

**Climate Watch Guidance Advisory on above-normal precipitation and wind
Area concerned: Iberian Peninsula and Western Europe
Initial statement issued on 05 February 2014**

To: Climate Watch focal points of NMHSs in Spain, Portugal, France, UK, Ireland, Norway

Dear colleagues,

One task identified for the RA VI RCC Network Offenbach Node on Climate Monitoring (RCC-CM) is the provision of guidance information for NMHSs' consideration for issuing climate advisories for their territory.

After having consulted the consortium partners of the RCC-CM and RCC-LRF (RA VI RCC Network Toulouse and Moscow Node on Long-Range Forecasting), DWD issues the following guidance information:

Due to the recent weather situation (heavy precipitation and extremely high waves at the Atlantic coasts, particularly in Iberia) and the results from monthly forecast we expect

"A period with (significantly) above normal precipitation and wind with possibly high waves at the coasts at least up to the middle of February 2014 with possible extension of such conditions to the end of February 2014 is expected for western Europe and Iberia. The probability for this anomaly is estimated to be above 70%."

This information should be used as guidance for the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS) in a pre-operational mode. It is up to the above mentioned NMHSs to closely monitor the status and evolution of the current climate conditions and to consider issuing a national Climate Watch Advisory. RCC-CM would appreciate feedback from NMHS whether this information was helpful. Also, any suggestion on further pieces of information needed by NMHSs is highly welcomed!

Attached we provide you with a template for a national climate watch advisory as agreed among the climate watch pilots and RCC-CM.

Please note that further information can be obtained from RCC-CM website (www.dwd.de/rcc-cm) concerning Climate Monitoring and from RCC-LRF websites (<http://elaboration.seasonal.meteo.fr/en/content/bienvenue>, <http://neacc.meteoinfo.ru/forecast>) concerning Long-Range Forecast or by e-mail to rcc.cm@dwd.de or rcc-lrf-mf@meteo.fr.

For ECMWF member's further information on monthly forecasts after logging in is provided at <http://www.ecmwf.int/>. ->Forecast -> Monthly Forecast -> Anomaly and Probability

We will monitor the evolution of the anomaly, send an update if significant change arise and close the advice when the end becomes apparent.

On behalf of the RCC-CM Team

05-11 January 2014

12-18 January 2014

19-25 January 2014

25 Jan – 01 Feb 2014

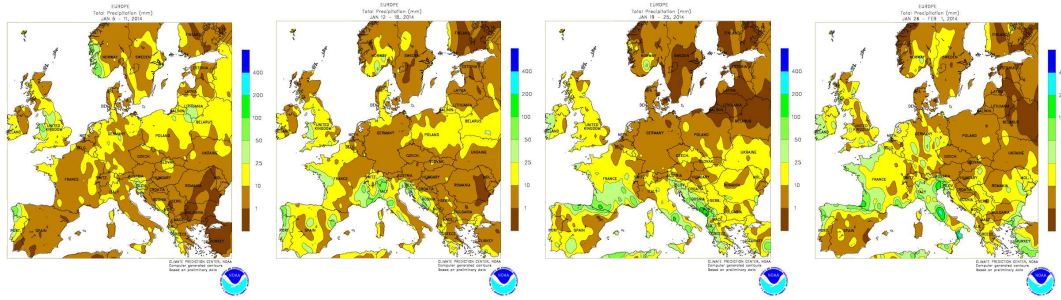


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation totals for the last four weeks (source: Climate Prediction Center, USA)