

**Potential of the EUMETSAT LSA-SAF  
Evapotranspiration for drought monitoring in  
Europe; a study developed in the framework of the  
European Drought Observatory.**



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**Eumetrain Event on Droughts, Floods and Landslides**

**1/12/2014**

- 1. Some concepts about Drought**
- 2. European Drought Observatory (EDO)**
- 3. LSA-SAF ET for drought monitoring**
- 4. Potential of other LSA-SAF for drought monitoring**



**River Rhine, November 2011**



## Key Terms

### **(1) Drought**

- ✓ Complex phenomena with as much definitions as impacts ( meteorological, hydrological, socioeconomic drought...)
- ✓ Significant negative deviation of rainfall amounts from the climatic average
- ✓ Is a natural phenomenon occurring in all climates
- ✓ It is not possible to control the occurrence of droughts although the resulting impacts
- ✓ may be mitigated to a certain degree (e.g., appropriate surveillance and management strategies; Drought Management Plans)

### **(2) Water Scarcity**

- ✓ Water demand exceeds the water resources exploitable under sustainable conditions
- ✓ Refers to a long-term water imbalance between availability and demand.

## **Economic Impacts:**

- Agricultural drought can have severe economic and social consequences, especially in regions with limited water resources or with imbalances between water demand and natural supply capacity.
- For example, the 2005 drought event in Spain led to a 40% loss of cereal production, and the estimated non-irrigated crop and pasture losses reached 2,500 million euros (European Commission, 2006).

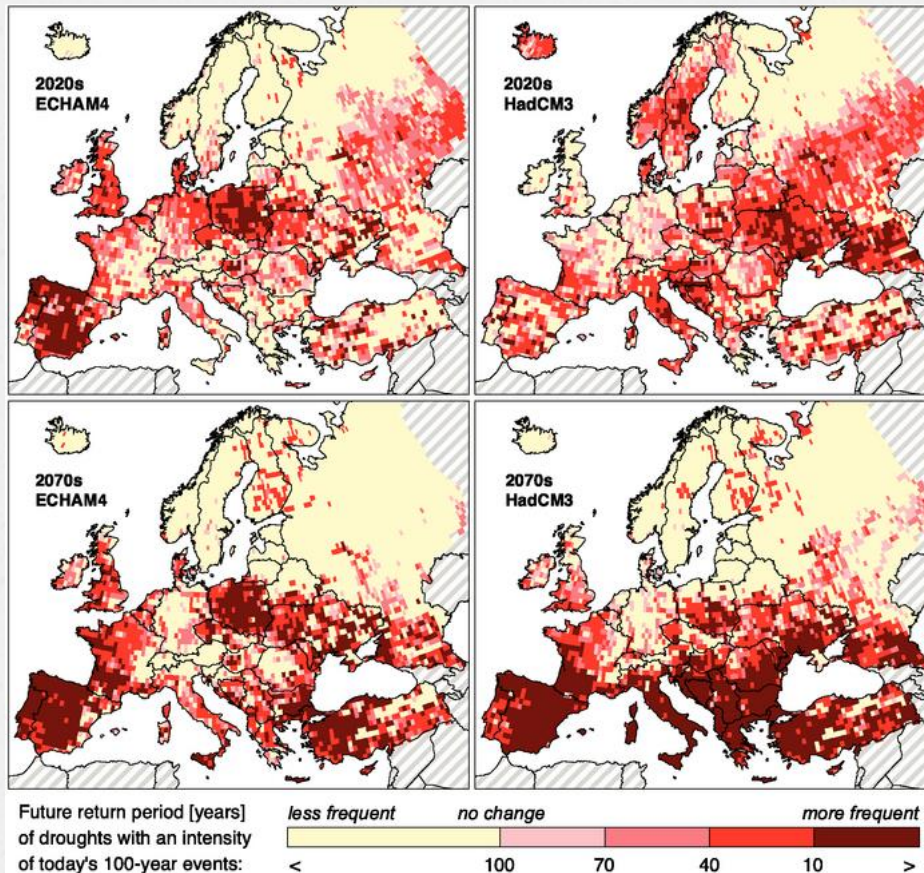
## **Environmental Impacts:**

- Drought can cause serious long-term environmental impacts (e.g., water quality, salinization, desiccation of wetlands, soil erosion, desertification, ...)
- These impacts are difficult to quantify and data are generally lacking



# Expected Change in Drought Return Periods

## Expected Change in Return Periods of Today's 100-years Events



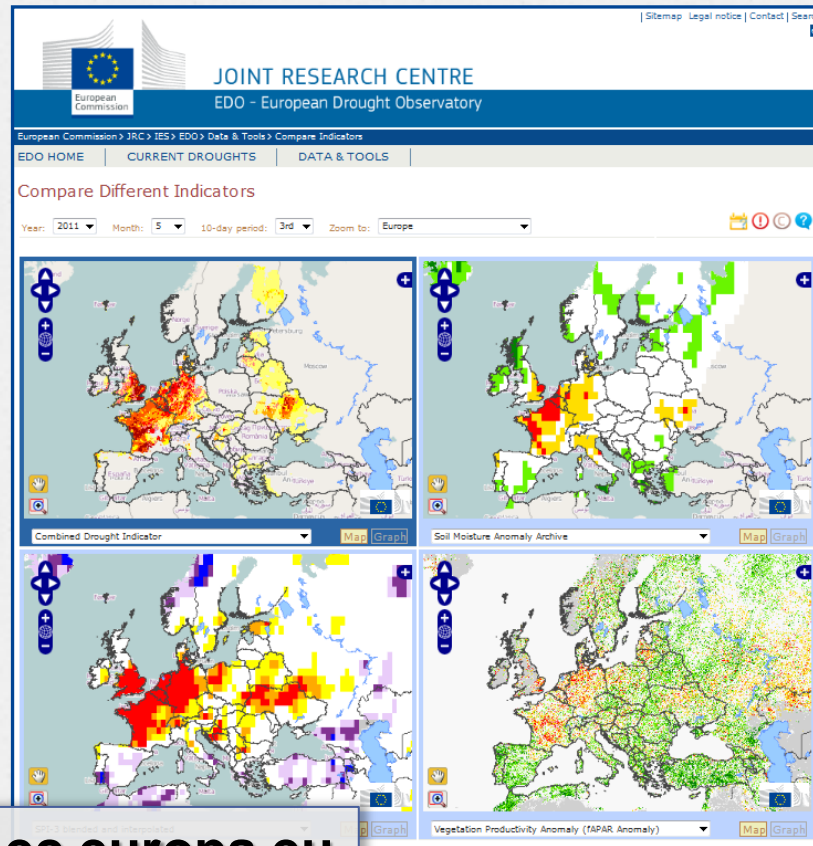
2020s

2070s

Lehner, B. *et al.*, 2006: Estimating the impact of global change on flood and drought risks in Europe: A continental integrated assessment. *Climatic Change*, 75, 273-299



# European Drought Observatory (EDO)

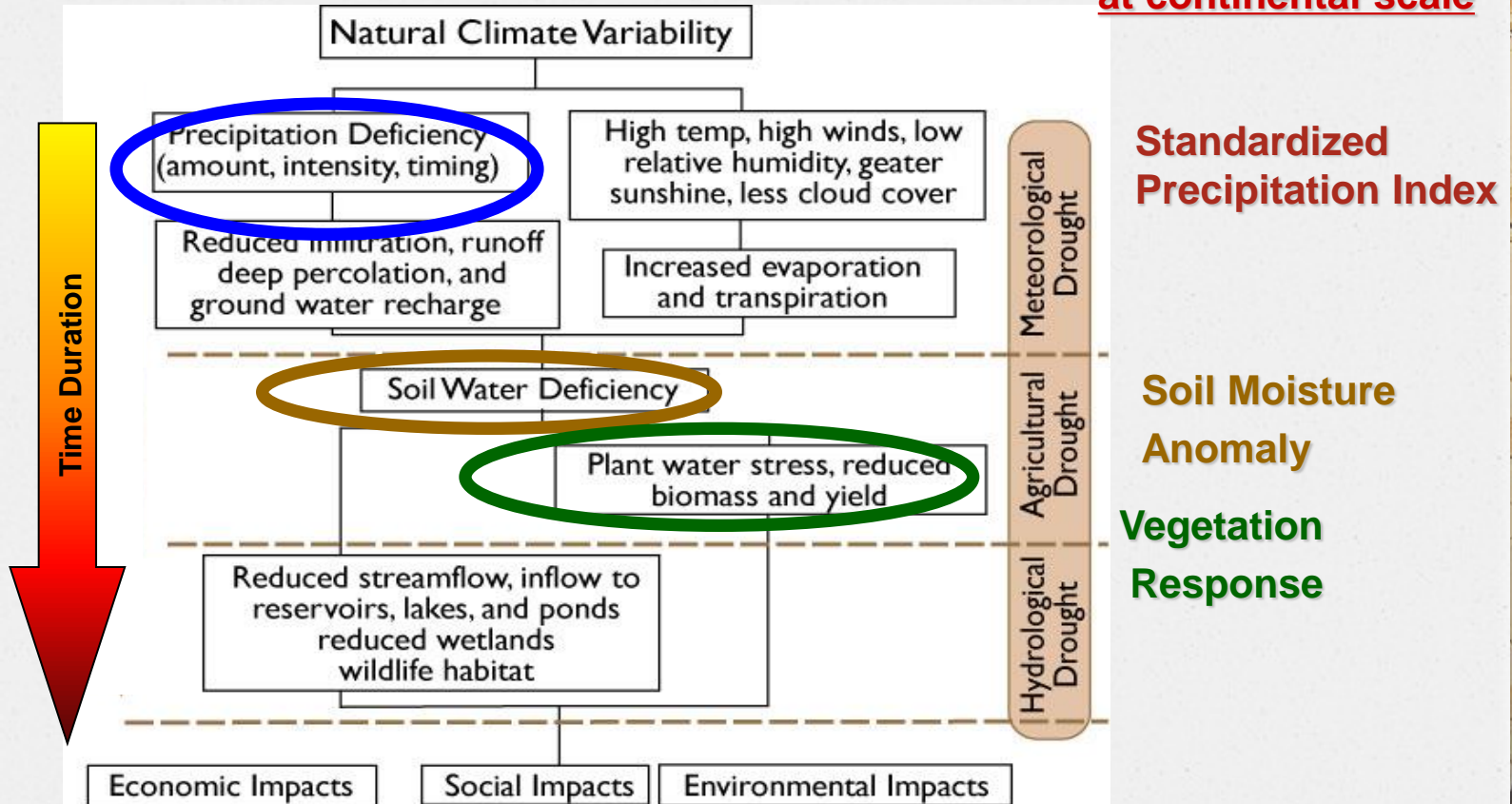


<http://edo/jrc.ec.europa.eu>

*Information, data and tools to monitor and assess drought events across Europe*

# Multi-Indicator Approach

at continental scale



Source: National Drought Mitigation Center, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA

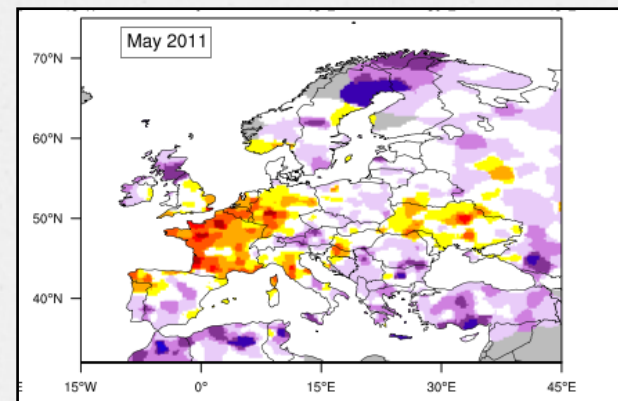


# Precipitation Analysis

## Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI):

- is a **statistical indicator** comparing the total precipitation received during a period of time with the long-term rainfall distribution for the same period of time
- is based on a transformation into a **standard normal variable** with zero mean and variance equal to one
- is given in units of **standard deviation** from the long-term mean of the standardized distribution
- Allows for the **statistical comparison** of wetter and drier climates
- reflects the statistically **expected frequency** (i.e. probability) of a given event
- is a **probabilistic measure of the severity** of a wet or dry event
- is calculated over **different rainfall accumulation periods**
- **Reference Period:** 1971 - 2010

SPI Values	Category	Probability [%]
$SPI \geq 2.00$	Extremely wet	2.3%
$1.50 < SPI \leq 2.00$	Severely wet	4.4%
$1.00 < SPI \leq 1.50$	Moderately wet	9.2%
$-1.00 < SPI \leq 1.00$	Near normal	68.2%
$-1.50 < SPI \leq -1.00$	Moderately dry	9.2%
$-2.00 < SPI \leq -1.50$	Severely dry	4.4%
$SPI < -2.00$	Extremely dry	2.3%



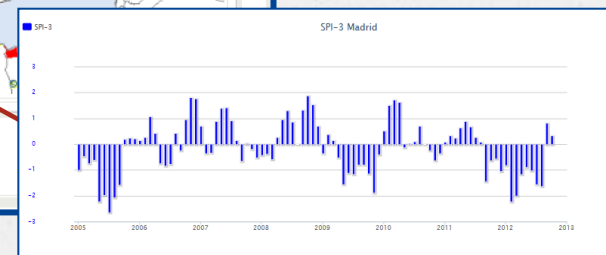
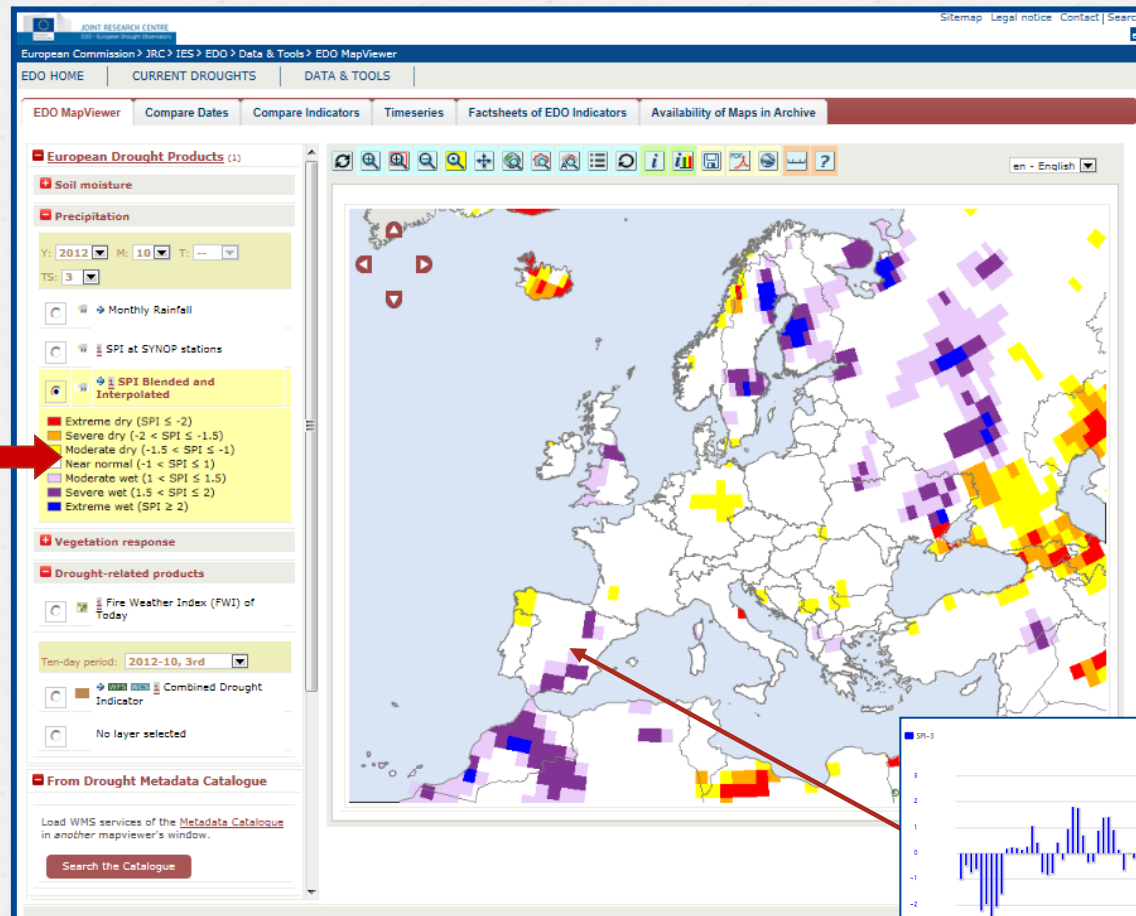


# EDO: Standardized Precipitation Index

## SPI-3

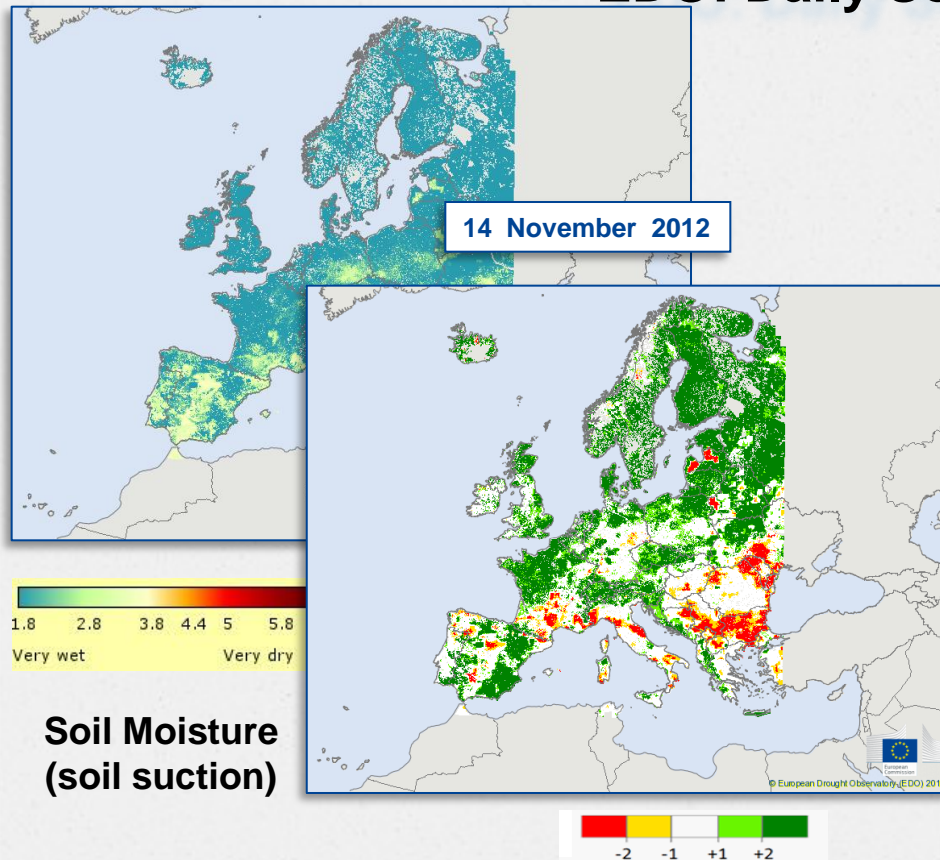
3-month  
Standardized  
Precipitation  
Index  
August to  
October 2012

Madrid (ES)



<http://edo.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

# EDO: Daily Soil Moisture Information



- It is obtained daily with the an adapted version of the hydrological model LISFLOOD.

- Grid 5x5km

- The meteorological input information is derived from observed **meteorological point data**

- It is presented as **anomalies** (statistical deviation from the long-term mean)

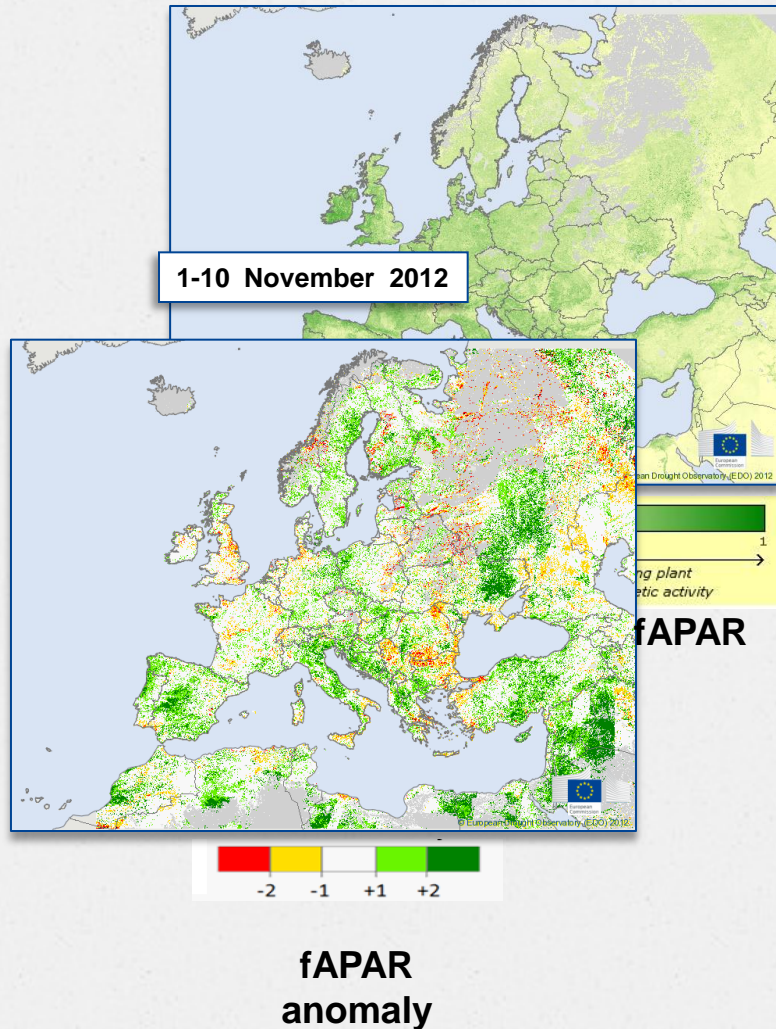
- **reference period:** 1990-2010



# EDO: Analysis of Vegetation Vigor

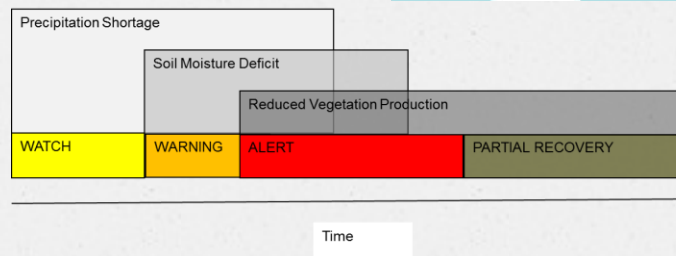
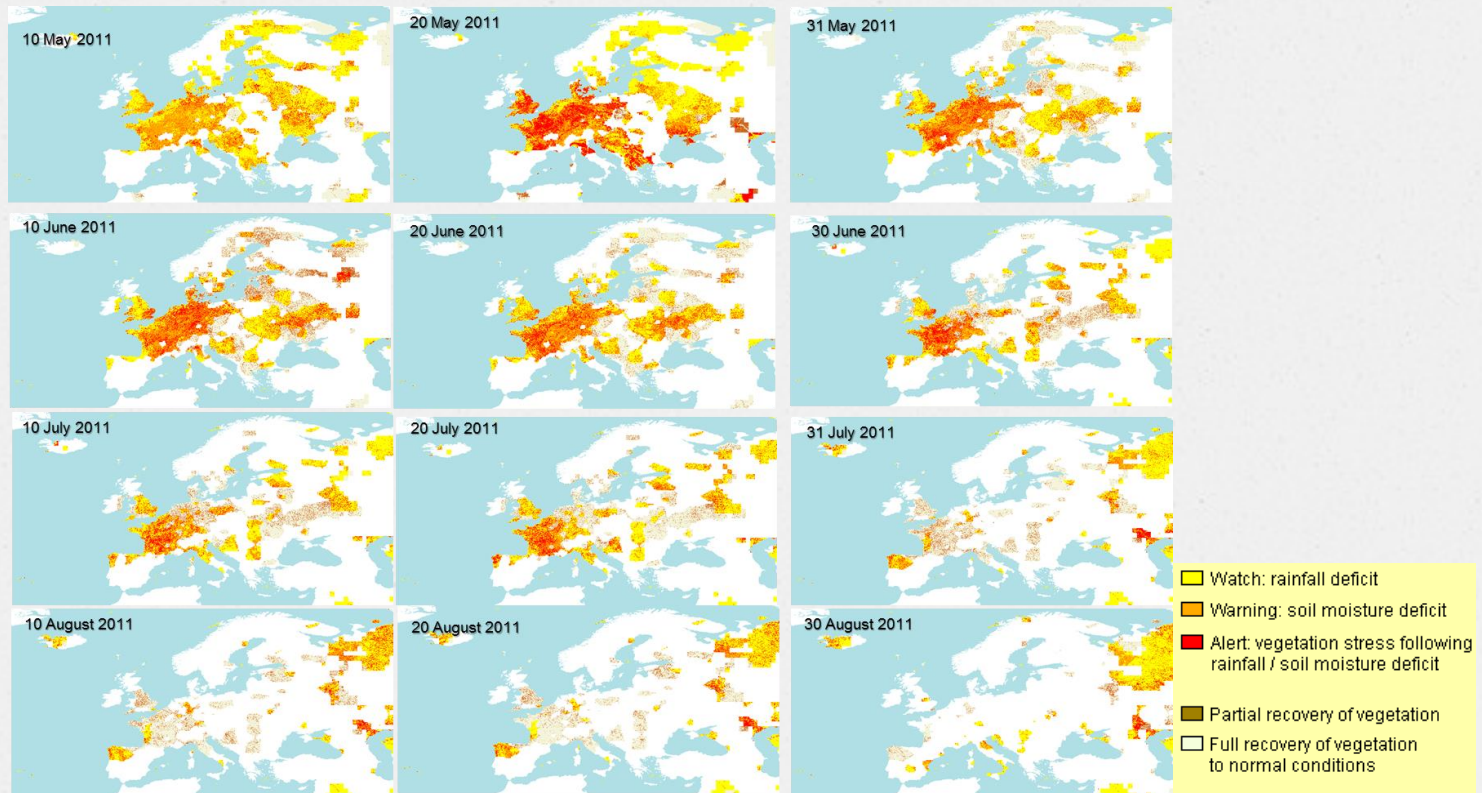
## Fraction of Absorbed Photosynthetically Active Radiation (fAPAR):

- represents the **fraction of the solar energy which is absorbed** by the vegetation canopy
- is a **biophysical variable** directly correlated with the primary productivity of the vegetation
- is **sensitive to vegetation stress** that causes changes in the solar interception of the plant or its light use efficiency
- is **remote sensing derived** indicator available every 10 days (SPOT-VEG)
- Is presented as **anomalies** (statistical deviation from the long-term mean)
- the available **time-series** is still short (from 1999)





# Combined Drought Indicator



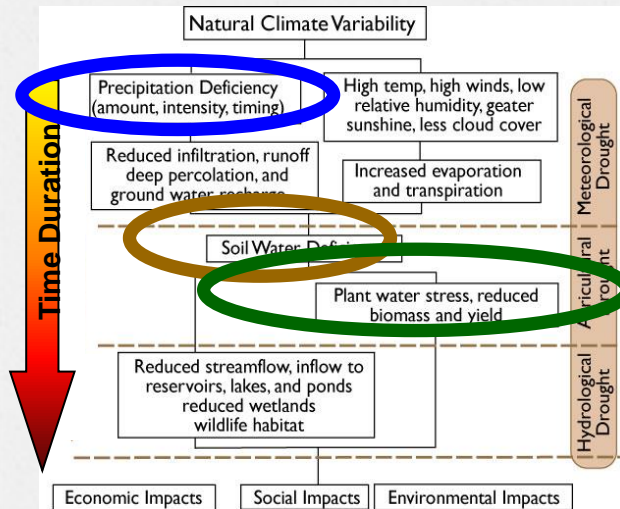
21-31/03/2011

1-10/04/2011

11-20/04/2011



# LSA-SAF ET for drought monitoring



Source: National Drought Mitigation Center, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA

Vegetation water stress

Physiological processes affected

Decrease in the vegetation production

Stomata closure to avoid loss of water

Reduction of the evaporative cooling

# LSA-SAF ET for drought monitoring

***Index assessed :  
ET/ET<sub>o</sub>***

- ***LSA SAF ET product***
- ***ET<sub>o</sub> from FAO Penman-Monteith using ECMWF***

***Assessment:  
case studies 2007, 2011***

- ***Comparison with drought indices based in meteorological data (SPI, SPEI, Sc-PDSI)***

**<http://edo/jrc.ec.europa.eu>**

**<http://www.carpatclim-eu.org>**

- ***Comparison with fAPAR coming from RS***
- ***Analysis at rain gauge station***

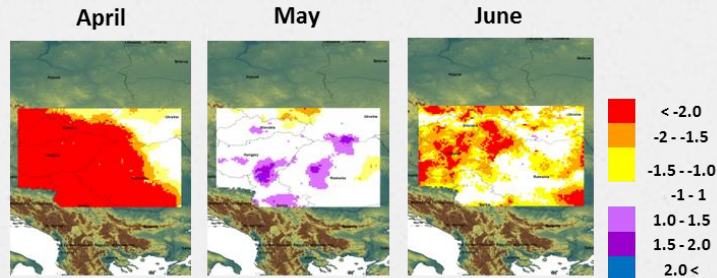
**<http://eca.knmi.nl/>**



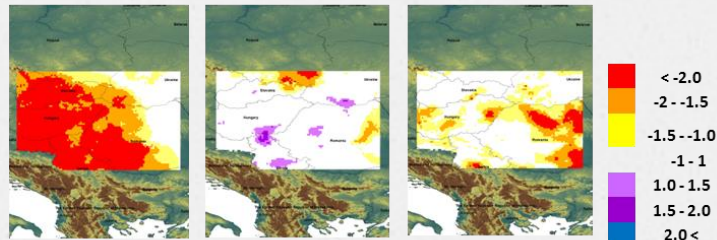
# Case study 2007 Carpathians

## Meteorological indices

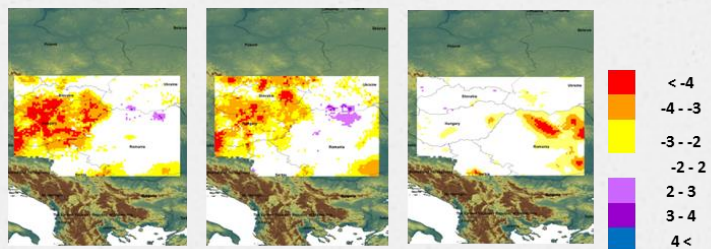
**SPI**  
(McKee et al., 1993)



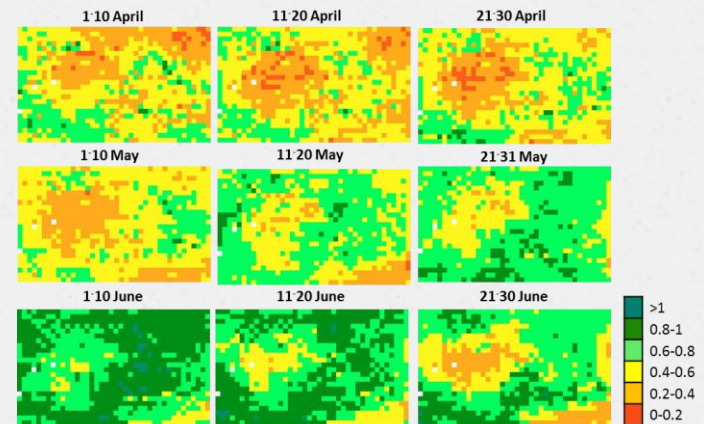
**SPEI**  
(Vicente-Serrano et al., 2010)



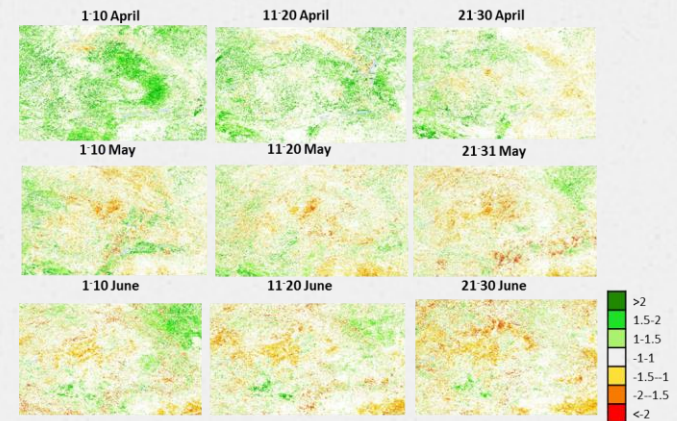
**Sc-PDSI**  
(Wells et al., 2004)



## ET/ET<sub>0</sub>



## $\Delta fAPAR$





# LSA-SAF ET for drought monitoring

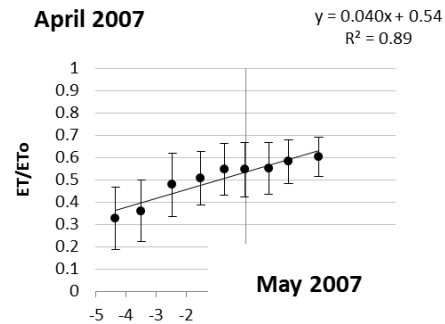
## Relationships between ET/ET<sub>o</sub> and drought indices based in meteorological data

R (n=960)	ET/ET <sub>o</sub>		
	April	May	June
SPI	0.25	0.11	--
SPEI	0.24	0.11	0.20
Sc-PDSI	0.50	0.44	0.45

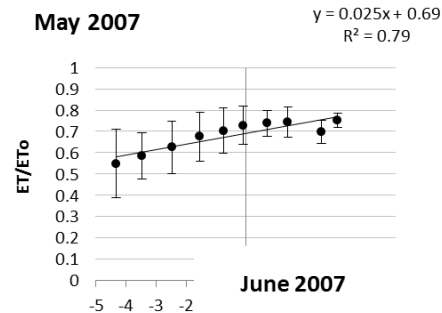
### Sc-PDSI classification

4.0 or more	extremely wet
3.0 to 3.99	very wet
2.0 to 2.99	moderately wet
1.0 to 1.99	slightly wet
0.5 to 0.99	incipient wet spell
0.49 to -0.49	near normal
-0.5 to -0.99	incipient dry spell
-1.0 to -1.99	mild drought
-2.0 to -2.99	moderate drought
-3.0 to -3.99	severe drought
-4.0 or less	extreme drought

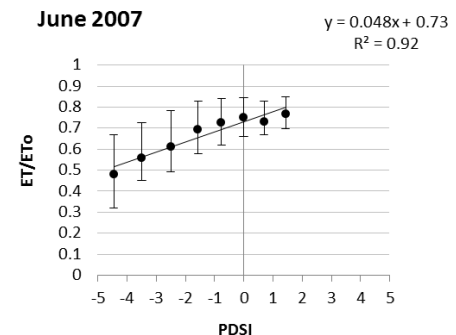
April 2007



May 2007



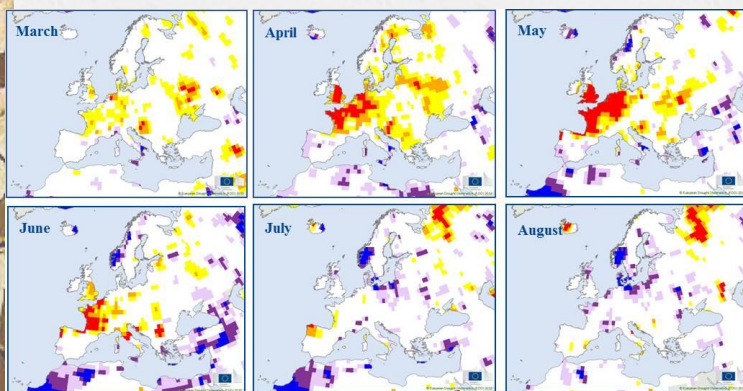
June 2007



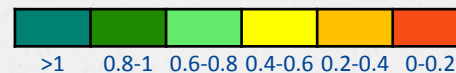
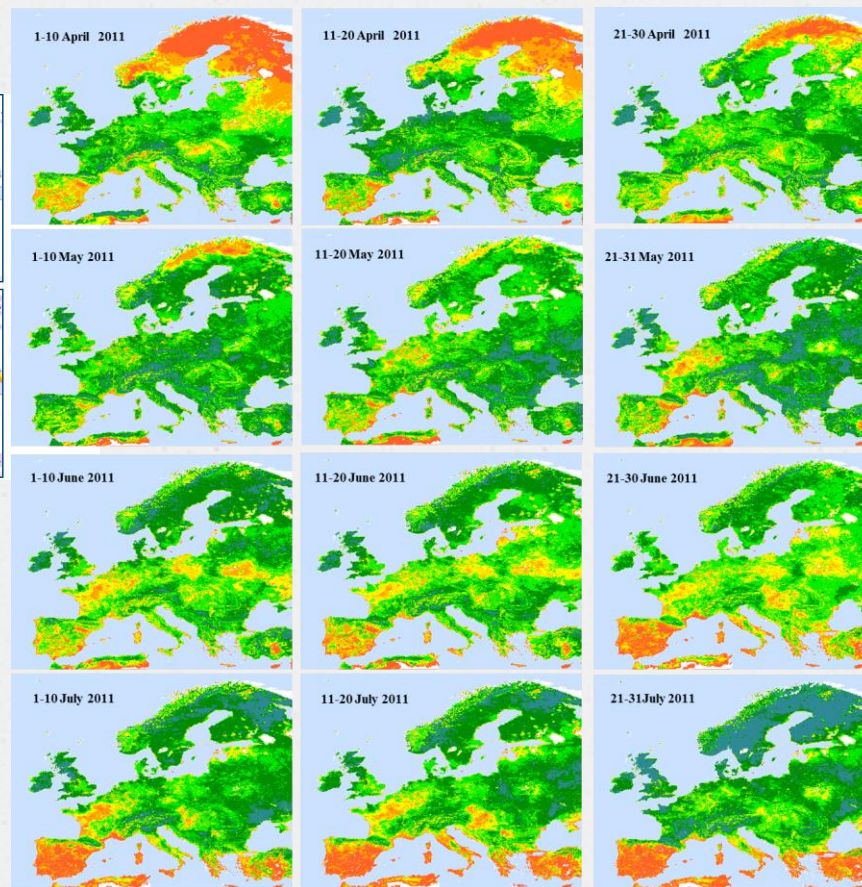


# Case study 2011 Europe

## SPI-3



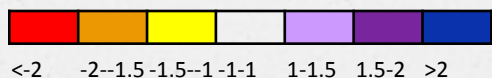
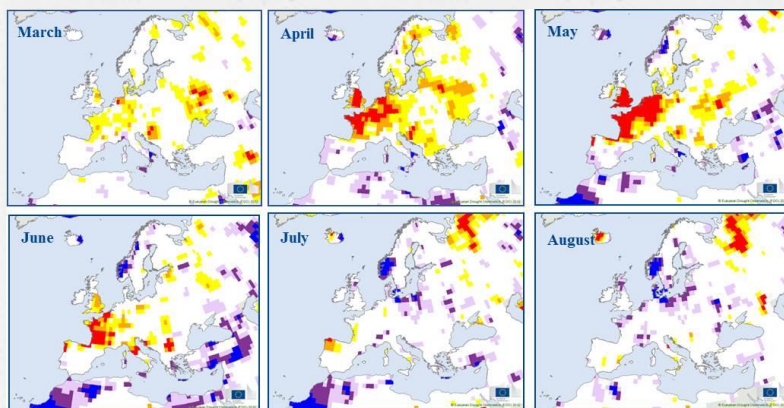
## ET/ET<sub>0</sub>



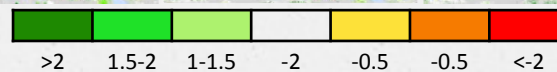
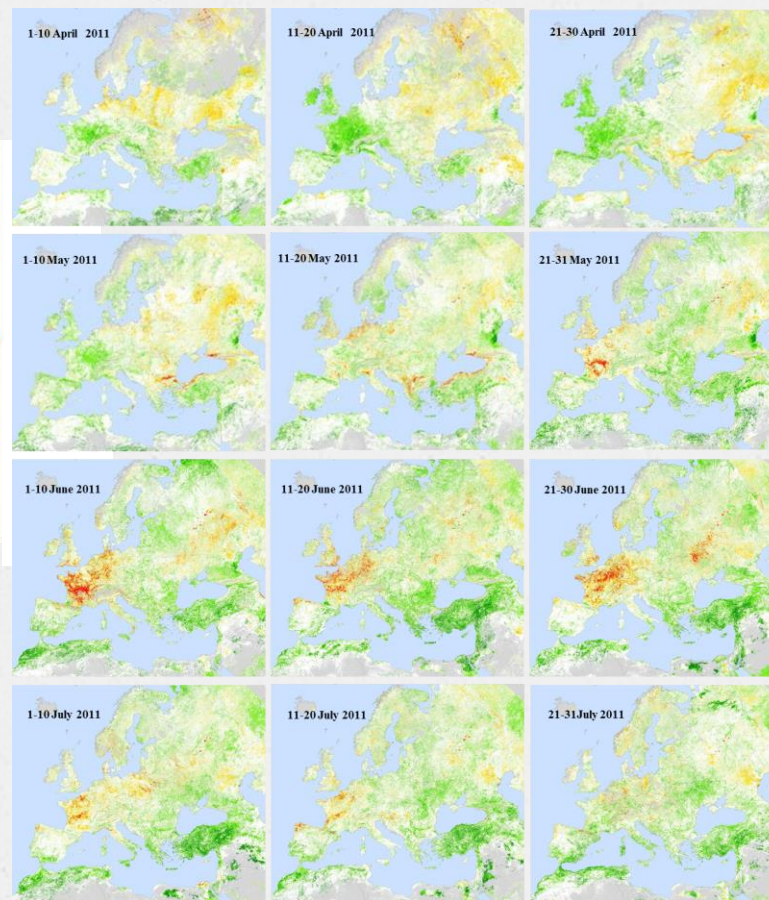


# Case study 2011 Europe

**SPI-3**



**$\Delta fAPAR$**

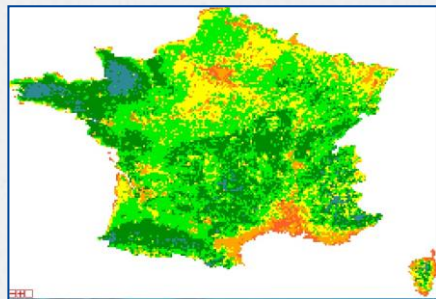




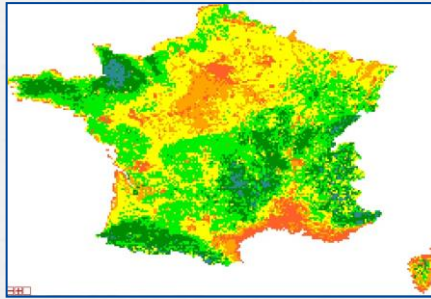
# LSA-SAF ET for drought monitoring

## ET/ETo in France

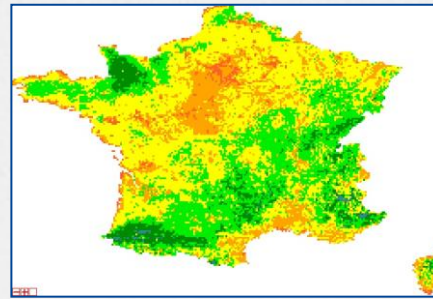
11-20/05/2011



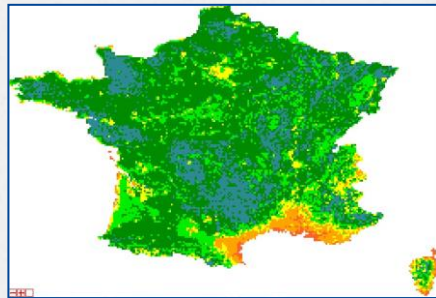
21-31/05/2011



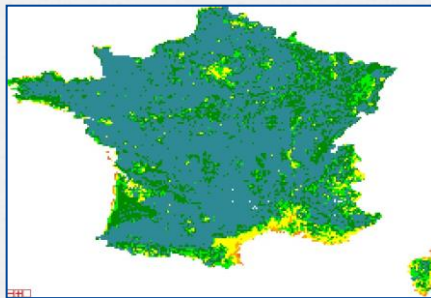
1-10/06/2011



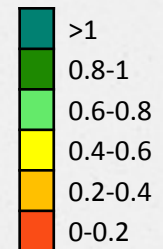
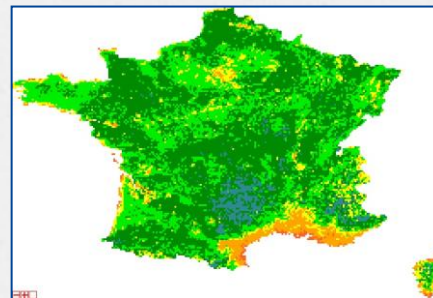
11-20/05/2012



21-31/05/2012



1-10/06/2012

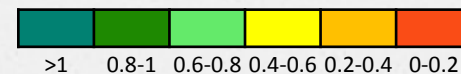
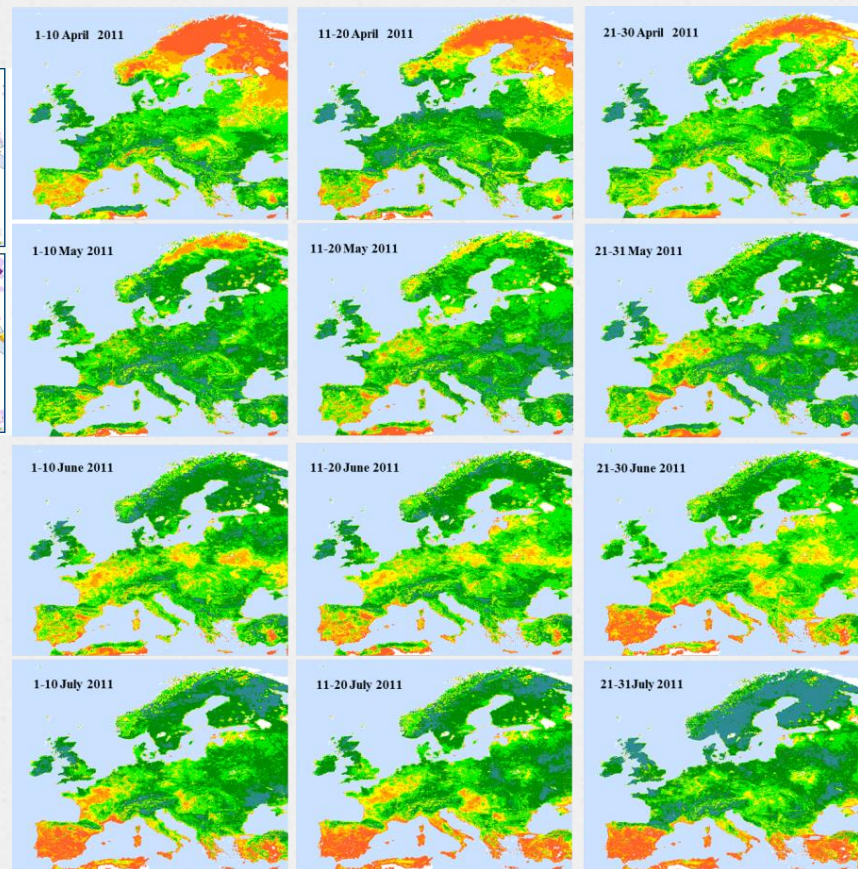
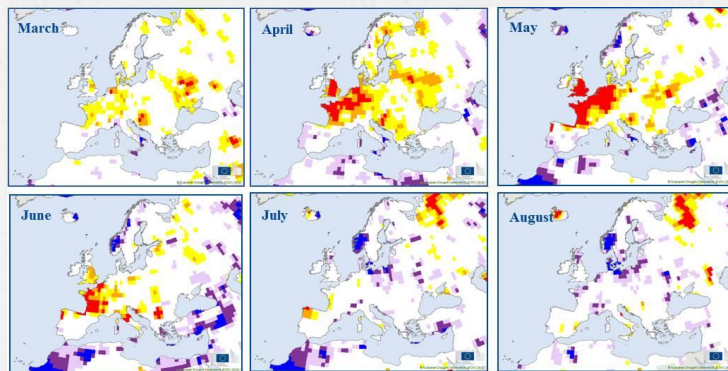




# LSA-SAF ET for drought monitoring

ET/ET<sub>0</sub>

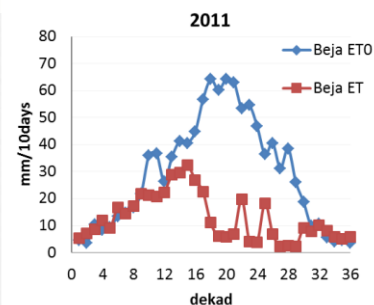
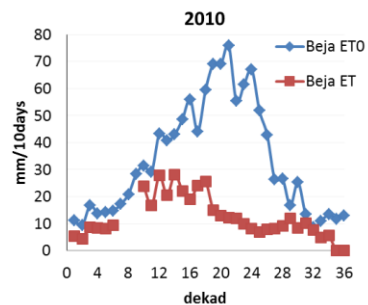
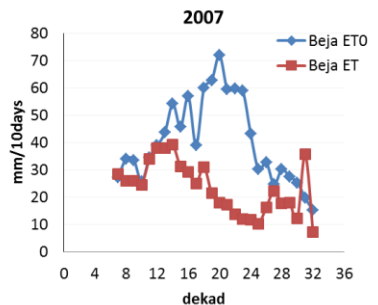
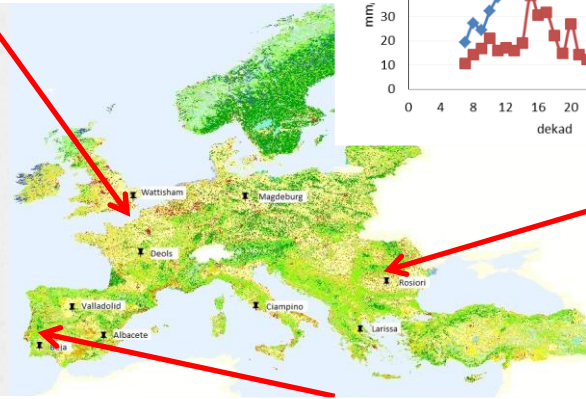
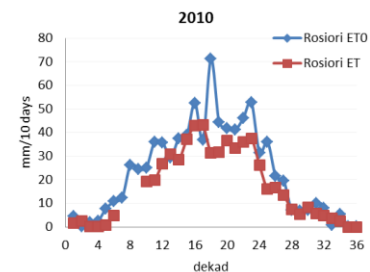
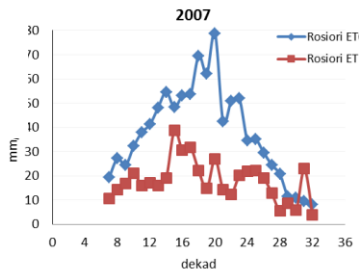
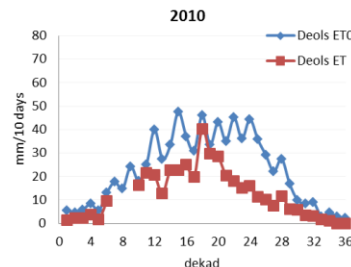
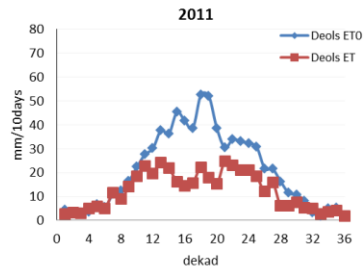
SPI-3





# LSA-SAF ET for drought monitoring

## ET and ETo in agricultural areas

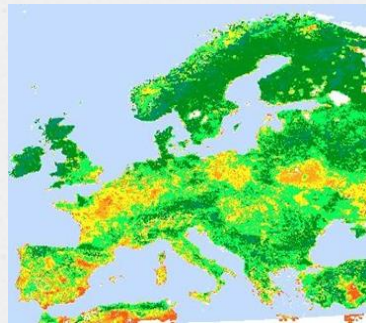




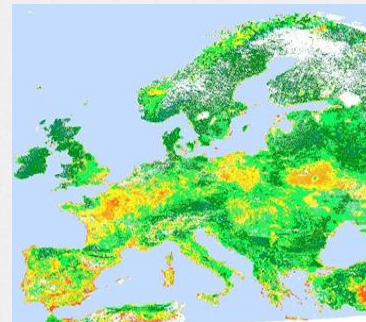
# LSA-SAF ET for drought monitoring

**Example ET/ETo of 1-10 June 2011 after applying different filters**

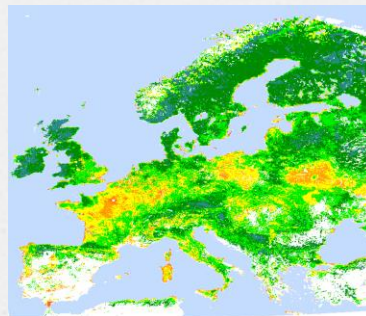
Phenology filter



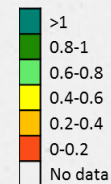
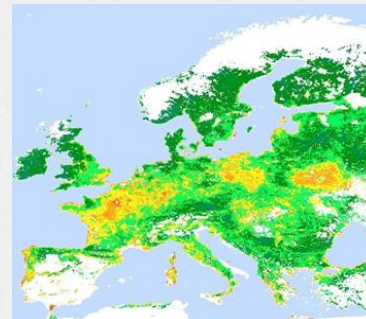
Mean fAPAR filter



ECOCLIMAP filter



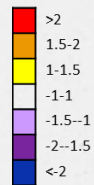
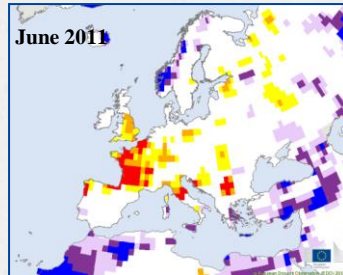
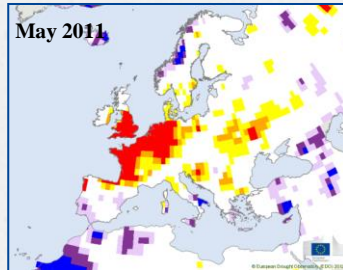
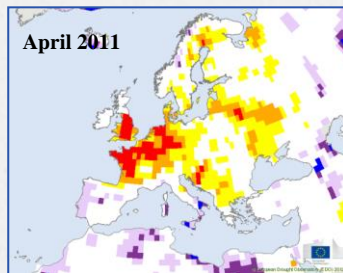
50% FVC



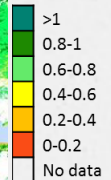
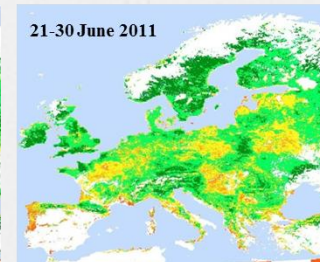
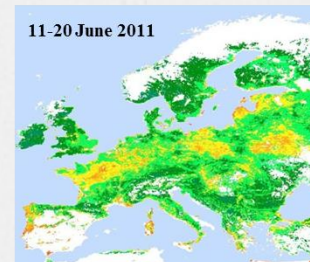
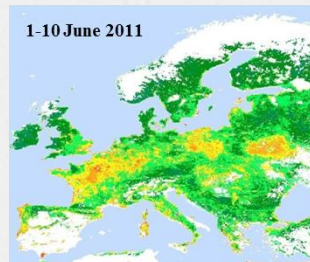
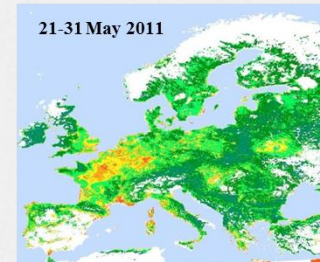


# LSA-SAF ET for drought monitoring

**SPI-3**



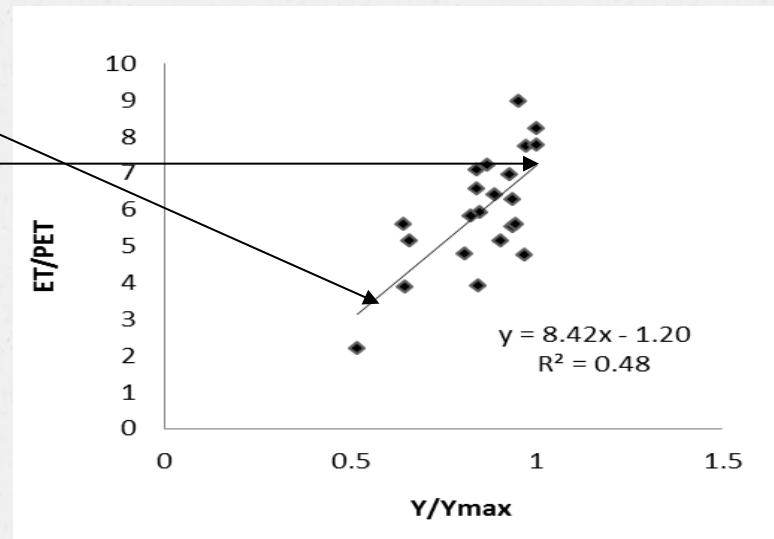
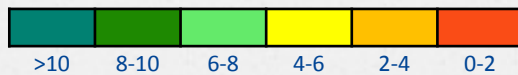
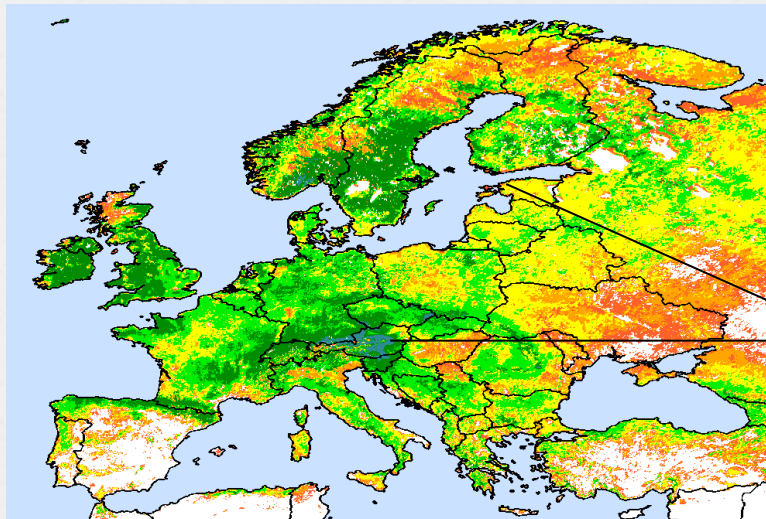
**ET/ETo filtering areas with FVC < 50%**





# LSA-SAF ET for drought monitoring

2011 accumulated ET/PET vs Winter wheat Yield (Kg/ha)/Yield<sub>max</sub>





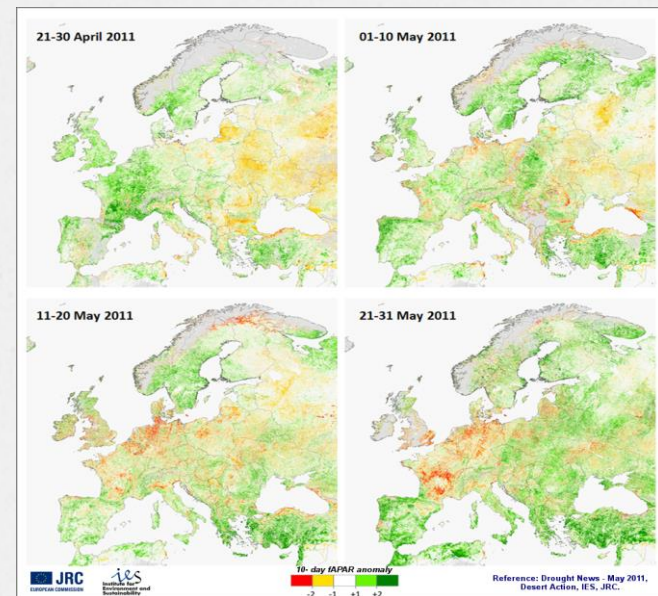
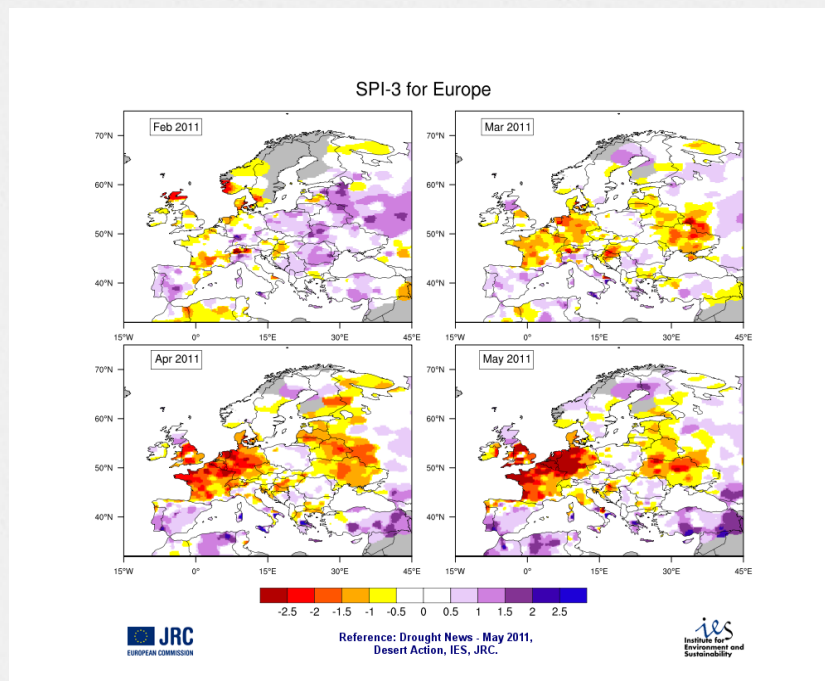
## Some conclusions

- ET is an important parameter that gives information about the water and energy exchange between soil, plant and atmosphere. Moreover, it integrates environmental factors like meteorological conditions and soil moisture status. The ratio between evapotranspiration and potential evapotranspiration reflects the climatic demand in relation to the soil water supply.
- In absence of time series of data long enough to characterize the normal conditions of the area, ET/ET<sub>o</sub> is giving relevant information for drought monitoring except in areas of low vegetation cover.
- ET/ET<sub>o</sub> showed to give additional information to those given by SPI and fAPAR.
- Filtering taking into account the beginning and the end of the growing period or the percentage of vegetation cover was tested, eliminating the areas where high values of the ratio did not corresponded to drought conditions.
- ET/ET<sub>o</sub> can be produced operationally as it is based in three products already operational and freely distributed, ET and FVC distributed by LSA-SAF and ET<sub>o</sub> by the MARS-JRC.
- In addition, the SVAT model used to obtain ET, can be modified to obtain PET and therefore it would be possible to produce the ratio ET/PET as new product. This ratio has important applications in global agricultural monitoring.



# Potential of LSA-SAF for drought monitoring: fAPAR

<http://edo.jrc.ec.europa.eu> drought news may 2011





# Potential of LSA-SAF for drought monitoring: fAPAR

## Comparison between fAPAR MODIS and fAPAR LSA-SAF

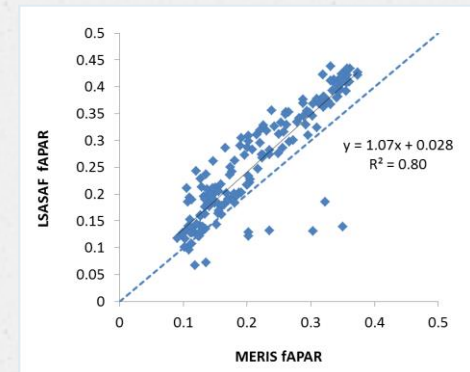
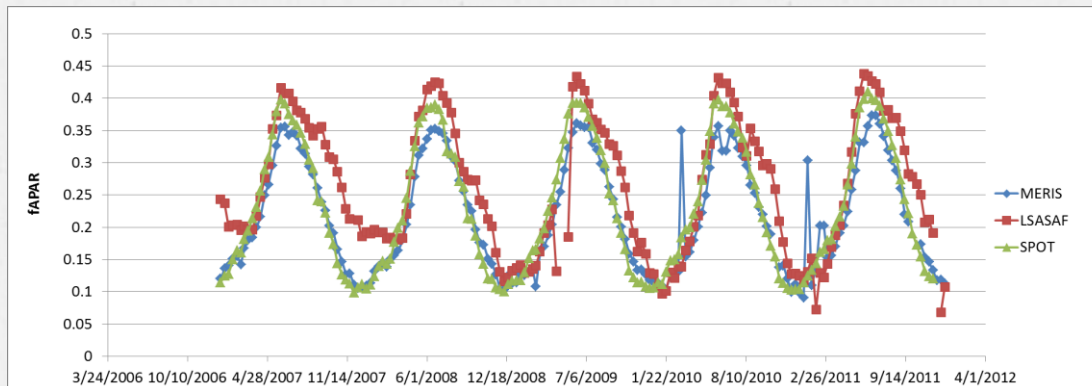
fAPAR MODIS 11-20/05/2011



fAPAR LSA-SAF 11-20/05/2011

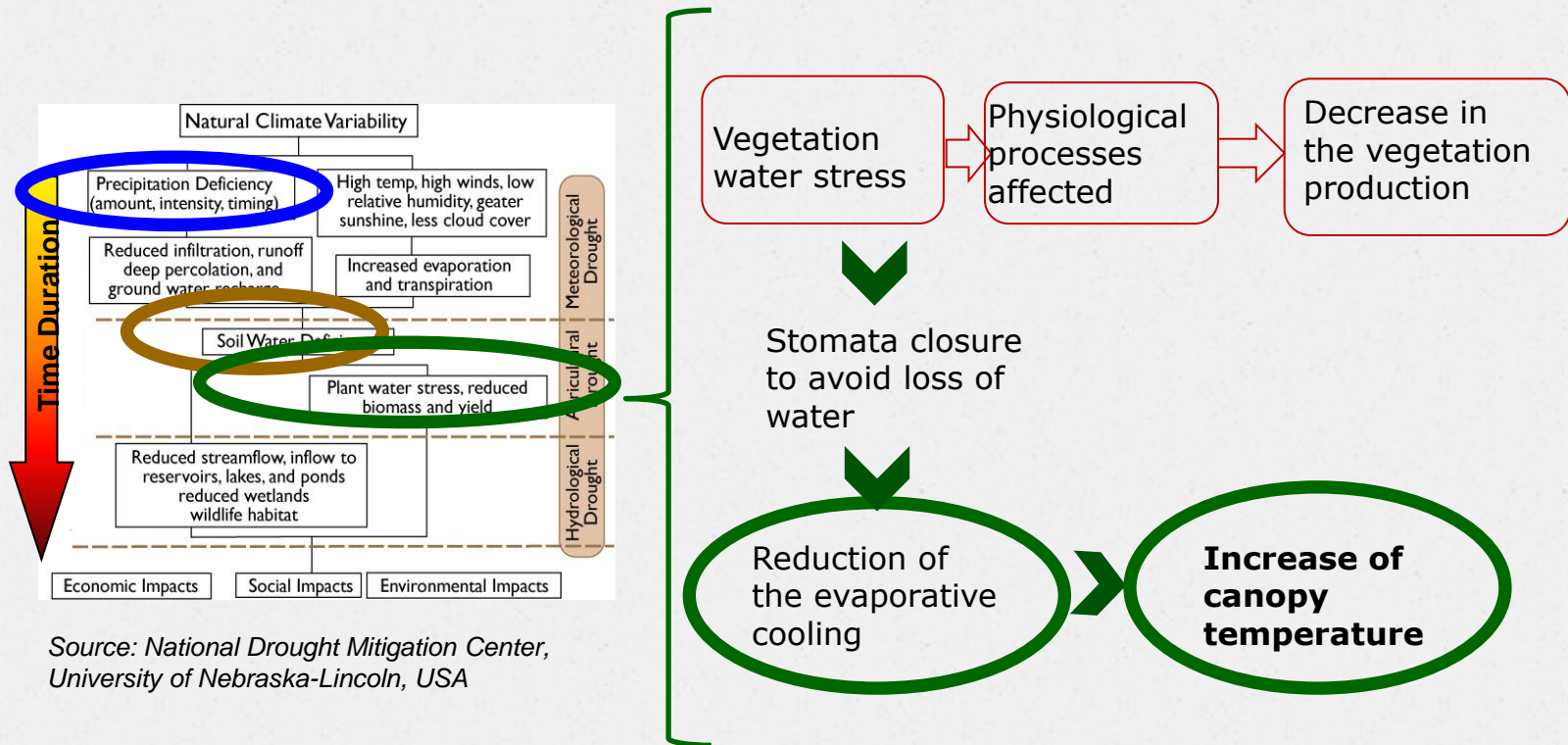


Spatial correlation  
coef=0.80





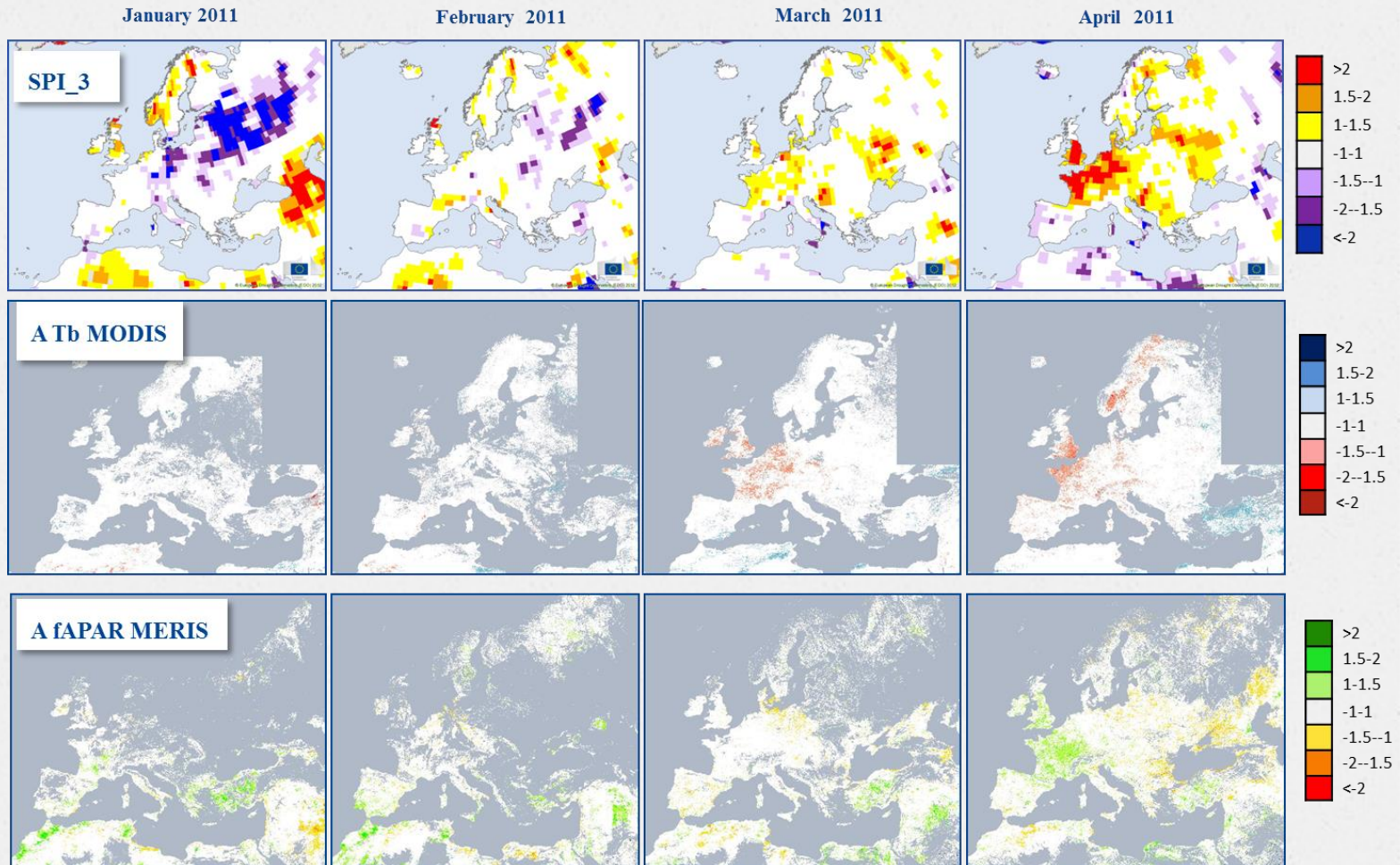
# Potential of LSA-SAF for drought monitoring: LST



Source: National Drought Mitigation Center,  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA

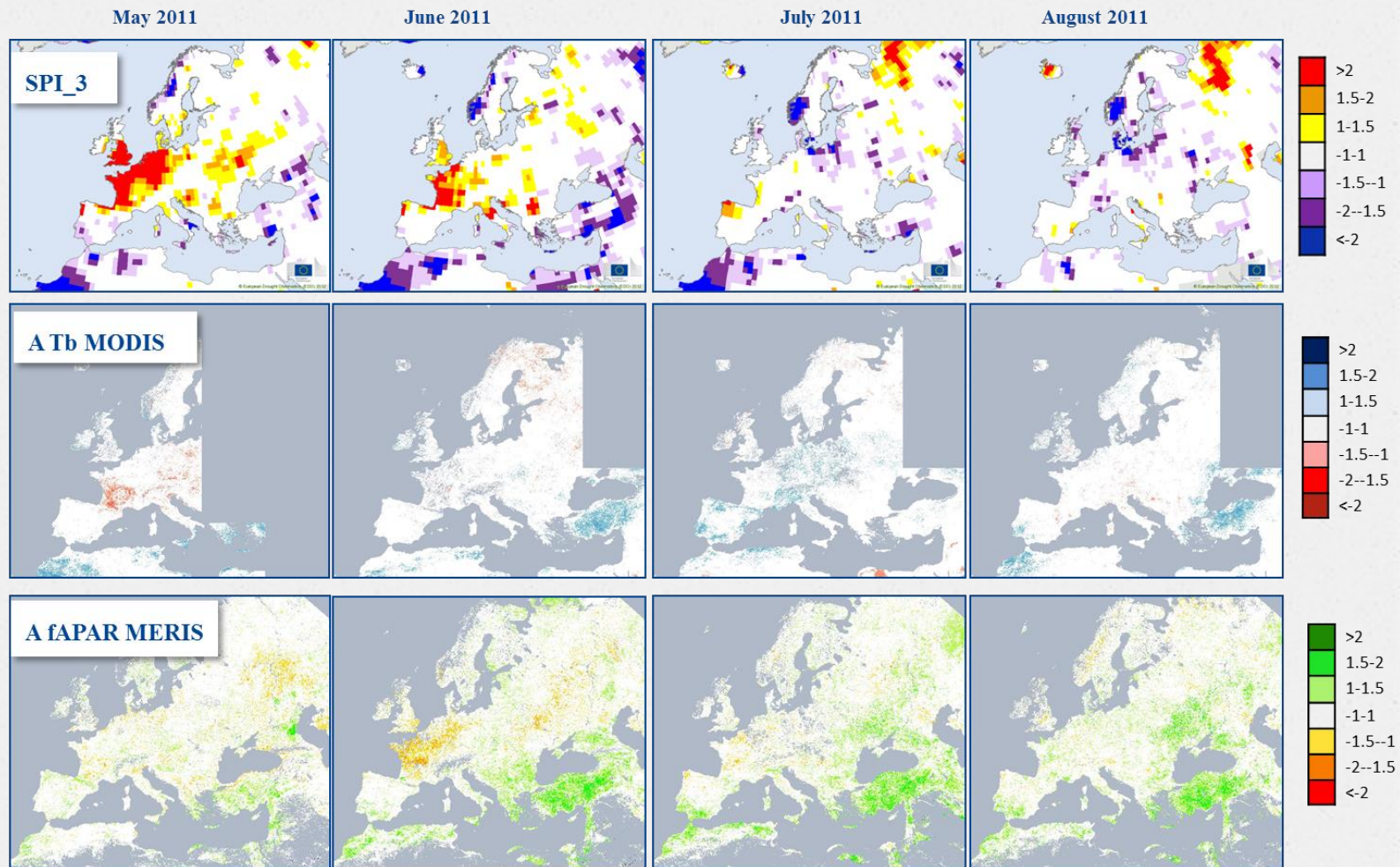


# Potential of LSA-SAF for drought monitoring: LST



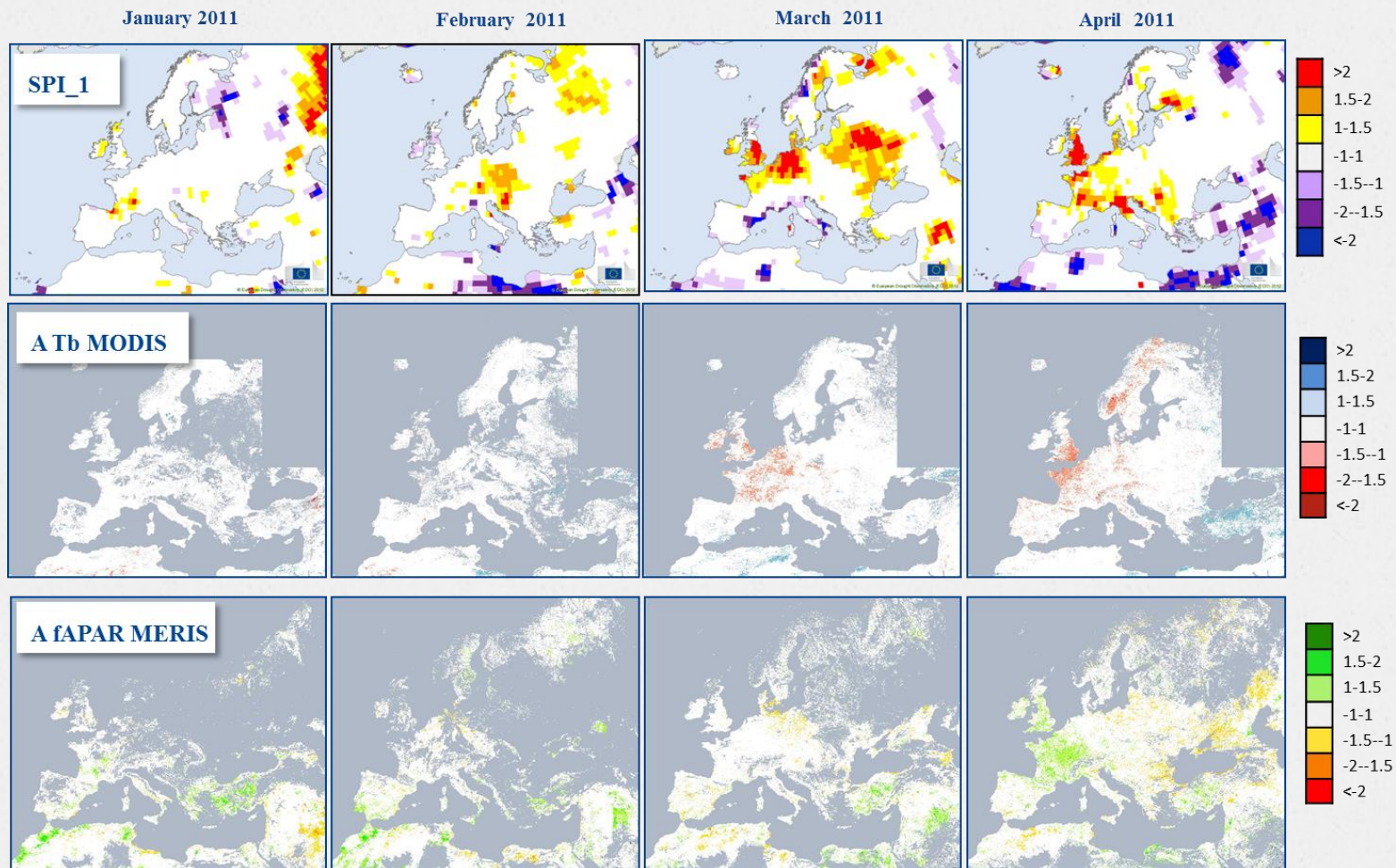


# Potential of LSA-SAF for drought monitoring: LST



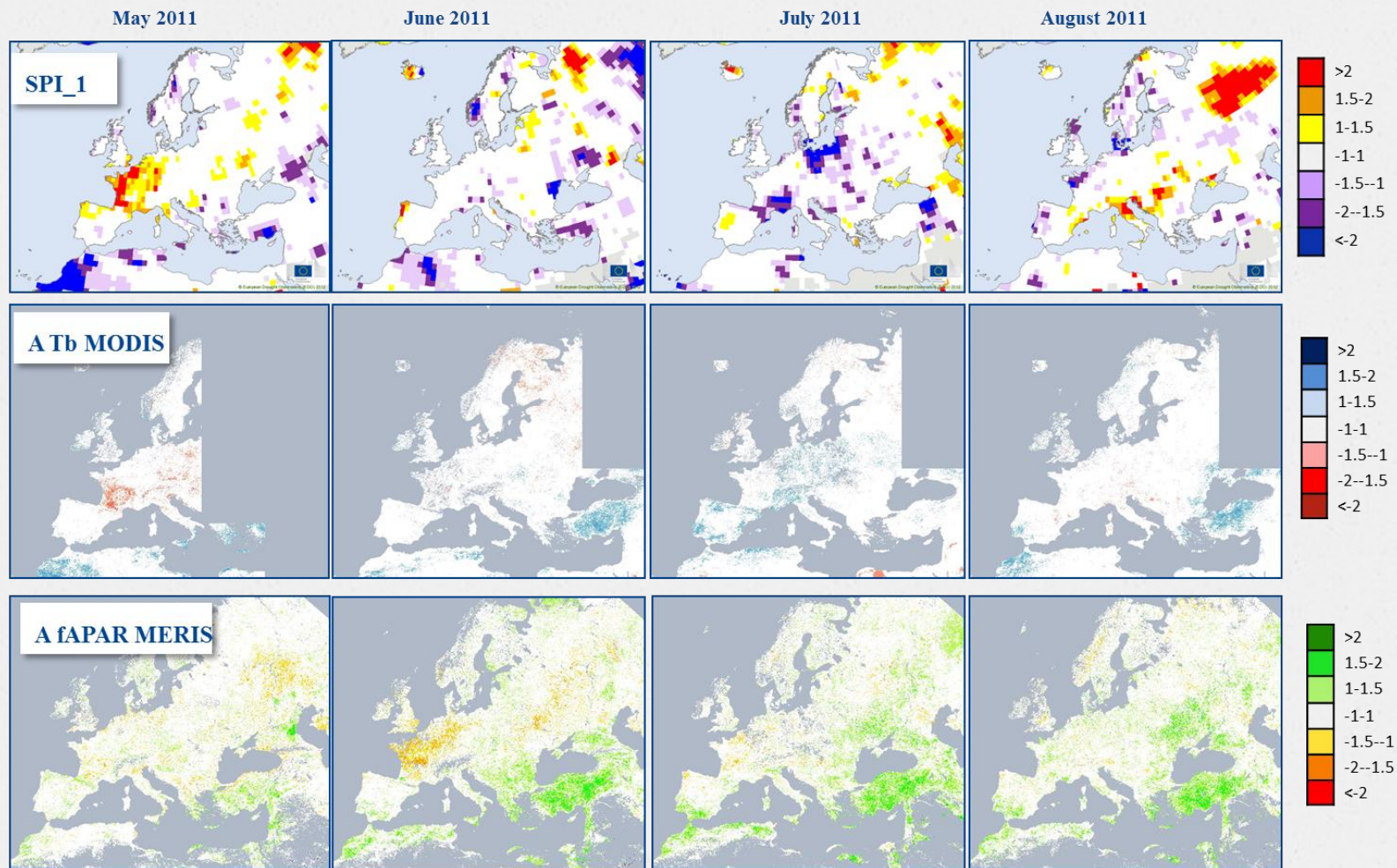


# Potential of LSA-SAF for drought monitoring: LST



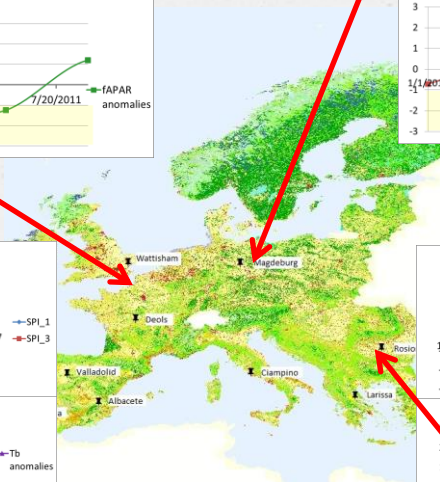
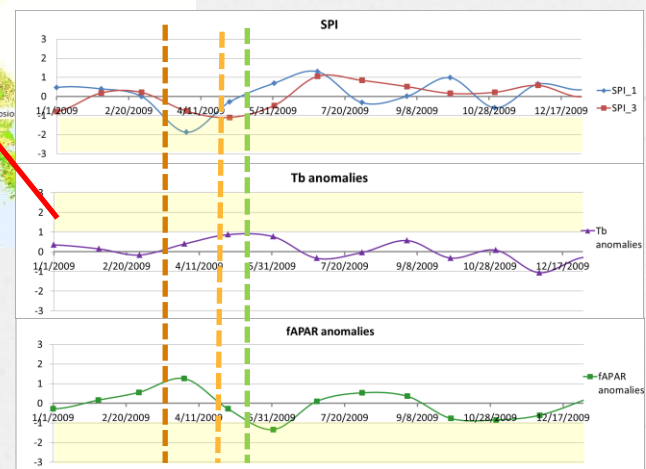
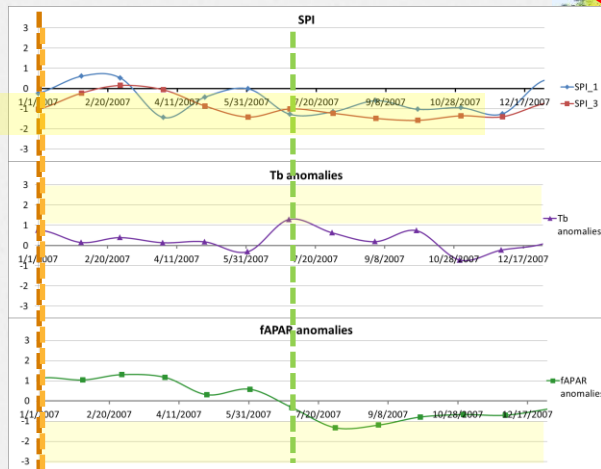
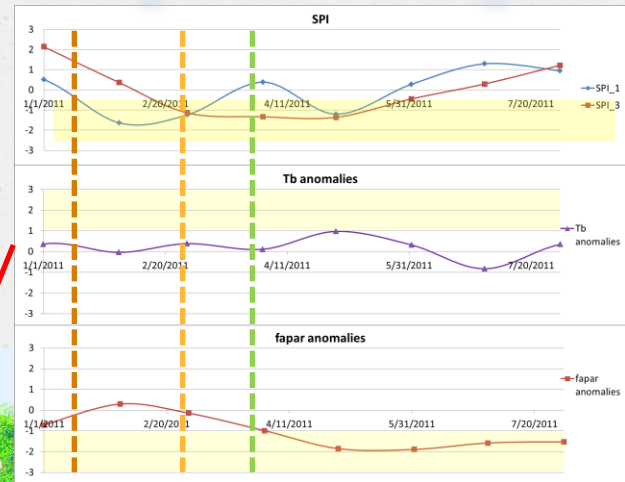
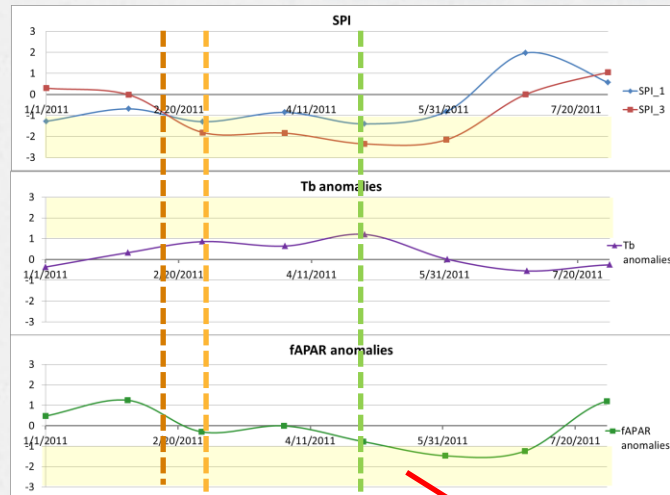


# Potential of LSA-SAF for drought monitoring: LST





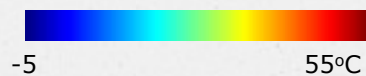
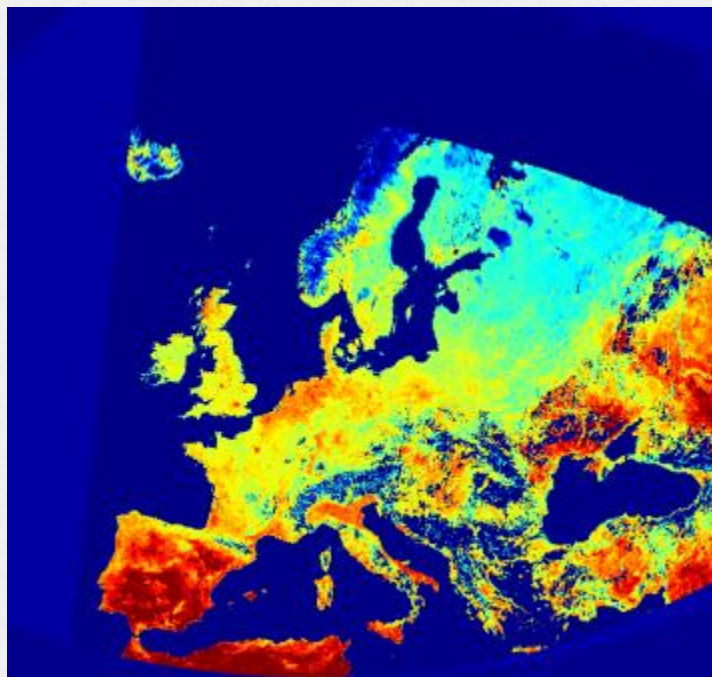
# Potential of LSA-SAF for drought monitoring: LST



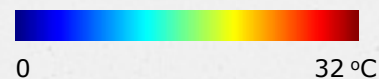
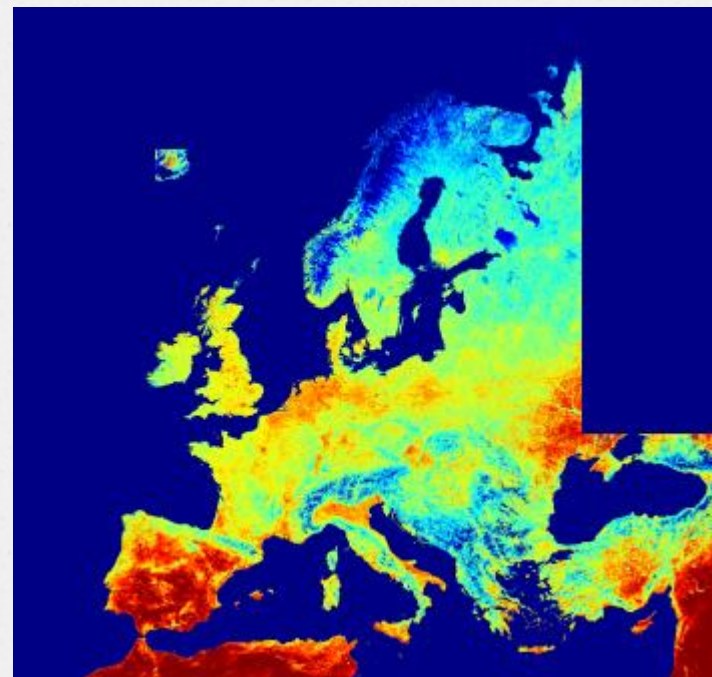


## Potential of LSA-SAF for drought monitoring: LST

10 days composite (21-31/05/2012)  
of **LSA-SAF** LST at 12:00



10 days composite (21-31/05/2012)  
of **MODIS/AQUA** TB





## More info

<http://edo.jrc.ec.europa.eu>

Sepulcre-Cantó, G., J. Vogt, A. Arboleda, T. Antofie. (2014) Assessment of the EUMETSAT LSA-SAF Evaporation Product for Drought Monitoring in Europe. *Int. Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation*, 30:190–202.

Guadalupe Sepulcre-Cantó, S. Horion, A. Singleton, H. Carrao, J. Vogt (2012). Development of a Combined Drought Indicator to detect agricultural drought in Europe. *Natural Hazards and Earth System Sciences*, 12, 3519–3531.

