

# 12<sup>th</sup> Mediterranean Conference

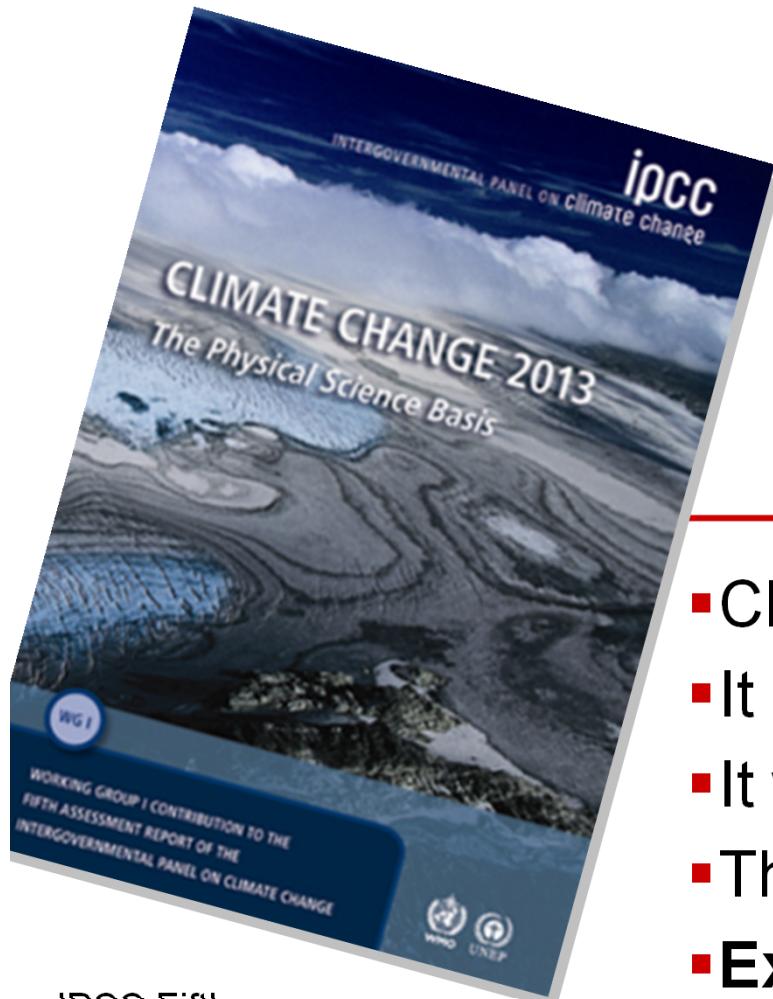
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Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, *Fleur Monasso*

IFRC, CPRR Department – Geneva, *Susil Perrera*

# IPCC – Key reference on climate change science

IFRC PRESIDENT KONOE: “IPCC REPORT SOUNDS HUMANITARIAN CLARION CALL”

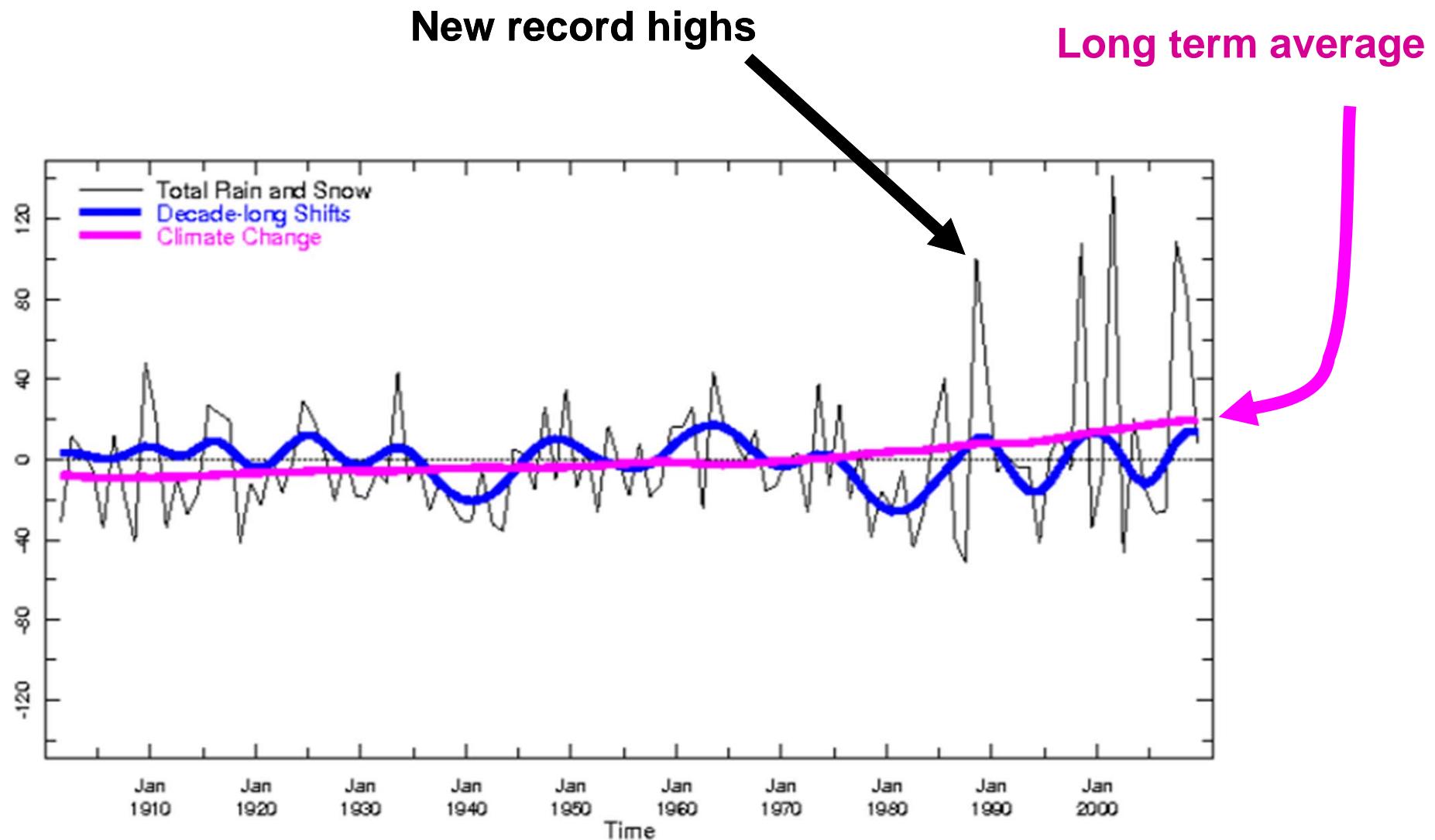


IPCC Fifth  
Assessment  
Report, 2013-14

## Main findings:

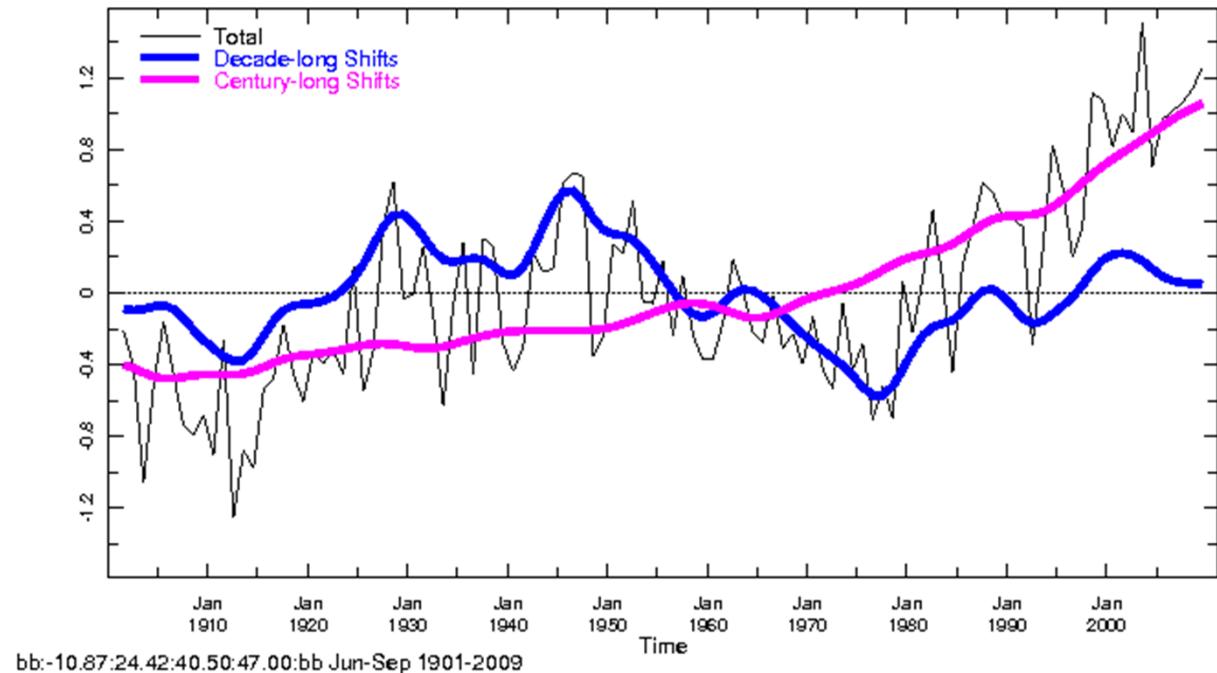
- Climate change is already **happening**
- It is mostly caused by **man**
- It will **continue**
- The rate of change is **alarming**
- **Extreme** weather is getting more frequent
- It is **urgent** to stop further warming

# Model example: more extremes in rainfall



# Mediterranean Climate – past and future **temperature**

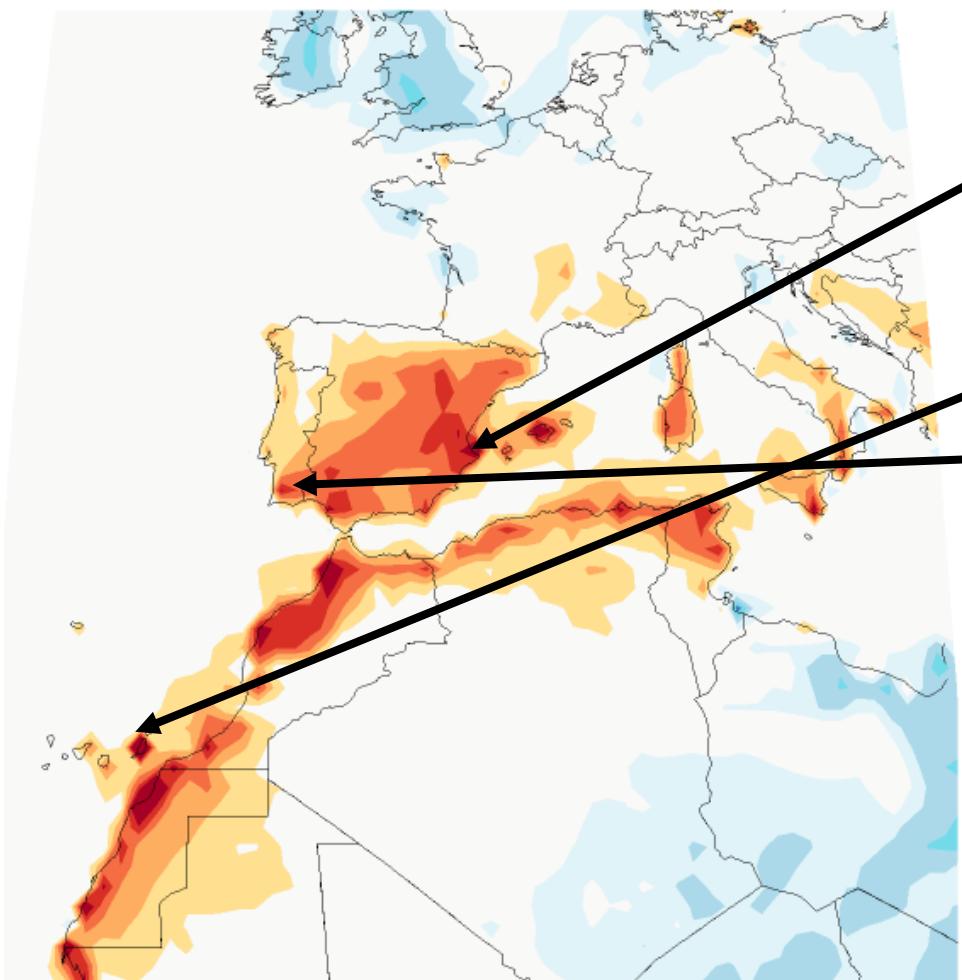
June to Sept **Temperature**  
Trends 1900 – 2010



## Climate Change Projections

- Temperatures in the Mediterranean will **increase more than the global mean** – mostly in summer
- Populations in southern Europe are the most sensitive to hot weather
- **Increasing number of heat waves → health impacts and deaths**

# Two weeks ago: exceptional heat in Morocco, Spain and Portugal



Xativa **42.9 °C** 14<sup>th</sup> May,  
breaking a 2006 record of  
40.1 °C in Cordoba

Canary Islands (Lanzarote)  
**42.4 °C** 13<sup>th</sup> May

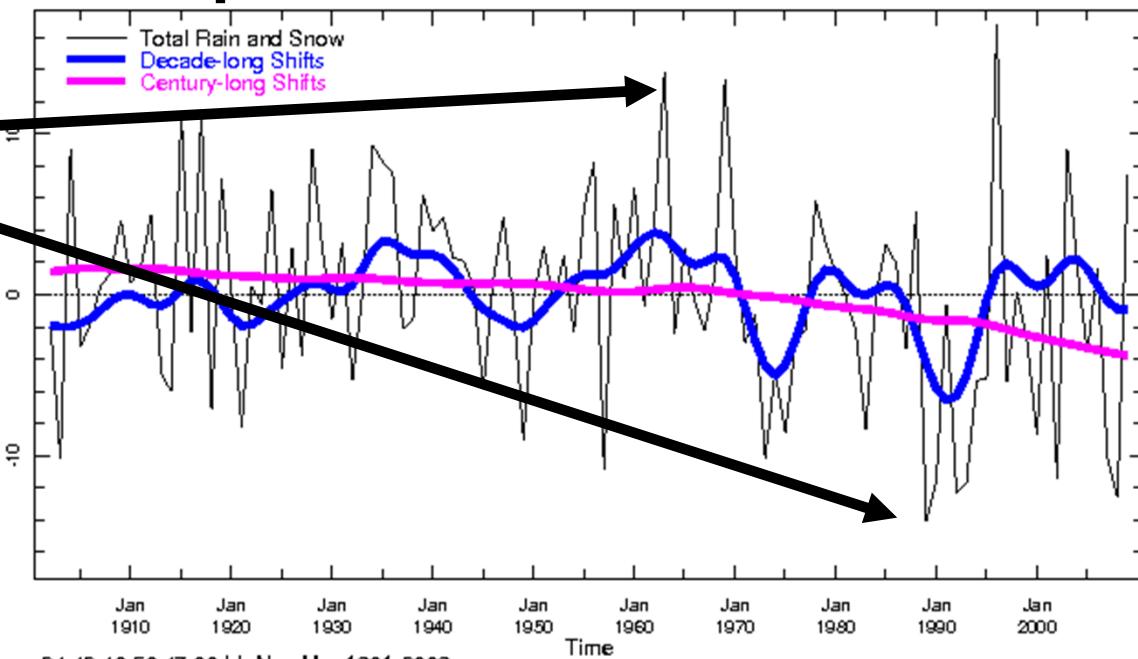
Beja **40 °C** 13<sup>th</sup> May - a new  
May record for Portugal

Heat wave is extreme for May,  
temperatures high even  
compared to the summer

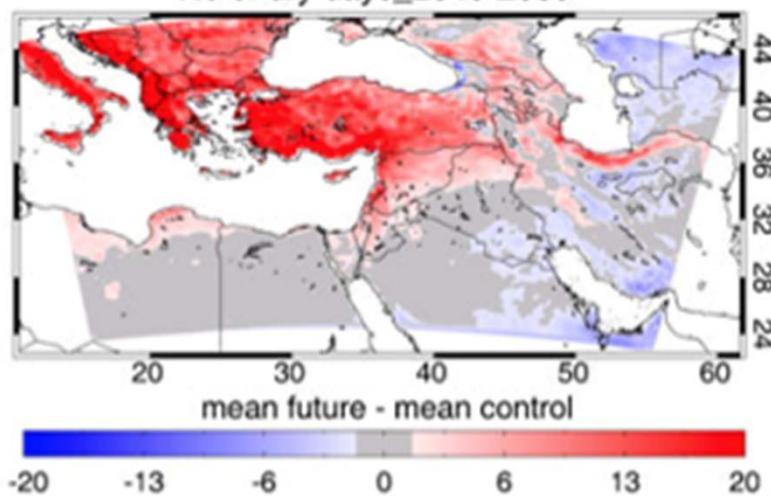
# Mediterranean Climate – past and future rainfall

*New record highs  
and lows*

Rainfall Trends 1900 - 2010



No of dry days\_2040-2069



- **Increased average rainfall north of 40-45° (Venice/ Milan)**
- **Decreased rainfall south of 40-45°**
- Greatest decline in rainfall in summer → increased risk of **summer drought**
- The **length of dry spells** will increase 5 to 25% by the end of the century
- More **intense rainfall events** → flood risk

# Impacts in Mediterranean





# “Attribution” – blame it on climate change?

- So far, individual weather-related disasters could not be said to be “caused by climate change”
- But scientists are now getting closer: last year’s record heat wave in Australia could not have occurred without climate change
- Ongoing research on “attribution” – how much we can actually blame climate change for specific disasters like typhoon Haiyan in Philippines, or the heat waves and droughts in the Mediterranean



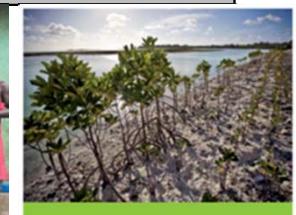
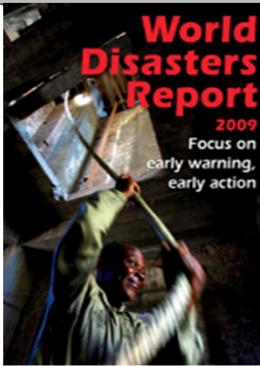
# *IFRC guidance for National Societies to engage in climate change and Environmental Degradation*

Susil Perera, Senior Officer Climate Change Adaptation

IFRC Geneva Secretariat

# Key Guides on addressing Climate Change and Environment Degradation...

- 30 International conference resolution1: Humanitarian Consequences of environmental degradation and climate change.
- WDR 2009: focus on Early Warning /Early Action
- RCRC Climate Guide
- Strategy 2020 Strategic Aim2 : Tackling Climate Change
- IFRC Frame work for Community Resilience and One Billion Coalition Campaign.
- **IFRC Plan of Action on Climate Change 2013-2016**



IFRC Plan of Action  
Climate Change  
2013 - 2016

[www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)  
Saving lives, changing minds.

International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

# ***IFRC Plan of Action on Climate Change***

- IFRC key priorities for building community resilience to climate change;
- Key objectives and activities for scaling-up work on climate change;
- Overall framework to increase coordination and knowledge sharing



**IFRC Plan of Action**  
Climate Change  
2013 - 2016

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# KEY PRIORITY AREAS FOR INTERVENTIONS.....



- Climate-proofing programmes & operations.....
- Strengthening community preparedness....
- Public awareness & public education....
- Engagement with national level policy dialogue and planning...
- Promote sustainable use of natural resources and rehabilitation of the environment

## ***Strategic objectives to achieve the key priorities.....***

### **1. Strengthening organisational capacity on climate change**

- Increase staff knowledge and capacity
- Provide tools and methods
- Strengthen coordination
- Improve information and knowledge management
- Greening the RCRC



## ***Strategic objectives to achieve the key priorities.....***

### **2. Mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation**

- Mainstream in to programmes ( DM/DRR, Health, LH, Shelter, Water etc..)
- Understanding and Communication of climate information
- Strengthen coordination
- Identify gaps and develop criteria to address new needs



## ***Strategic objectives to achieve the key priorities.....***

### **3. Promoting advocacy, public awareness and partnership...**

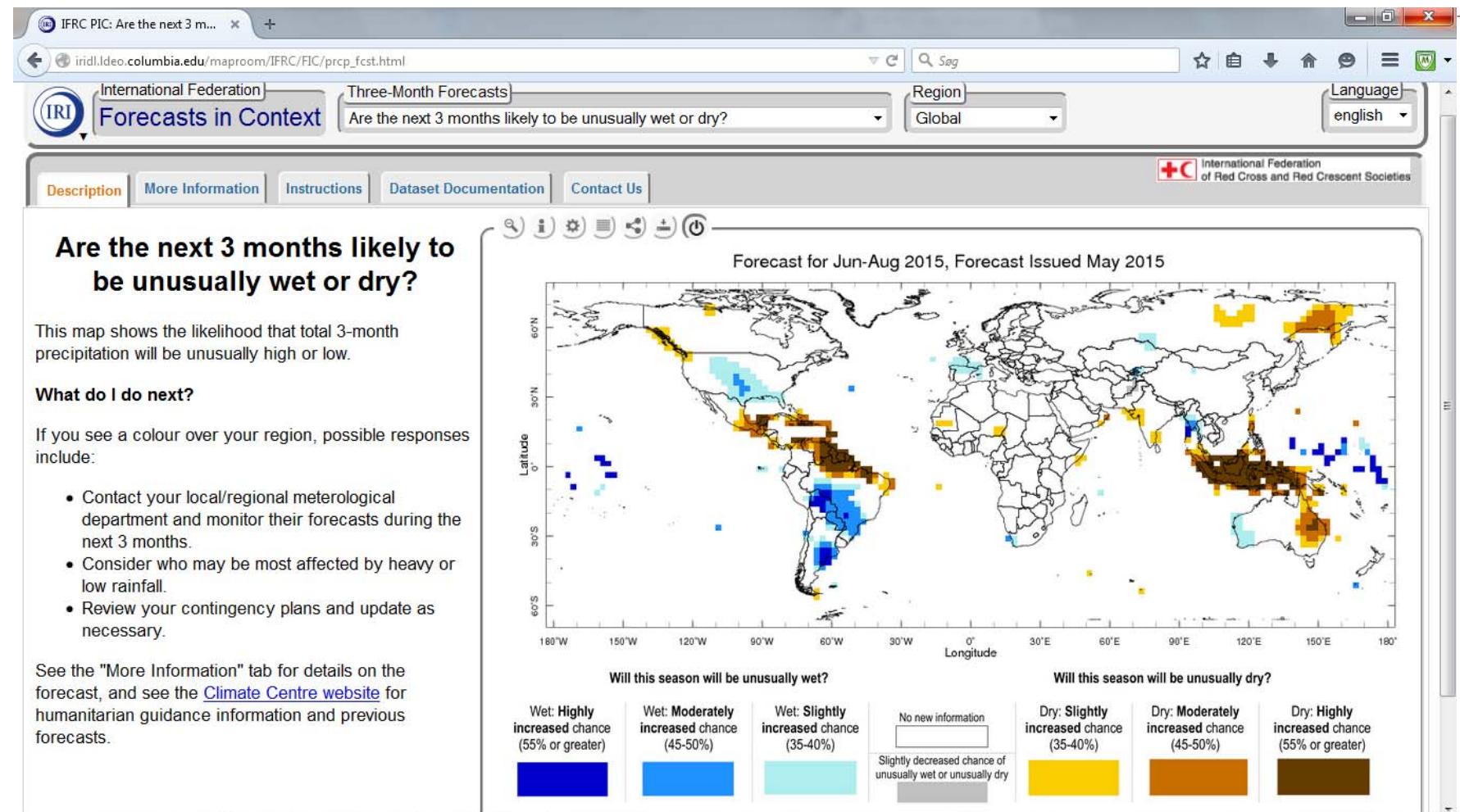
- Influence policy development...
- Ensure the issue of humanitarian consequences reflect at national planning adaptation planning.
- Communication for better understanding...
- Partnership for greater impacts



Dr. Mohammed bin Ghanem Al-Ali Al-Maadheed , Vice-President of the IFRC, President of Qatar Red Crescent (QRC) addressing the High-Level Plenary during the last day of COP 18.

# IFRC Map room

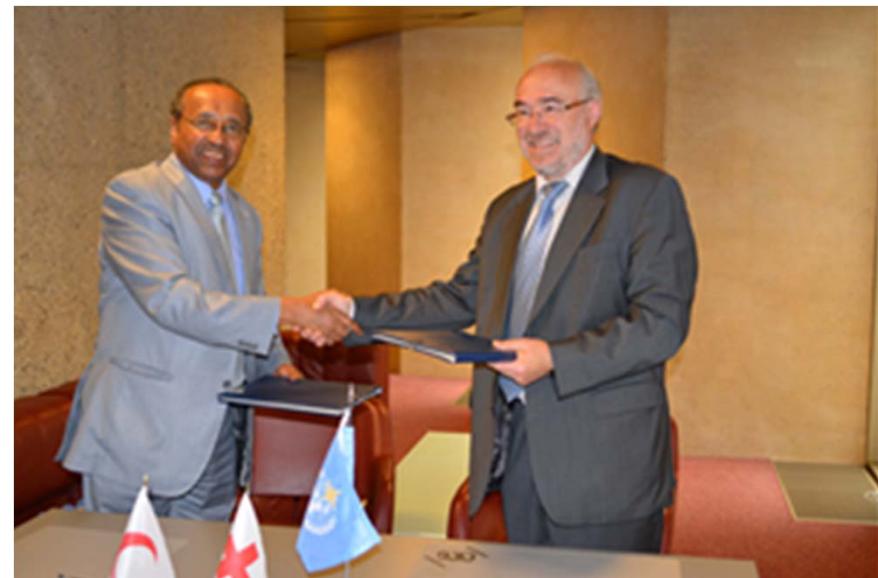
[http://iridl.ideo.columbia.edu/proto/maproom/IFRC/FIC/prcp\\_fcst.html](http://iridl.ideo.columbia.edu/proto/maproom/IFRC/FIC/prcp_fcst.html)





## ***IFRC-WMO partnership (WMO and IFRC signed an agreement to strengthen cooperation on tackling climate risks)***

The memorandum reflects the importance of making science-based climate information and prediction accessible and understandable to local actors and communities to reduce the risk of climate-related disasters.



# High level Humanitarian Diplomacy and commitments



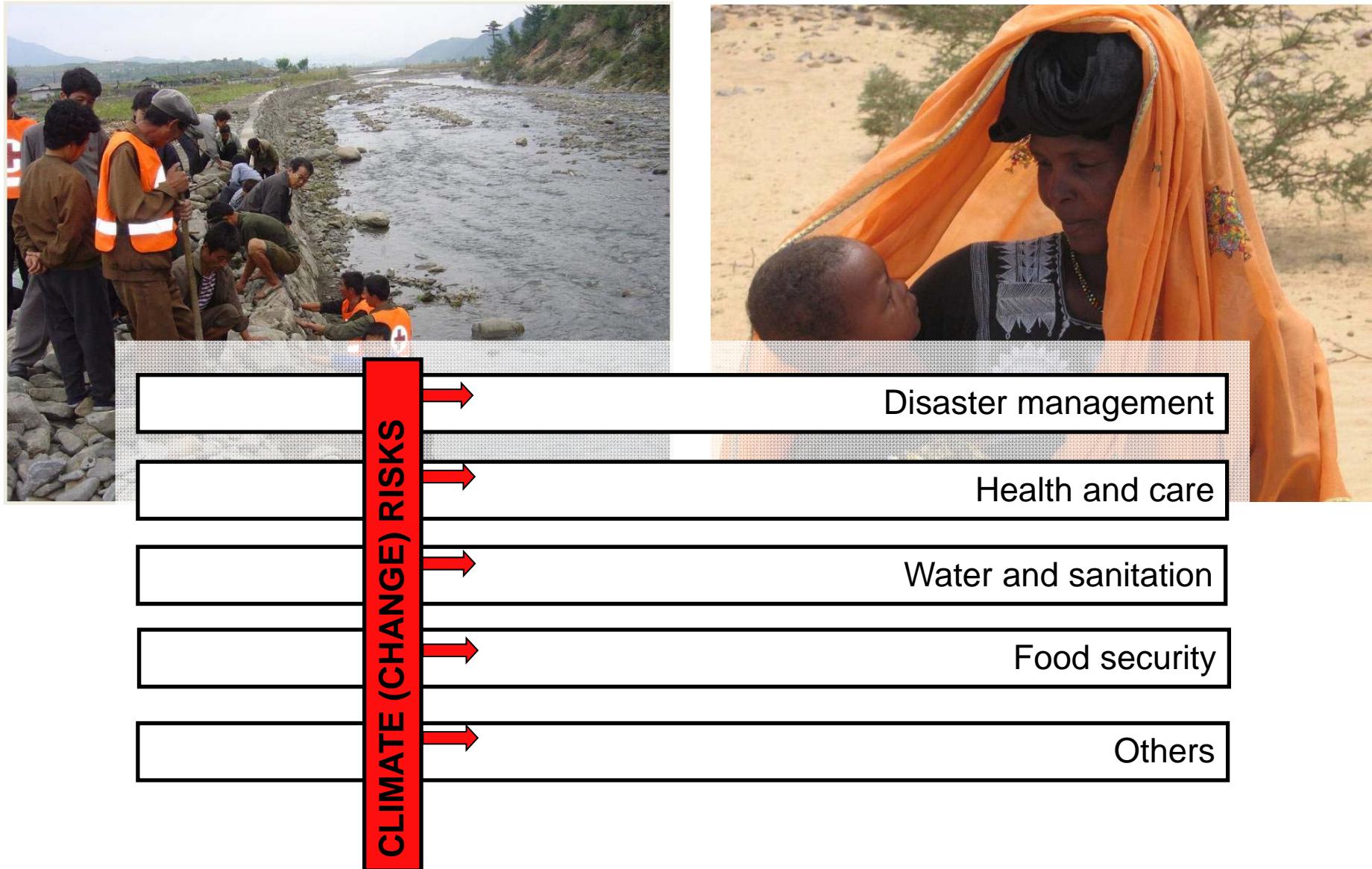
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Elhadj As Sy: At the UN Climate Summit in September 2014, we pledged that by the end of the following year the IFRC would be helping communities in at least **40 high-risk countries make better use of climate information for risk reduction and disaster preparedness and response**, and systematically communicating to the general public about the role of climate change in major disasters. We also commit to **scale up public awareness and education on changing climate risks by mobilizing our 17 million volunteers and 189 National Societies**, and systematically communicating to the general public about the role of climate change in major disasters”

# Approach: Mainstreaming “climate” into programmes



# An **assessment** of climate trends and projections:

## Adjust our work

- How could changing risk patterns affect vulnerability?
- Assess how we should adjust existing projects
- Draft an action plan
- Assess funding opportunities

## Policy dialogue

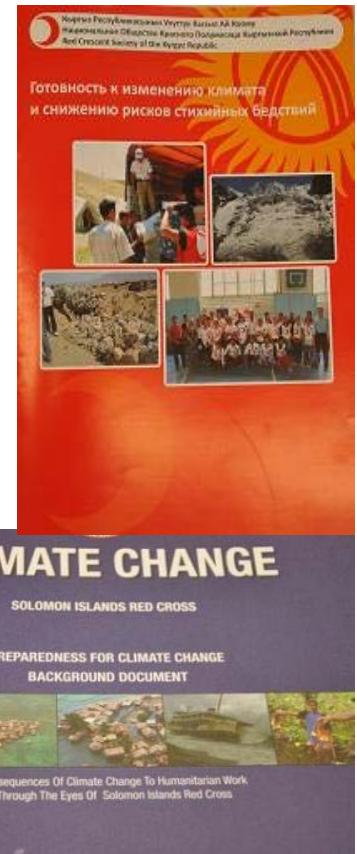
- Highlight humanitarian consequences of CC
- Ensuring the needs of the most vulnerable are addressed in climate change policies



A wealth of experiences....

....including in the mediterranean

- Assessments, climate-smart programming, dialogues, partnerships, awareness, etc



# IFRC and Climate Centre tools to help



Join this e-learning course about the global challenge of climate change – and discover what you can do to help reduce risks your community may face from climate change.

During the next 30 minutes, you will learn what climate change is, how it affects the work of the Red Cross Red Crescent and what steps can be taken to address risks that might get worse due to climate change.

Upon completion, you will be empowered to act and help others address the challenge of climate change.

 Learning time: 30 minutes

 Runs on: Smartphone, Tablet and Desktop

#### Learning objectives

- ① Summarize main causes of climate change
- ② Describe impacts of climate change
- ③ Explain how climate change is expected to impact on the mandate and work of Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies
- ④ Explain the Red Cross Red Crescent approach to climate change
- ⑤ Distinguish between climate change adaptation and mitigation
- ⑥ Explain how using climate information on different timescales can help risk reduction, preparedness and response
- ⑦ Clarify the added value of a Red Cross Red Crescent National Society in addressing climate change and its urgency to do so

 START LEARNING

 START WHERE YOU LEFT OFF



of their homes  
for something  
to eat.  
[Red Cross]



Games for a New Climate: US. Pablo Suarez plays *Dodging the Storm* at the White House in Washington, DC. (Photo: American Red Cross)

ted by climate change?

g > Early action

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A guide to mainstreaming  
disaster risk reduction  
and climate change adaptation

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