

RA VI High-Level Task Team for Early Warning for All (HLTT EW4All)

Drought Monitoring and Early Warning in RA VI (Europe)

Date and Venue: 22nd April 2026, 09:00-12:45 (CEST) Online

Background:

Drought is a complex, slow-onset hazard with wide-ranging impacts on water resources, agriculture, ecosystems, energy production and socio-economic stability. Its gradual development and often large spatial extent make timely detection, consistent assessment and clear communication particularly challenging, underscoring the importance of robust monitoring systems as a foundation for preparedness and early warning.

There are various drought monitoring systems operated in Europe at both regional and national levels. Each monitoring system applies different methodologies and approaches, which, while reflecting innovation and adaptation to specific needs, can create challenges in comparability, harmonization and practical replication.

Drought monitoring and early warning webinar is organized on 22nd April 2026 to present selected systems within one event in order to enable participants to compare methodologies, better understand their respective strengths and limitations, and identify suitable solutions for countries that do not yet operate such systems and that function under diverse technical and human capacity conditions.

The webinar contributes to implementation of EW4All Roadmap and Action Plan in WMO Regional Association VI (Europe). RA VI comprises 50 Members, spanning the European Union, Western Balkans, Eastern Europe, the South Caucasus and parts of the Middle East. This broad geographical scope reflects significant diversity in climate conditions, exposure to drought risk, and institutional and technical capacities. The webinar is organized as a product of the work of High-Level Task Team (HLTT) for EW4All, mandated to oversee and coordinate the implementation of EW4All initiative in the region.

Participants are invited to register to the webinar via this [link](#).



Draft Agenda

Nr	Item	Presenter	Time
1	Opening		
1.1	Opening Remarks	Sari Lappi (Regional Office for Europe, World Meteorological Organization)	09:00-09:05
1.2	Opening Presentation: Towards Integrated Drought Monitoring: Bridging Systems, Methods and Decision-Making	Valentin Aich (Global Water Partnership)	09:05-09:15
2	Regional drought monitoring initiatives		
2.1	Monitoring and forecasting droughts in Europe	Andrea Toretti (Joint Research Center, European Commission)	09:15-09:34
2.2	Clim4Cast: A tool for tracking climate hazards across Europe – drought, heatwaves and wildfires	Lenka Bartošová (CzechGlobe)	09:35-09:55
2.3	The role and importance of Drought Management Centre for Southeastern Europe (DMCSEE) in drought monitoring in Montenegro	Mirjana Ivanov (Institute of Hydrometeorology and Seismology of Montenegro)	09:55-10:15
2.4	Overview on EUMETSAT products for Drought Monitoring	Christine Träger-Chatterjee (European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites)	10:15-10:35
	Q&A	Moderation: Sari Lappi (Regional Office for Europe, WMO)	10:35-10:55
	Break		10:55-11:05
3	From monitoring to early warning systems – national perspective		
3.1	Switzerland's operational drought warnings: from the forecast to the push notification	Vincent Humphrey (MeteoSwiss)	11:05-11:25
3.2	Drought in Data – Droughtmeter in Slovenia	Andreja Sušnik (Slovenian Environment Agency)	11:25-11:45
3.3	Drought monitoring and drought management in the Czech Republic	Jan Daňhelka (Czech Hydrometeorological Institute)	11:45-12:05
3.4	Slovak drought and drought impact monitoring system	Lívia Labudová (Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute)	12:05-12:25



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	Q&A	Moderation: Sari Lappi (Regional Office for Europe, WMO)	12:25-12:40
4	Closing		
	Closing remarks	Sari Lappi (Regional Office for Europe, WMO)	12:40-12:45