



I-CISK
HUMAN CENTRED CLIMATE SERVICES

I-CISK Newsletter

November 2024 – April 2025 / **ISSUE VII**



*Innovating Climate Services
through Integrating
Scientific and Local Knowledge*

Dear colleagues and friends,

In this newsletter you will find some interesting updates on the EU-funded I-CISK project's latest activities and a series of inspiring events, which we have the pleasure to invite you to keep an eye and get involved. Feel free to share this newsletter and stay tuned for further news!

Sincerely,

The I-CISK project team

About I-CISK

Climate Services (CS) are crucial to empowering citizens, stakeholders and decision-makers in taking climate-smart decisions that are informed by a solid scientific evidence base, that contribute towards a sustainable European economy, lifestyle, environmental protection and resource use, and that are resilient to climate change and compatible with achieving climate neutrality. I-CISK's ambition to innovate how climate information is used, interpreted and acted on through a next-generation of Climate Services that follow a human centred, social and behaviourally informed approach; integrating the knowledges, needs and perceptions of citizens, decision makers and stakeholders with climate information at spatial and temporal scale relevant to them. [Read more](#)

7 Living Labs

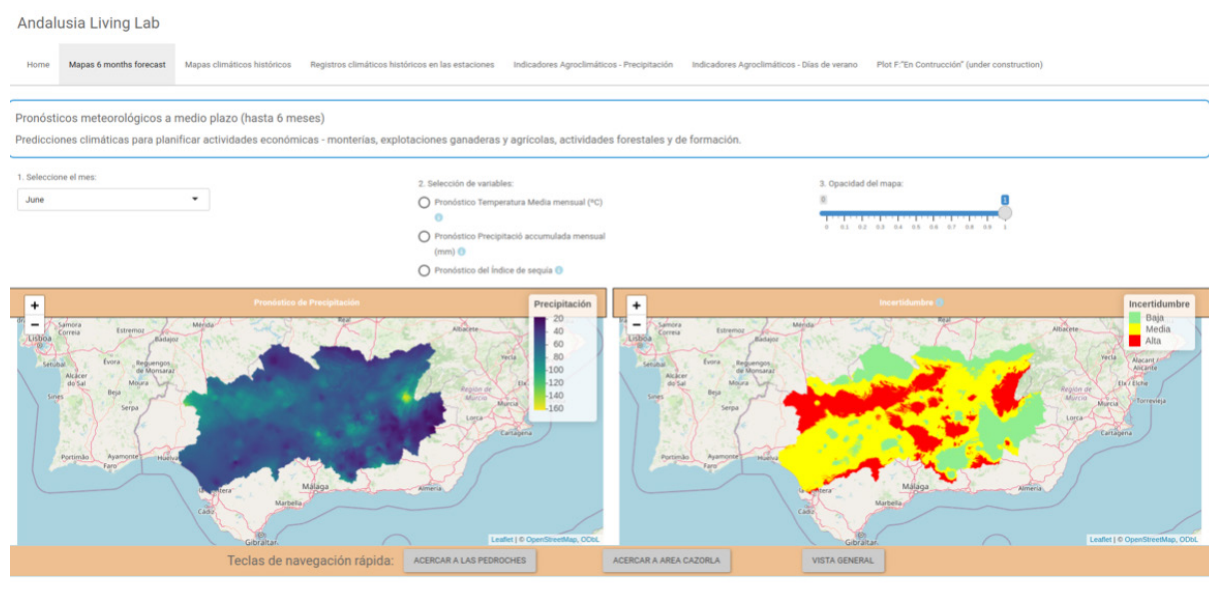
Seven Living Labs in Europe and Africa are central to the action-research approach. These are located in climate change hotspot with specific geographical and climatic settings, where climate services are co-produced with end-users from multiple sectors to meet their climate information needs.



In I-CISK we take an action research approach to fast-track research to impacts by co-developing a framework for human centred climate services in and with the users of seven Living Labs in Europe and Africa. Each living lab is located in a climate change hotspot with specific geographical and climatic settings, and with a focus on key socio-economic sectors. [Read more](#)

News and Events from I-CISK

Visualising Complex Weather and Climate Data at 52°North



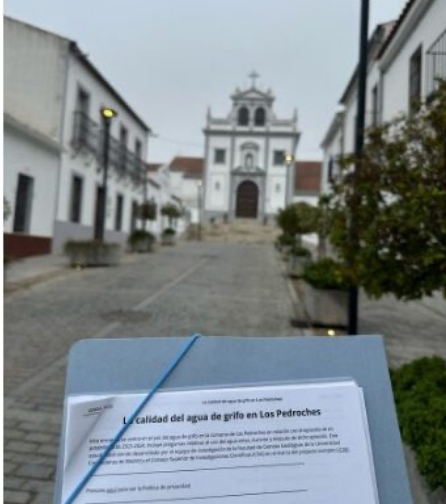
I-CISK is an EU funded project involving universities and stakeholders across Europe and beyond, including farmers engaged through so-called "Living Labs." Its goal is to mitigate climate change impacts by forecasting changes in variables like rainfall patterns and river flow, enabling communities to adapt more effectively. During an eight week internship at 52°North, Nick van Nuland contributed to this initiative, focusing primarily on the Spanish Living Lab in Andalusia. Read more [here](#).



Anticipating Drought, Empowering Decisions: Emilia-Romagna Pioneers Climate-Driven Water Management

The Emilia-Romagna Living Lab worked closely with regional public authorities and water management bodies to assess the value of a new climate service aimed at anticipating water scarcity and guiding water management decisions. Through in-depth interviews and practical use-case analysis, we explored how timely climate forecasts could reshape water governance across the Upper Secchia River basin.

Discover how the Emilia-Romagna Living Lab is using climate forecasts to help public water managers anticipate droughts, improve coordination, and make smarter, faster decisions—reducing risks and costs before emergencies arise. Read more [here](#).



Report on the impact of the drinking water ban on the public trust regarding the safety of tap water

Between June and September of 2024, the Spanish Living Lab conducted a survey in the municipalities of Los Pedroches affected by a drinking water ban on the public trust regarding the safety of tap water. With responses from 700 residents, results showed significant changes in drinking water consumption habits, a loss of trust in tap water and a high degree of dissatisfaction with official communication during the crisis. Read more [here](#).



Witnessing the end of the drought in Los Pedroches

During the last week of March and early April 2025, Nikoletta Ropero and María Fernández of Madrid Complutense University (UCM) carried out the fifth and last field campaign to measure groundwater levels in the Los Pedroches aquifer in Andalusia. The aim was to assess the evolution of the aquifer and better understand its response to rainfall and climate change, in order to contribute to more sustainable water management. Read more [here](#).



The Andalucía-Pedroches living lab at the XIII Iberian Congress of Water Management and Planning

Members of the UCM and CREA ICISK teams participated in the XIII Iberian Congress of Water Management and Planning organized by the New Water Culture Foundation on April 24-26, 2025 in the University of Salamanca (Spain). The team presented three papers: reflecting on the effectiveness of the co-creation process in the Andalucía Los Pedroches Living Lab, a second paper on the assessment of climate adaptation measures and strategies implemented in the region by local livestock dehesa farmers in Los Pedroches in response to the drought period that affected the region between 2017 and 2024, and a third paper with the results of the drinking water survey. Read more [here](#).

Advancing Usable Climate Services: I-CISK Consortium Showcases Innovations at EGU 2025



Photo: egu.eu

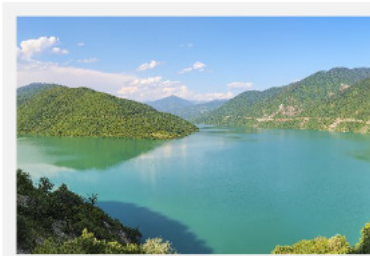
At EGU 2025 in Vienna, several I-CISK consortium members showcased innovative approaches in the field of climate services. The presentations highlighted a spectrum of projects—from enhancing drought early action protocols through collaborative co-creation at the Lesotho Living Lab to tailoring forecast models by integrating local knowledge and data in seven distinct living labs. Additional studies explored the harmonization of multi-source meteorological data for effective drought monitoring and the use of serious gaming to merge local insights with seasonal forecasts. A multi-sectoral approach in Crete further illustrated how collaborative efforts across diverse fields can build resilience against hydro-climatic risks. Collectively, these contributions underscore the growing importance of co-creation and the integration of local knowledge in developing climate services that are both useful and user-friendly for informed decision-making. Read more [here](#).

Understanding multi-sectoral dynamics through local interactions for the development of a socio-environmental model for the Greek Living Lab



In February 2025, a collaborating team from EMVIS (LL leader and knowledge purveyor), Dr. Charles Wamucii (early career scientist of the I-CISK programme), and stakeholders from the Crete Living Lab worked together on the implementation of a socio-environmental model for the Crete LL. The goal was to assess in a holistic manner the impacts of climate change and the use of climate services on the island, by exploring the interaction of the island's economic sectors, with water availability being a prime factor. The objective was to further understand the multi-sectoral dynamics that influence the island's resilience to climate change. Read more [here](#).

The I-CISK project team is excited to announce a new version of the living labs' Climate Services



Alazani, GE



Budapest, HU



Crete, GR



Emilia Romagna, IT



Guadalquivir, ES



Lesotho



Rijnland, NL

During a recent intensive sprint phase, the I-CISK team provided detailed feedback and the technology partners modified and updated most of the Climate Services (CS) for the Living Labs. This latest version also reflects suggestions made by the end users. The corresponding web applications access different data sources and allow the user to visualize CS indicators interactively e.g. by selecting a preferred time periods or weather stations or different phenomena. The CS include historic and live data and most importantly forecasts across various scales. Read more [here](#).

I-CISK resources

Integrating scientific and local knowledge to tackle climate challenges now and in the future

The European Green Deal seeks to support efforts by citizens, governments and businesses to adapt to change, while working towards a carbon neutral EU by 2050. As part of the Research and Innovation actions that underpin the Green Deal, the innovating climate services through Integrating Scientific and local Knowledge project, I-CISK in short, aims to bridge this gap by innovating how Climate Services are developed, through co-producing these with local stakeholders and citizens. For example, forecasting drought is a climate service that is useful to water dependent sectors such as tourism, but also to agriculture, though each of these sectors may be impacted differently, and the sector specific needs and knowledges will influence how climate information is used, interpreted and acted on. [Read more](#)

Partners and contact information

I-CISK brings together a highly specialised and multi-disciplinary team of experts from 13 consortium members: IHE Delft, The Netherlands (coordinator); European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (ECMWF), United Kingdom; Sveriges Meteorologiska och Hydrologiska Institut (SMHI), Sweden; Free University Amsterdam; The Netherlands; CREAM, Spain; Uppsala University, Sweden; Red Cross 510, The Netherlands; GECO-Sistema, Italy; Caucasus Environmental NGO Network (CENN), Georgia, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain; 52°North Spatial Information Research, Germany; IDEAS-Science, Hungary; and EMVIS, Greece.

For more information and questions, please send an email to Dr. Micha Werner, Project Coordinator (m.werner@unihe.org) and Dr. Ilyas Masih, Deputy Project Coordinator (i.masih@un-ihe.org).

The I-CISK project team sent this information

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