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New perspectives and products from the CLIM-RUN project: continuing and developing the engagement with Mediterranean stakeholders

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The CLIM-RUN case studies provide a real-world and Mediterranean context for bringing together experts on the demand and supply side of climate services. They are essential to the CLIM-RUN objective of using iterative and bottom-up (i.e. stakeholder led) approaches for optimizing the two-way information transfer between climate experts and stakeholders – and focus on specific locations and sectors (such as tourism and renewable energy). Stakeholder involvement has been critical from the start of the project in March 2011, with an early series of targeted workshops used to define the framework for each case study as well as the needs of stakeholders. Following these workshops, the user needs were translated into specific requirements from climate observations and models and areas identified where additional modelling and analysis are required. The first set of new products and tools produced by the CLIM-RUN modelling and observational experts are presented in a series of short briefing notes and will be shown in the second round of CLIM-RUN stakeholder workshops that should be held for each of the case studies in Spring-Summer 2013 as an essential part of the fourth CLIM-RUN key stage: Consolidation and collective review/assessment.

During these workshops the process of interaction between CLIM-RUN scientists and case-study stakeholders will be reviewed, as well as the utility of the products and information developed in CLIM-RUN. Review questions will include: How far have we got? How successful have we been? What are the remaining problems/gaps? How to sustain and extend the interactions?

The process of planning for and running these second workshops will be outlined and emerging outcomes presented, focusing on common messages which are relevant for development of the CLIM-RUN protocol for providing improved climate services to stakeholders together with the identification of good practice and policy recommendations for climate services development.

New perspectives from the iterative interaction with stakeholders, together with the new climate information based on the climate tools developed by the CLIM-RUN climate modelling community will be presented. We will also take advantage of the results of the next CLIM-RUN general assembly (Summer 2013) where the experiences from the second round workshops will be collected and discussed.