The Egyptian Meteorological Authority is organizing a regional training workshop on seasonal forecasting for the Arab region in cooperation with the UK Met Office.

Cairo, December 10, 2025

In line with the World Meteorological Organization's (WMO) guidelines and its commitment to strengthening partnerships, capacity building, and knowledge transfer among Members, the Egyptian Meteorological Authority (EMA) is organizing a regional training workshop on seasonal forecasting in collaboration with the UK Met Office. The workshop forms part of the WISER MENA programme, which aims to advance regional capabilities in climate services and enhance climate resilience across the Middle East and North Africa.

The training will be held from 7 to 11 December 2025 and will bring together UK meteorological experts and 34 trainees from 14 Arab countries: Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Libya, Mauritania, Sudan, Somalia, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Yemen, and the United Arab Emirates. Several experts from EMA will also contribute to the sessions. As the first foundational seasonal forecasting course under the WISER MENA SeaSCAPE project—developed jointly with EMA—the workshop marks an important step in strengthening forecasting competencies across the region.

Seasonal forecasts play a critical role in planning and decision-making for climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture, water resources, energy, and disaster risk reduction. The workshop will introduce participants to the two primary methods used to generate these forecasts:

• Numerical models that simulate atmospheric and oceanic behaviour, including systems developed by the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) and the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).
• Statistical approaches that link historical climate data with current observations, with the Climate Predictability Tool (CPT) serving as a key instrument for analysis.

Through practical training in interpreting model outputs and applying CPT, the course aims to:

• Strengthen technical skills in the preparation, interpretation, and communication of seasonal forecasts.
• Encourage regional cooperation and the exchange of knowledge and best practices.
• Support sustainable capacity development within national meteorological and hydrological services.

While forecast accuracy can vary by region, ongoing improvements in global climate models continue to enhance predictive skill. By building expertise and reinforcing collaboration among participating countries, this workshop contributes to more effective climate services and improved preparedness for climate-related risks, including floods, droughts, and other seasonal extremes.