

Improved/Standardized Format of Seasonal Outlook Statements

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WMO OMM

World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

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Review of Regional Climate Outlook
Forums, Ecuador, 5 – 7 September 2017**

What is an RCOF Consensus Statement?

What is its main purpose?

- A document developed through collective judgment, position, and opinion of a group of experts (with varied but complimentary expertise and skills in the subject) that provides a comprehensive summary about the prevailing climate and likelihood of climate conditions at a future time period (reference season) over a region of interest.
- Main purpose of the consensus statement is to help NMHSs in preparing national specific climate outlook and guide user community from climate-sensitive user sectors (like agriculture and food security, health, energy, water resources, disaster risk reduction and response, media etc.) in developing detailed sector-specific risk information including warnings, which are communicated to decision-makers and the public for gaining substantial socio-economic benefits in the respective sectors (i.e. reduce climate-related risks and support sustainable development).

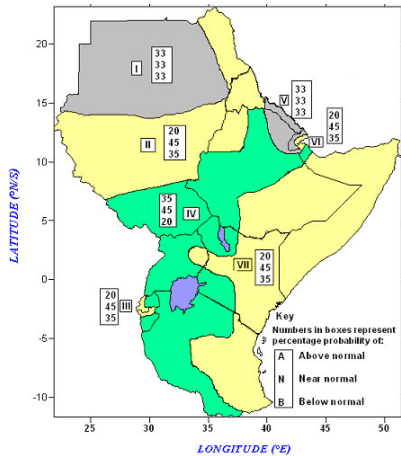


Summary of Various Information Provided Currently in the Consensus Forecast Statement by RCOFs

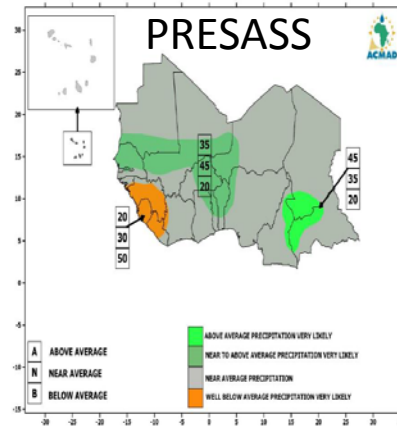
RCOF	Components in the Consensus Forecast Statement						
	Summary	Methodology/ Development process	Present Climate Conditions	Forecast Map (probabilistic)	Description of Forecast Outlook	Verification of previous Forecast	*Impact warnings/ advisories
GHACOF	✓	✓		✓	✓		
PRESASS	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓ (Many sectors)
SARCOF	✓	✓		✓	✓		
SWIOCOF	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
PRESANORD			✓	✓	✓		
PRESAGG			✓	✓	✓		
PRESAC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
FOCRAII	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
EASCOF	✓		✓	✓	✓		
SASCOF	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
SSACOF			✓	✓	✓		
WCSACOF	✓		✓	✓	✓		
CACOF			✓	✓	✓		
CARICOF	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓ (health & drought)
ICU	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓ (drought)
PICOF (OCOF)				✓	✓		
MedCOF	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
SEECOF	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
NECOF	✓			✓	✓		

Region I: Africa

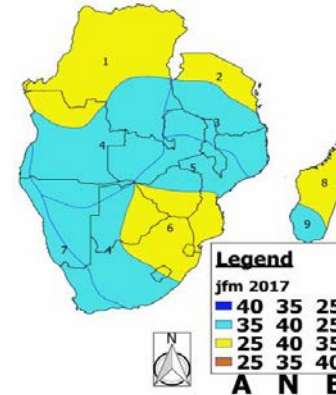
GHACOF



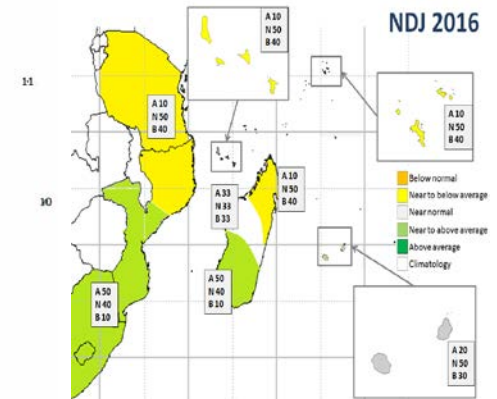
SEASONAL PRECIPITATION FORECAST FOR SUDANO-SAHELIAN REGION OF AFRICA VALID FOR JUNE-JULY-AUGUST 2017 ISSUED ON MAY 19, 2017



SARCOF



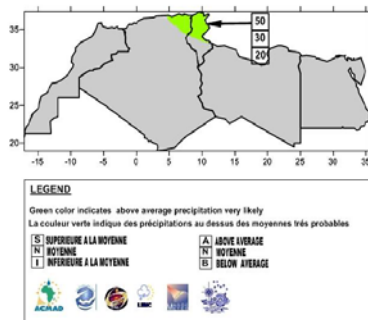
SWIOCOF



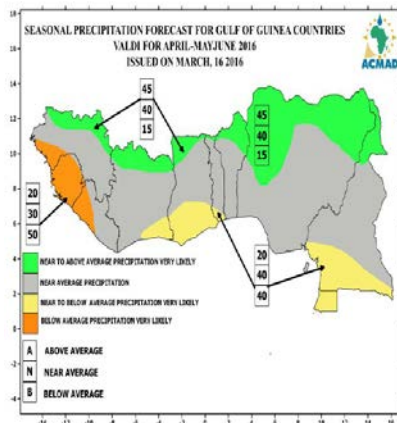
PRESANORD

SEASONAL PRECIPITATION FORECAST
 VALID FOR APRIL-MAY-JUNE 2015
 ISSUED ON MARCH 23 2015

PREVISION CLIMATIQUE SAISONNIERE DES PRECIPITATIONS
 VALIDE POUR AVRIL-MAI-JUIN 2015
 ELABOREE LE 23 MARS 2015

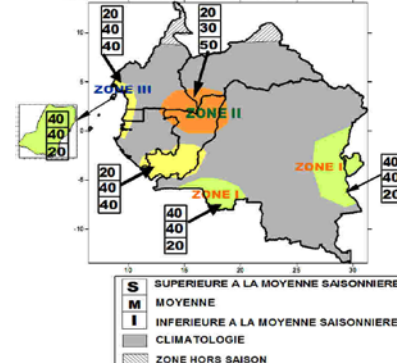


PRESAGG

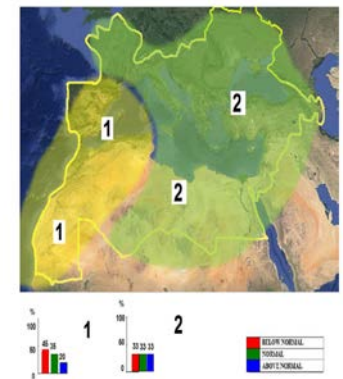


PRESAC

PREVISION CLIMATIQUE SAISONNIERE
 VALABLE POUR LA PERIODE OCTOBRE-NOVEMBRE-DECEMBRE 2014
 EN AFRIQUE CENTRALE
 REGIONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK FOR CENTRAL AFRICA
 VALID FOR OCTOBER-NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2014



MedCOF



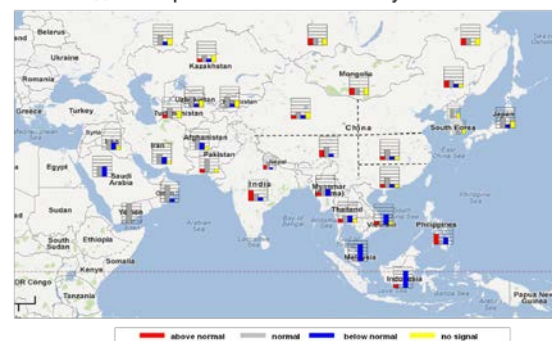
Region II: Asia

FOCRAII

2017 JJA Deterministic Precipitation Prediction from Feedback



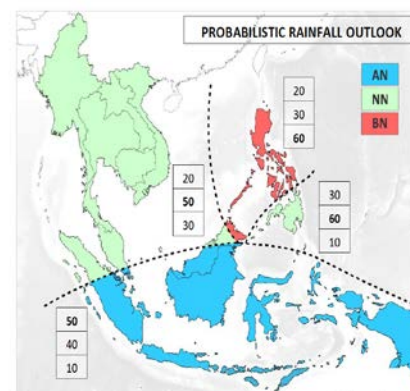
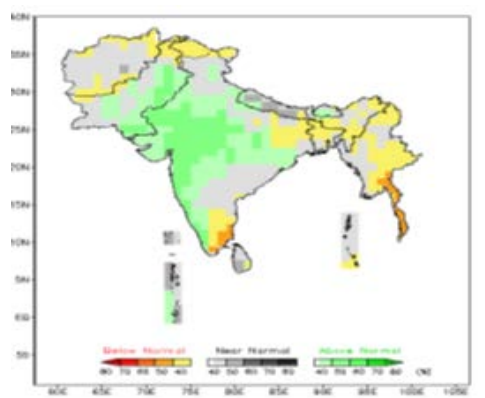
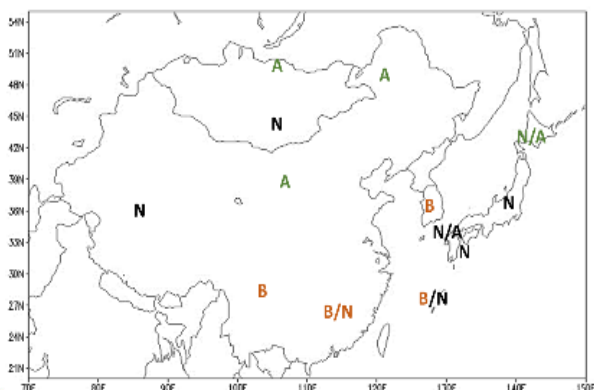
2017 JJA Precipitation Prediction from Dynamical Models



EASCOF

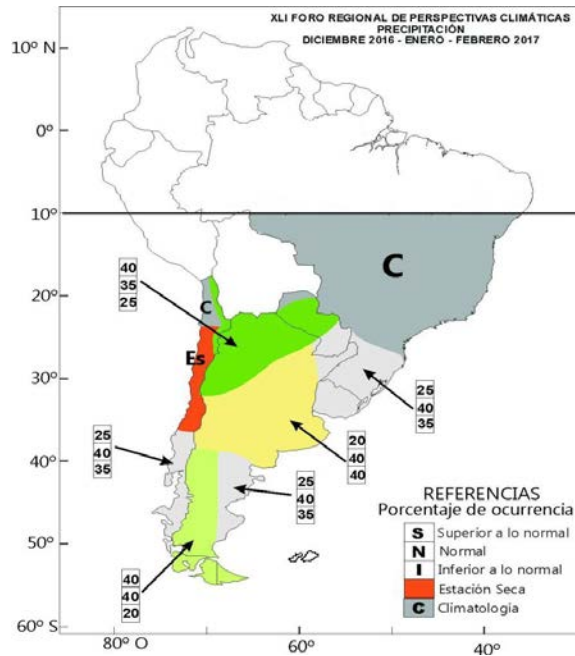
SASCOF

ASEANCOF

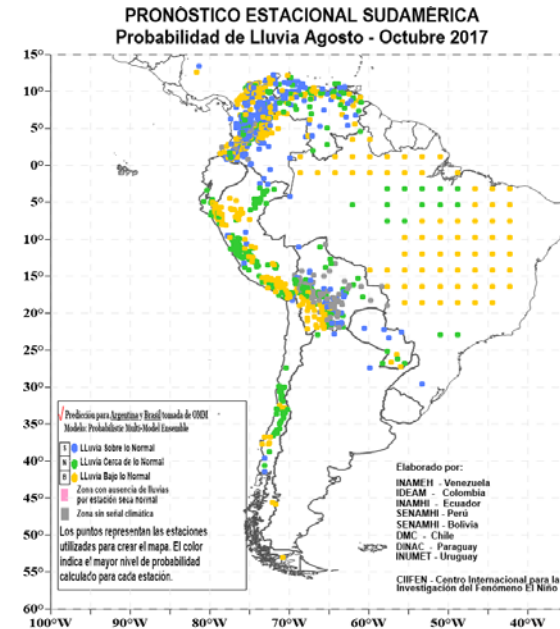


Region II: South America

SSACOF

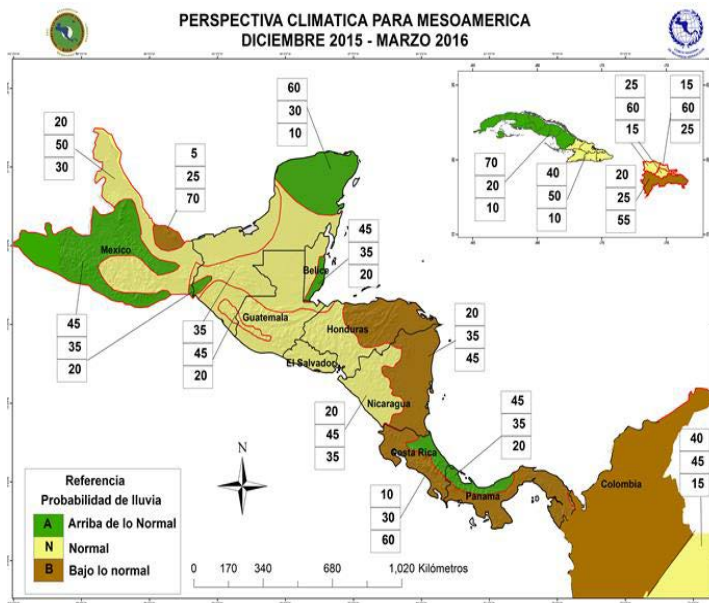


WCSACOF

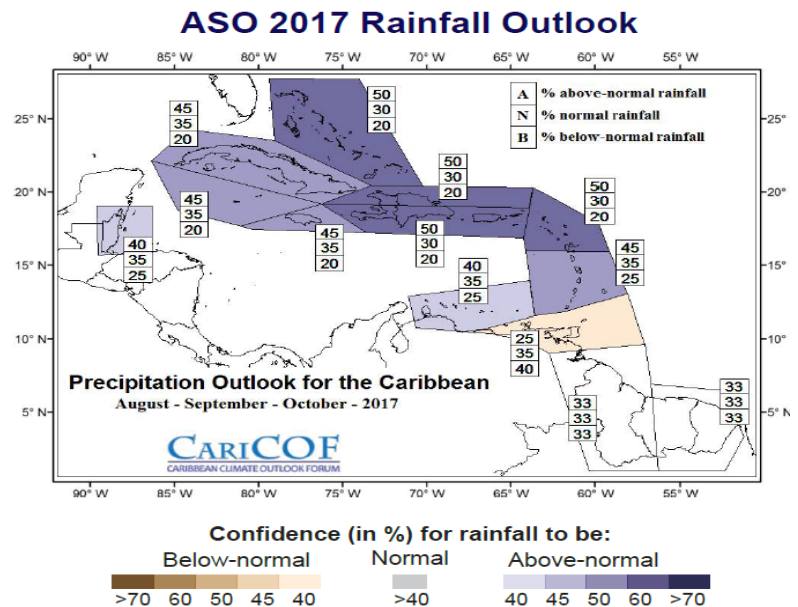


Region IV: North America, Central America and Caribbean

CACOF



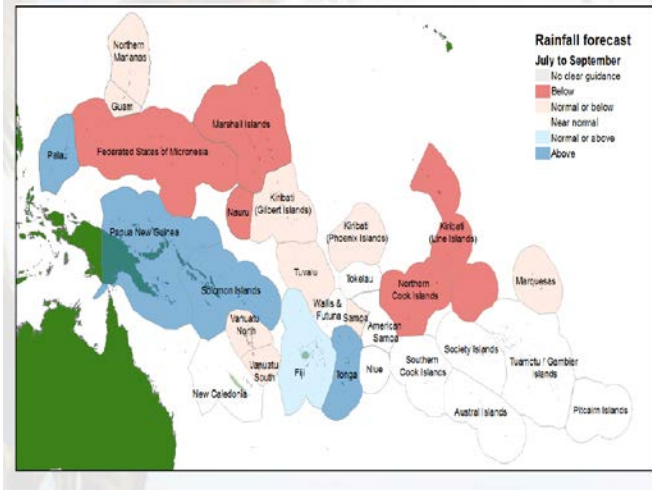
CARICOF



Region V: SW Pacific

ICU

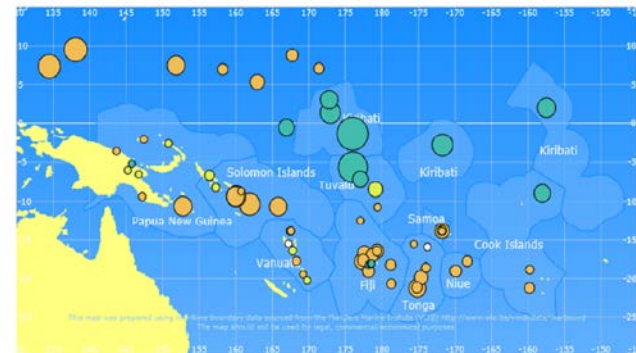
July to September 2017 rainfall forecast



PICOF/ OCOF

scopic Spatial Summary

Seasonal Climate Outlook for the period February to April 2016



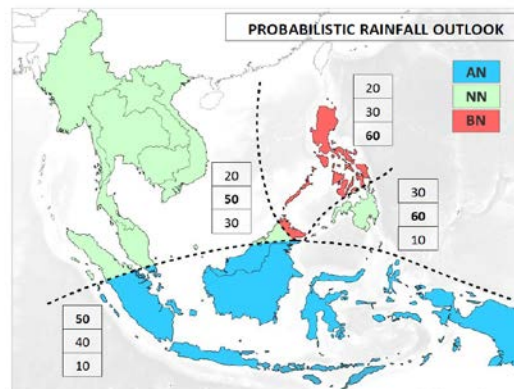
Legend

- Bias towards below-normal rainfall
- Bias towards normal rainfall
- Bias towards above-normal rainfall
- No bias in forecast (Climatology)

Larger "bubbles" represent higher forecast skill (based on LEPS scores)

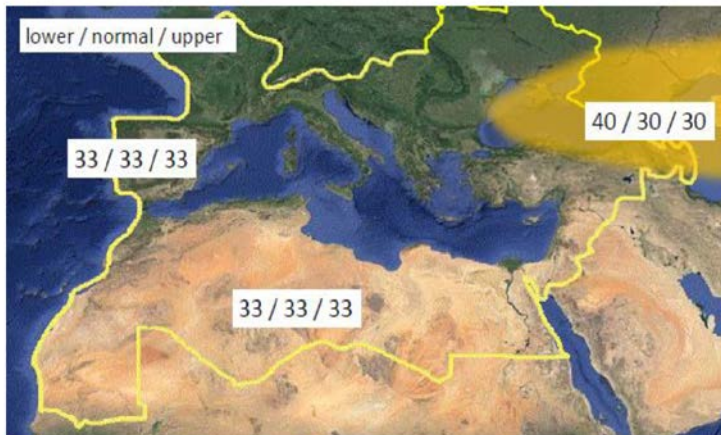
ASEANCOF

Consensus Maps for JJA 2016



Region VI: Europe

MedCOF



NEACOF

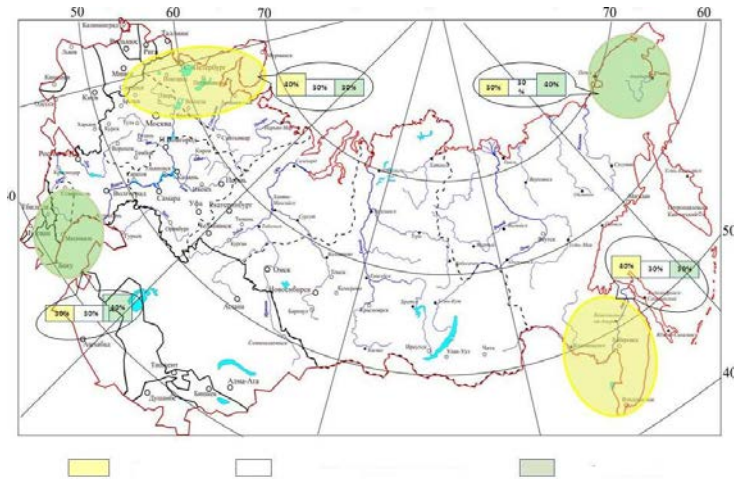


Figure 2. The same as figure 1 but for precipitation.

SEECOF

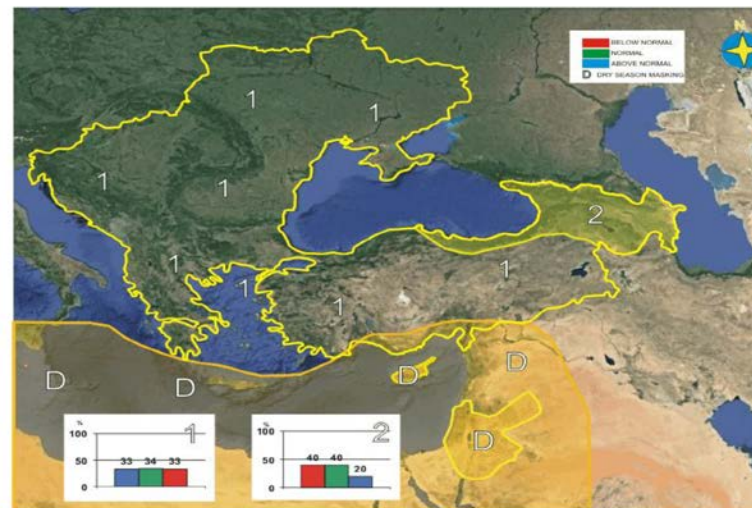


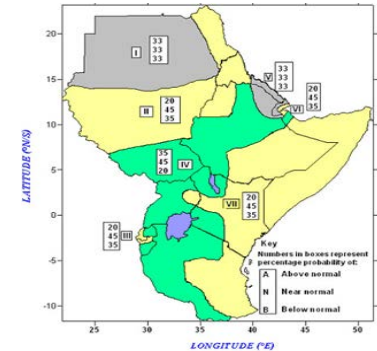
Figure 2. Graphical presentation of the 2017 summer precipitation outlook

Consensus Forecast Map

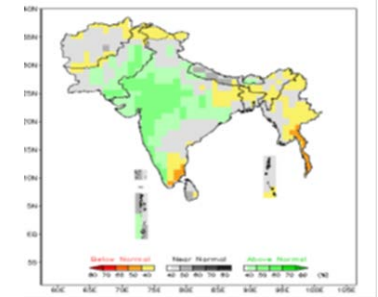
The following are the important observations made from the probability forecast maps by various RCOFs

- Pbbty forecast maps by most of the RCOFs depicted (color shaded) areas of most likely tercile categories over the region, as well as the probabilities for *each tercile categories over broad areas of same colour shade. But the colour depicting different tercile categories are not uniform.*
- Some RCOFs used fourth color to indicate areas of climatological probabilities.
- Pbbty forecast map by SASCOF depicted grid wise most likely tercile category as well as its probability for each of the 1° latitude x 1° longitude spatial grid boxes over the region.
- FOCRAII & EASCOF indicated only the most likely tercile categories (A, N & B) over broad areas.

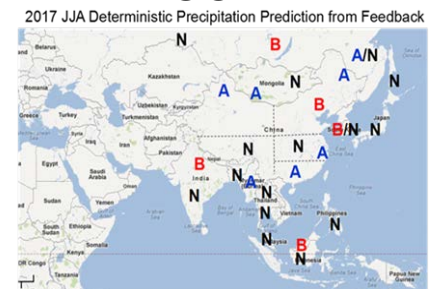
GHACOF



SASCOF



FOCRAII



Main Questions on the Standardization of Consensus Statement

- What information need to be included?
- What is the best way of depicting the consensus forecast?.
- How to verify the consensus forecast map and present in the statement?



Suggested Format for the Consensus Statement

The components of the consensus statement;

- Summary: providing highlights of the consensus forecast outlook in a brief.
- Forecast and local monitoring: Consensus forecast outlook with more details along with the probability forecast map and maps showing recent seasonal anomalies and climatology.
- Status & forecast outlook of global climate anomalies (like ENSO, IOD, snow cover over Northern Hemisphere that having influence on the climatic conditions to be forecasted).
- Verification of consensus forecast issued for the relevant season of previous year.
- Methodology: Development processes involved in the preparation of the consensus process

On probability forecast map:

- A forecast map needs to be designed in such a way that it can be easily verified (grid wise probability forecast is an option).
- A uniform color code may be used. Needs to consider whether a separate colour is to be used to highlight areas of climatological probability.
- In a forecast map for rainfall, dry region may be clearly indicated



Thank you Gracias



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