasonal-to-decadal (s2d) climate forecast systems to relevant operational platforms, which include the European global producing centres (GPCs) of climate forecasts, the Regional Climate Outlook Fora (RCOFs) and the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) Lead Centre for Long-Range Forecasts Multi-Model Ensemble (LC-LRFMME). Private operators and stakeholders are likely to benefit from the improved climate forecast systems. All these users will benefit from the comprehensive documentation generated on the usefulness of s2d forecast systems for several socio-economic sectors. This material will be the basis of a new generation of European climate services acting on s2d time scales.

## CONTACT US

### WEBSITE

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Design by IC3.

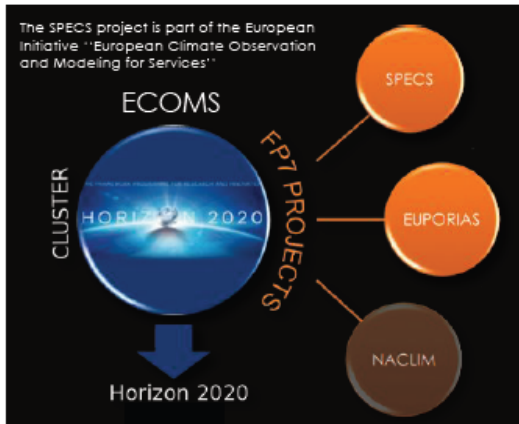
## SPECS PROJECT



Seasonal-to-decadal climate Prediction for the improvement of European Climate Services



SPECS will deliver a new generation of climate prediction systems for seasonal-to-decadal time scales, to provide actionable climate information for a wide range of users





## SPECS

### Seasonal-to-decadal climate Prediction for the improvement of European Climate Services

The SPECS project will undertake research and dissemination activities to deliver a new generation of European climate forecast systems, with improved forecast quality and efficient regionalisation tools to produce reliable, local climate information over land at seasonal-to-decadal time scales, and provide an enhanced communication protocol and services to satisfy the climate information needs of a wide range of public and private stakeholders.

The improved understanding and seamless predictions will offer better estimates of the future frequency of high-impact, extreme climatic events and of the prediction uncertainty. New services to convey climate information and its quality will be used.

SPECS will be, among other things, the glue to coalesce the outcome of previous research efforts that hardly took climate prediction into account. It will ensure interoperability so as to easily incorporate their application in an operational context, provide the basis for improving the capacity of European policy making, industry and society to adapt to near-future climate variations and a coordinated response to some of the GFCs (Global Framework for Climate Services) components.

*SPECS is financed by the European Commission through the 7th Framework Programme for Research, Grant Agreement No. 308378*

*The information and views set out in this leaflet are those of IC3 and do not necessarily reflect the official opinion of the European Union.*



#### The context of SPECS

SPECS is organised in two complementary ways:

- In a set of overarching research themes (RTs) containing one or more work packages (WPs) each that structure the main goals of the project, and
- In a number of cross-cutting themes (CCTs) offering a common protocol for efficient RT interaction.

The main philosophy of SPECS is unique in that it addresses its objectives by integrating and testing the consolidated knowledge on climate modelling and impact assessment generated by other EU-funded projects and operational activities to optimise the project outcome and achieve a maximum impact.

#### SPECS partners

IC3, Spain (project leader)	UNEXE, UK
INPE, Brazil	MetNo, Norway
MPG, Germany	Vortex, Spain
KNMI, Netherlands	MetOffice, UK
UOXF, UK	SMHI, Sweden
METEOF, France	CNRS, France
CERFACS, France	UREAD, UK
NILU, Norway	CSIC, Spain
ENEA, Italy	ECWMF, UK
UNIVLeeds, UK	UHAM, Germany



**SPECS will deliver a new generation of climate prediction systems for seasonal-to-decadal time scales, to provide actionable climate information for a wide range of users**

Currently developing climate services demand better and more accessible climate information from seasonal-to-decadal climate forecast systems. This includes not just more skilful and reliable climate forecasts produced by a new generation of climate prediction systems and relevant at regional and local spatial scales, but also the delivery of information for variables actually employed in climate-sensitive sectors in forms not yet fully explored by the climate community.

The figure on the right shows an example of what can be made available with the current climate prediction systems for the solar energy sector and marks the starting point of the path that SPECS aims to explore.

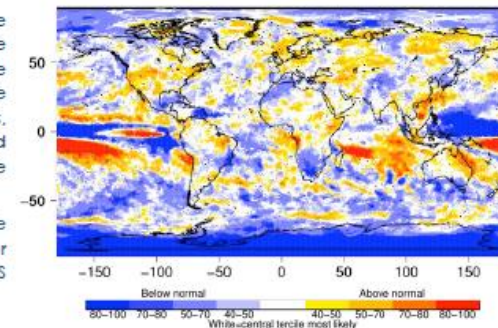


Figure: Global seasonal probability forecast (%) of the most likely downward solar radiation tercile (below normal, normal or above normal) for summer 2011 (June, July and August) started in May from ECMWF's System 4

### 3.2 Fact sheets

The fact sheets will be two-page long documents that intend to introduce basic concepts of climate prediction and key-aspects of s2d forecasting to a wide audience that ranges from stakeholders sensitive to climate variability to the stakeholder. They use simple language and illustrative graphics, and intend to narrow the gap between operational climate predictors and society in a similar way as climate-change scientists have done in the recent past. This activity will be jointly coordinated by the Project Office with the Met Office, will be developed along the life of the project receiving contributions from many SPECS partners (depending on their expertise), always in close consultation with key EUPORIAS partners and the SPECS stakeholders to ensure that an opportunity exists for the users and the public to provide continuous feedback, and will provide basic information for the expected link between SPECS and the [Climate4impact portal](#). This sort of material does not exist anywhere yet and is expected to lead the way for a more “down-to-Earth” approach in the communication of climate prediction and its usefulness.

The publication of the fact sheets is subject to the project’s progress and to the validation by the EUPORIAS (Grant Agreement 308291) partners, who will be the testers of these documents in an iterative process ensured by the coordination. The efficiency of this process is ensured because the EUPORIAS project is closely linked to SPECS and also participates actively in the European initiative [European Climate Observations Modelling and Services \(ECOMS\)](#) under work package WP1.3. *The close cooperation with EUPORIAS will ensure that the SPECS fact sheets address relevant themes and use the adequate language to attract the attention of the readers.*

This list describes the fact sheets planned for the next two years and allocates responsibilities to prepare the content:

2014

- *How are seasonal and decadal forecasts possible?* IC3, F.J. Doblas-Reyes, UniHH, J. Baehr, METEOR, M. Deque, METOFFICE Alberto Arribas and Adam Scaife,
- *Seasonal and Decadal Climate Predictions* IC3, F.J. Doblas-Reyes, METOFFICE Alberto Arribas, Doug Smith and Jeff Knight, 2014.
- *Forecast reliability and trustworthiness* UREAD/UOXF/IC3, E. Hawkins/A. Weisheimer/F.J. Doblas-Reyes, 2014.
- *How detectable are improvements in forecast quality?* UNEXE, S. Siebert, C. Ferro and D.B. Stephenson, 2014.
- *The need for downscaling* CSIC, J.M. Gutiérrez, 2014
- *Predicting tropical cyclones* SMHI/IC3, L.P. Caron, 2014.

2015

- *How to proceed from multiple sources of information: calibration and combination* INPE, C. Coelho and A. Turasie, 2015.
- *Improving Long Range Forecasts: sources of skill* ECMWF/METOFFICE, T. Stockdale/A. Scaife, 2015.

This list is dynamic and will grow, and might change, depending on the feedback periodically received from the EUPORIAS partners and the SPECS stakeholders.



The fact sheets have been designed following the image/branding of the project. A template is available in Annex I of this deliverable. The content of the fact sheets that will be a mixture of text, graphs and images is subject to an iterative process. This template is an initial version only; the template might evolve in the course of producing the first round of fact sheets depending, particularly, on the feedback received from the testers about the space to be allocated to the figures.

The fact sheets will be available via the SPECS and some of the Global Producing Centres (GPC) web sites to increase the impact of this absolutely essential piece of climate information for a wide range of stakeholders and the public. The use of other public web sites is currently being evaluated by the consortium, although at this early stage and until a first draft is available, it is difficult to obtain the final acceptance of the editorial board. Some examples are:

- [Real Climate](#)
- [Science in school](#)
- [The Norwegian weather forecasting portal](#)

### 3.3 Roll up

Another dissemination material in this project is a roll up. It has been designed to be exhibited in each general assembly or in any other important event. It summarizes the main goals and structure of the project.

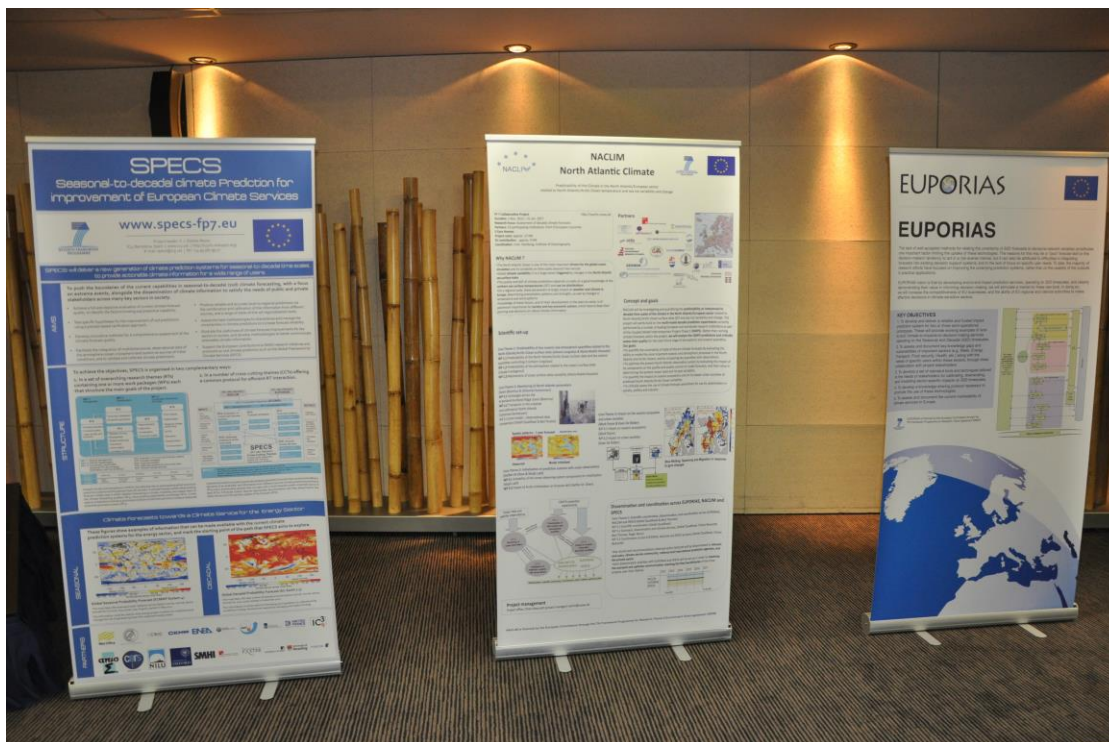


Photo of the SPECS roll up (on the left side) exposed at the kick off meeting (Barcelona, 6-9 November 2012)

## 4. References

Not applicable.



## 5. List of publications

Not applicable.

## 6. Efforts for this deliverable

Partner	Person-months (actual)	Person- months (in-kind)	Period covered
1. IC3	2		M1-M12
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>		

## 7. Sustainability


The dissemination material mentioned in this deliverable will be updated during the project lifetime. This material is available in the project website in pdf format so to be disseminated through other via and can also be used as printouts for local, regional and national dissemination and communication by the partners.

Reviews of dissemination material will be held by the coordinator together with work package leaders in order to give the more actual information of the project to the target audience. It is worth mentioning the collaboration with EUPORIAS project, where SPECS WP6.2 has a clear link to EUPORIAS WP4.3.

## Annex I


# Title

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SPECS  
Specialised Services for the  
Implementation of European Union Services

Your logo here



This project is funded by the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) of the European Commission  
GA: 308378

Design by IC3