



## **User engagement in H2020 project PRIMAVERA: progress and challenges**

Erika Palin (1), Helen Hanlon (1), Galina Guentchev (1), Dragana Bojovic (2), Eveline van der Linden<sup>3</sup> (3), Janette Bessembinder (3), Isadora Christel (2), Daniel San Martin (4), and Markel Garcia-Diez (4)

(1) Met Office, FitzRoy Road, Exeter EX1 3PB, United Kingdom, (2) Barcelona Supercomputing Center (BSC), Nexus II Building, C/ Jordi Girona 29, 08034 Barcelona, Spain, (3) Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI), PO Box 201, NL-3730 AE De Bilt, Netherlands, (4) Predictia Intelligent Data Solutions S.L., Building I+D+i, CDTUC Fase C, S345. Avda. los Castros s/n, 39005, Santander, Spain

A wide range of decision-makers need climate information, to develop weather resilience plans and to respond to climate change. However, a common barrier to using climate information is a lack of understanding by users of what information can reasonably be provided by state-of-the-art climate science, and by climate scientists of exactly what information is required by users for it to be usable in practical decision-making. The PRIMAVERA (“PRocess-based climate sIMulation: AdVances in high-resolution modelling and European climate Risk Assessment”) project is taking steps towards exploring how state-of-the-art climate model simulations can be useful to, and used by, practitioners.

PRIMAVERA is using several European centres’ global climate models to produce climate information at comparatively high spatial resolution (~25km) across the globe. It is also assessing the ability of these models to simulate societally-important processes, such as those which underlie high-impact events like heat waves, floods, and droughts. For many such processes, these higher-resolution models will add value with respect to the information that is currently available from “traditional” resolution (> 100 km) global climate models and from regional climate models at comparable spatial resolution but over a limited area. This will augment the available body of information available to support European climate risk assessment activities.

Representing a partnership of 19 European key climate research organisations, PRIMAVERA goes beyond simple information dissemination, encouraging information exchange between decision-makers and project scientists. In particular, we have engaged with practitioners, users and decision-makers in transport, energy, insurance and other key European sectors. We have developed a user interface platform, to facilitate information exchange between the project and the user community. The collaborative approach between providers and users will help scientists understand decision-makers’ short-term (operational) and longer-term (planning) strategies that are affected by climate variability. Building on the various user engagement activities already completed (including a survey, one-to-one interviews, fact sheets and online storymaps), we are starting to explore in detail the potential benefit of these new high resolution climate data for addressing challenges posed by current and future climate variability, through a series of use cases.

Ultimately, the user feedback gathered in this process will influence the design of a second set of very high resolution (~6-25km) global climate model simulations to be run later in the project. This is a first step towards understanding how these exploratory and computationally-intensive global simulations could ultimately be useful to, and used by, the user community.

The presentation will provide an update on our latest progress with user engagement activities within PRIMAVERA, discuss some of the challenges faced and how we are working to overcome them, and reflect on our next steps along the way.