



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

Secrétariat

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Weather • Climate • Water
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Our ref.: ETR/CRS-1414

GENEVA, 22 July 2014

Annexes: 2 (available in English only)

Subject: International training course on “Seasonal forecasts for agriculture in the Mediterranean”, CNR-IBIMET, Florence, Italy, 22–26 September 2014

Action required: For your information and appropriate action

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have pleasure to inform you that the RTC Italy will hold an international training course on “Seasonal forecasts for agriculture in the Mediterranean” at the facilities of CNR-IBIMET, in Florence, from 22 to 26 September 2014.

The course is addressed to agrometeorological services technicians, climatologists, agrometeorologists and agricultural and climate researchers, by creating an environment where agriculture and climate actors could share a common view and develop a common language.

The purpose of this week-long course is to build capacities for the application of climate seasonal forecasts for water and crop management, with a special focus on the Mediterranean crop production systems. The course will be conducted in English, and detailed course information, including the requirements and the procedures of application is given in Annex I.

Interested candidates are requested to complete the attached participant Nomination Form (Annex II) for the course and return it directly to CNR-IBIMET, v.tarchiani@ibimet.cnr.it, not later than **15 August 2014**.

Yours faithfully,


(M. Jarraud)
Secretary-General

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO (PR-6782)

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

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ETR/CRS-1414, ANNEX I

COURSE INFORMATION

WMO - CNR-IBIMET

Seasonal forecasts for agriculture in the Mediterranean

22-26 September 2014

**Area di Ricerca CNR
via Madonna del Piano, 10- 50019 - Sesto Fiorentino (Florence) - ITALY**

Course Description

The purpose of this week-long course is to build capacities for the application of climate seasonal forecasts for water and crop management, with a special focus on the Mediterranean crop production systems.

Climatic variability and related risks are affecting crop production with impacts rising particularly for smallholders farming systems. Since the late 90's seasonal forecasts experienced a growing role, despite the large uncertainties still present. Precipitation and temperature anomalies knowledge, available a few months early, could be useful for technical services and organizations on managing water resources, crop calendars and varieties to be used. At the same time, methods and scientific results are still underexploited and not easily accessible and comprehensible for potential users. According with the Global Framework for Climate Services, the course addresses the need to develop mechanisms for delivery of climate services for the agricultural community and for enabling risk mitigation strategies at various levels and identifying research and transfer demand by end-users. The training course wishes to contribute to the strengthening of existing regional networks for the application of seasonal forecast (MedCOF, PRESANORD, SEECOF) in agriculture.

Expected Learning Outcomes

Through the course, participants will acquire theoretical and practical knowledge on current approaches to use and apply seasonal forecast products on the Mediterranean Region, with particular emphasis on:

- Available products and existing networks (PRESANORD, MedCOF, SEECOF);
- Downscaling methods in seasonal forecasting;
- Management of seasonal forecasts uncertainty;
- Seasonal forecast use in crop and irrigation management.

Target Audience

The course is addressed to agrometeorological services technicians, climatologists, agrometeorologists and agricultural and climate researchers, by creating an environment where agriculture and climate actors could share a common view and develop a common language.

Course Content

- Current methods for seasonal forecasting;
- Downscaling of seasonal forecasts;
- Applications of seasonal forecast for water and crop management.

Course Format

Lectures, group discussions, case studies.

Assessment

An internal assessment will be performed using a double self-evaluation approach: from Trainees and from Trainers. Single interviews with trainers and trainees will be also collected for documenting the training activities.

Instructors' institution, tentative names and experience

IBIMET-CNR, Massimiliano Pasqui, Numerical modeling and downscaling techniques
IBIMET-CNR, Ramona Magno, applications of SF on agriculture
IBIMET-CNR, Maurizio Bacci, applications of SF on agriculture
AEMET, Ernesto Rodriguez Camino, MedCOF and related activities
IC3 (Cataluña) Paco Doblas-Reyes, applications of SF on agriculture
WMO, Paolo Ruti, Global and regional modeling for seasonal forecasting
Arpa Emilia Romagna, Valentina Pavan, downscaling applications of SF on agriculture
Aereonautica Militare, Filippo Maimone, downscaling for SF in Civil Protection activities
CMCC, Silvio Gualdi, Global modeling for seasonal forecasting
Florence University, Roberto Ferrise, applications of SF on agriculture

Language

English

Participant Qualifications for Admission

- *Education Level:* to be specialized in agrometeorology, climatology, agricultural sciences;
- *Position/Task:* from *National Hydrometeorological Services, National Agricultural Services, Agricultural Research Institutions from Mediterranean Countries;*
- *Experience:* At least 3 years of relevant working experiences;
- *Language:* To be proficient in English.

Application and Selection Process

Candidates are requested to submit the Application Form to IBIMET-CNR. Applications will be evaluated in collaboration with WMO and the course Sponsors. Admission Notices will be issued to the accepted participants by e-mail by IBIMET-CNR. With the Admission Notices, the participants are requested to go through all the necessary formalities for entering into Italy.

Admitted participants are requested to prepare a report/presentation on their (or their service's) experience on the themes of the course for the purpose of exchanges.

Costs

Tuition is free for all the accepted participants that receive the endorsed Admission Notices by IBIMET-CNR.

Fees covered by Course Sponsors:

- 6 participants from North Africa will have their participation covered by the DIPLOMATIA project;
- 1 participant will have his participation covered by the VOPA Project.

Other accepted participants from Mediterranean countries shall be responsible for their own local and travel costs.

The expenses of visa, medical care, insurances (mandatory) and domestic salaries for the participants should be borne by the participants.

IBIMET-CNR will provide support for booking accommodation in Florence and will provide local transportation.

Deadline for Application

15 August 2014



NOMINATION FORM

International Training Course
Seasonal forecasts for agriculture in the Mediterranean
Florence, Italy
22-26 September 2014

Section A: Personal Details

1. Country : _____
2. Title : Mr/Ms/Miss/Dr/Prof/ : _____
3. First Name (Given) : _____
4. Family Name (Surname) : _____
5. E-mail : _____
6. Telephone No : _____
7. Fax No : _____
8. Official Address : _____

9. Date of Birth : _____
10. Nationality : _____
11. Gender : ☐ Female ☐ Male
12. Passport Number : _____
13. Do you need an entry visa for Italy?: ☐ No ☐ Yes

Section B: Qualification

14. Qualification (Certificates, diplomas, degrees, etc.):

15. Please indicate your English language skills:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Nil
Speaking					
Reading					
Writing					

16. What other WMO courses have you attended in the last 5 years?

Section C: Work Experience

17. Present work:
- ☐ National Meteorological and/or Hydrological Service (NMHS)
 - ☐ WMO Regional Training Center (RTC)
 - ☐ Other National Technical Service: _____
 - ☐ University/Research Institution: _____
 - ☐ Other (Please specify): _____

18. What is your job title? _____

19. How long have you been in this position? _____

20. Your qualification:
- ☐ Meteorologist
 - ☐ Agronomist
 - ☐ Other (Please specify) _____

21. Do you have experience on?

- Climate analysis/modelling
☐ YES ☐ NO
- Production of Seasonal forecasts
☐ YES ☐ NO
- Use of Seasonal forecasts
☐ YES ☐ NO
- Sensitivity of crops to climate variability and extremes
☐ YES ☐ NO

Section D: Rationale for Applying

22. How are you involved in Climate/Meteorological applications for agriculture in your position?

23. Why do you want to attend this course? Be specific about how it will help you in your work.

24. Statement by candidate on how she/he anticipates using the knowledge and skills from this course in the work after the course?

Section E: Travel and local costs and Insurance

25. How your travel and local costs will be covered?

- ☐ Your Administration: _____
- ☐ WMO
- ☐ Other: _____

26. Insurance

I fully understand that the course organizer does not take any responsibility for risks such as loss of life, accidents, illness, loss of property etc.

Personal statement

I hereby declare that the information given above is true, correct and complete. I shall bear the responsibility for the above information. I pledge to observe all the Italian laws and will respect the local customs and follow the seminar regulations during my stay in Italy for the training seminar.

Place: _____

Date: _____

Signature of the Candidate: _____

Endorsement of the Nominator

1. Name of Organization _____

2. Name and Signature of the Permanent Representative with WMO:

Name _____

Signature _____

3. Official Seal _____

4. Date _____

To be completed and returned as soon as possible by e-mail to IBIMET-CNT **not later than 15 August 2014** to:

Vieri Tarchiani
E-Mail: v.tarchiani@ibimet.cnr.it

Include a short CV (last 5 years) with the present form

Contacts:

Vieri Tarchiani
IBIMET-CNR
Via G.Caproni 8 – 50145
Florence, ITALY
Tel. +390553033711
E-Mail: v.tarchiani@ibimet.cnr.it
