

User-Tailored Climate Predictions

The DWD Climate Predictions Website

Birgit Mannig, Andreas Paxian, Klaus Pankatz,
Amelie Hoff, Miriam Tivig, Katja Reinhard, Katharina Isensee, Sabrina Wehring, Alexander Pasternack¹, Philip Lorenz, Frank Kreienkamp, Barbara Fröh
Deutscher Wetterdienst; ¹Freie Universität Berlin

Why this website?

User-friendly information portal on climate predictions

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Who are the users?

Sector specific users, using either data and / or end results



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We work towards a...

...seamless prediction approach:

➔ **Timescales**

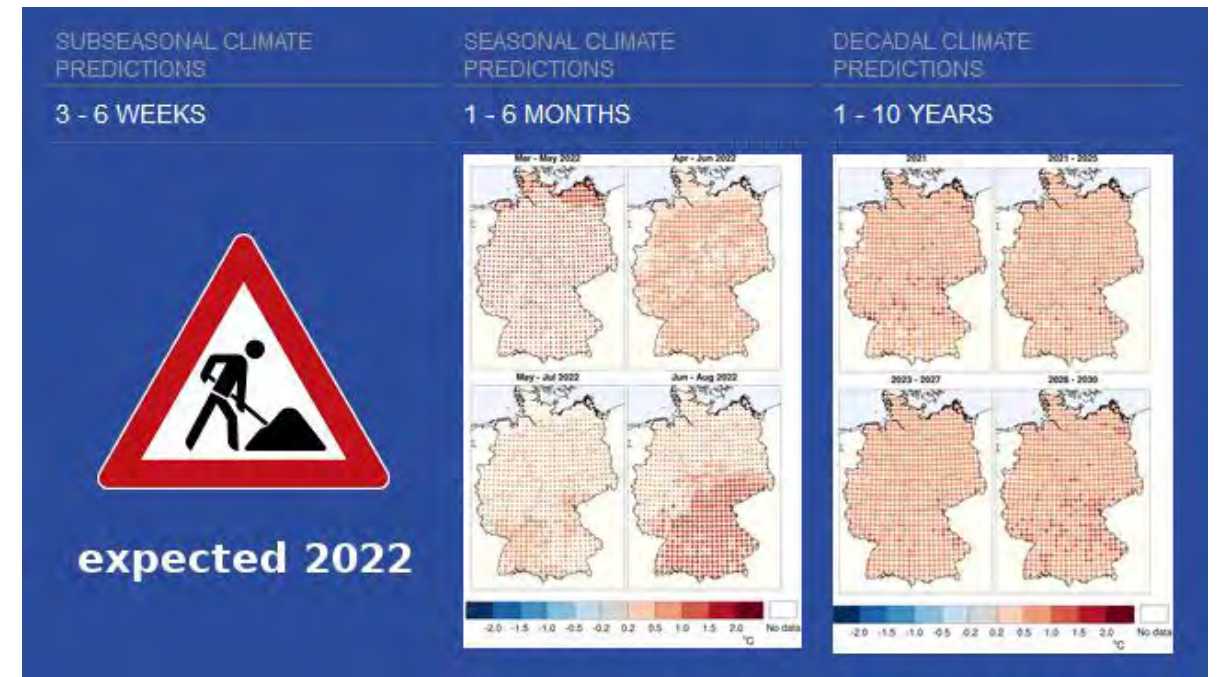
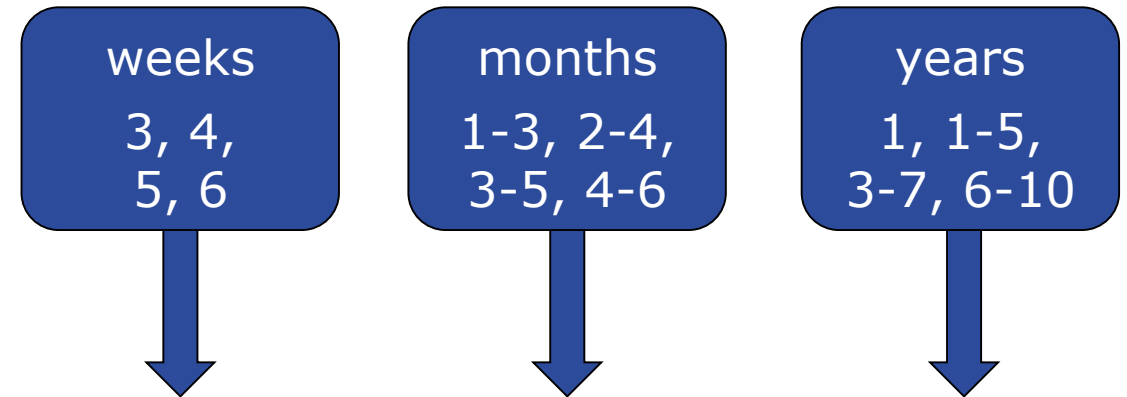


Seamless Approach: Timescales

Climate predictions for three timescales

- Decadal
- Seasonal
- Subseasonal

<https://www.dwd.de/climatepredictions>



Two layers of complexity

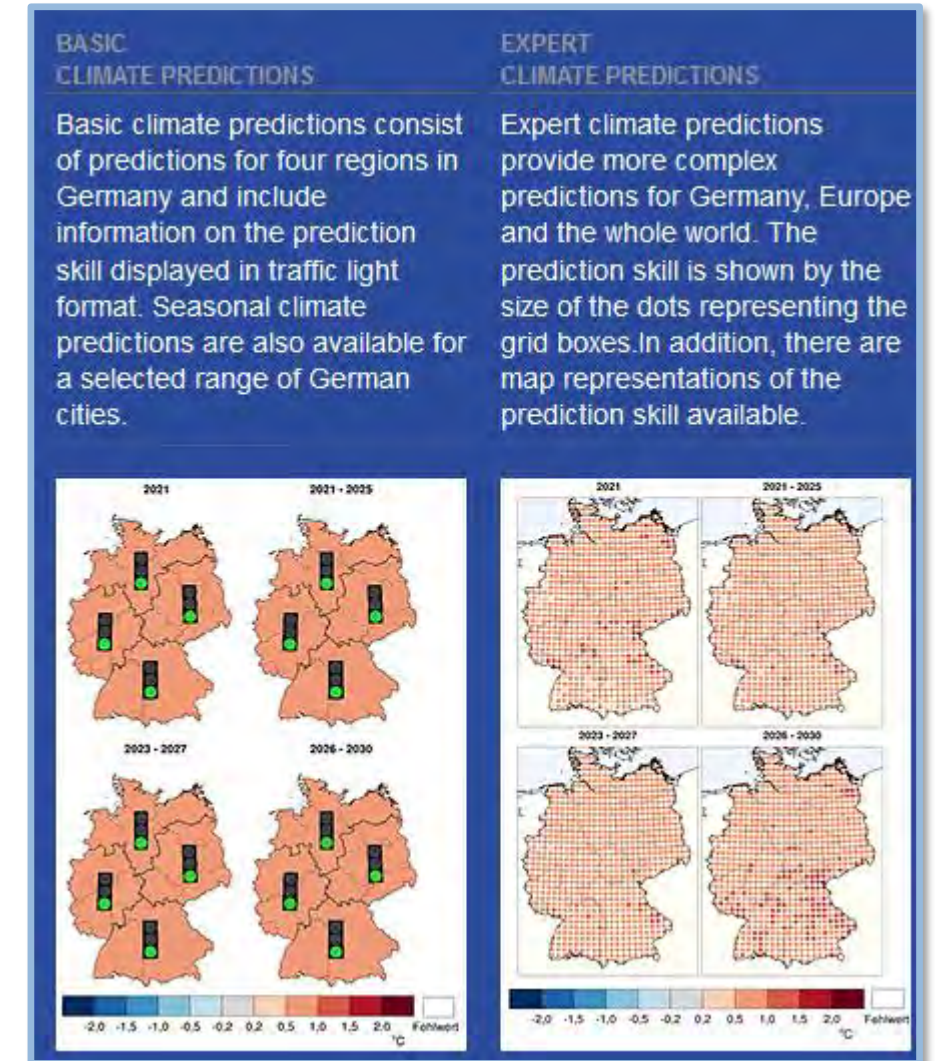
Basic climate predictions (Germany only)



Expert climate predictions

(+ Background information)

<https://www.dwd.de/climatepredictions>

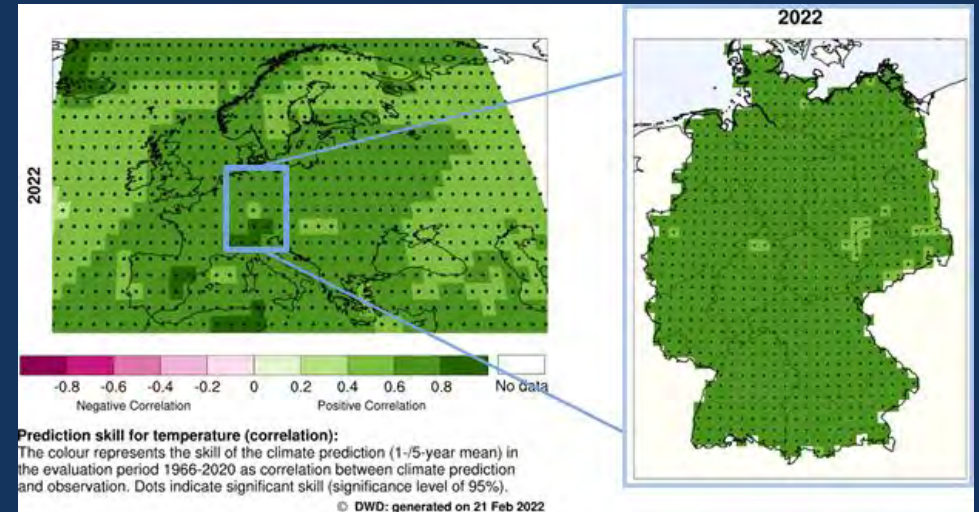


Three Regions (with different resolution)

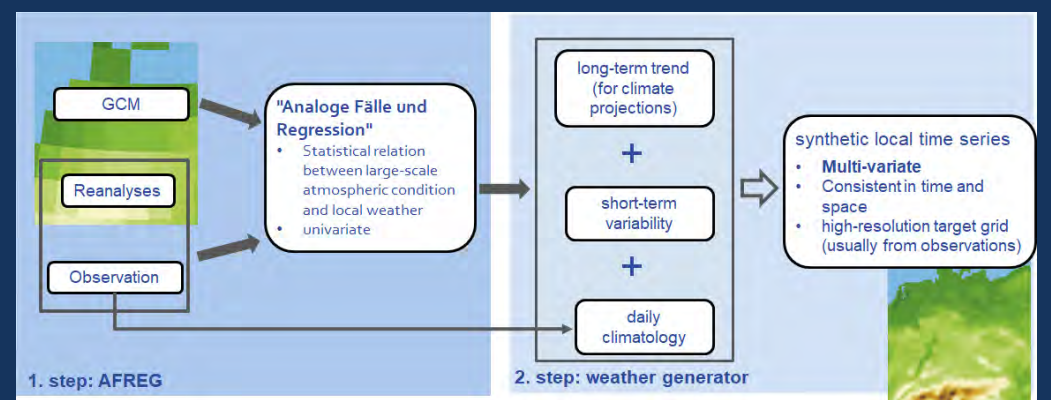
- World (5°)
- Europe (2°)
- Germany ($\sim 20\text{km}$)

Additionally for basic climate predictions:

Fieldmeans of four German **Regions**



Downscaling with EPISODES



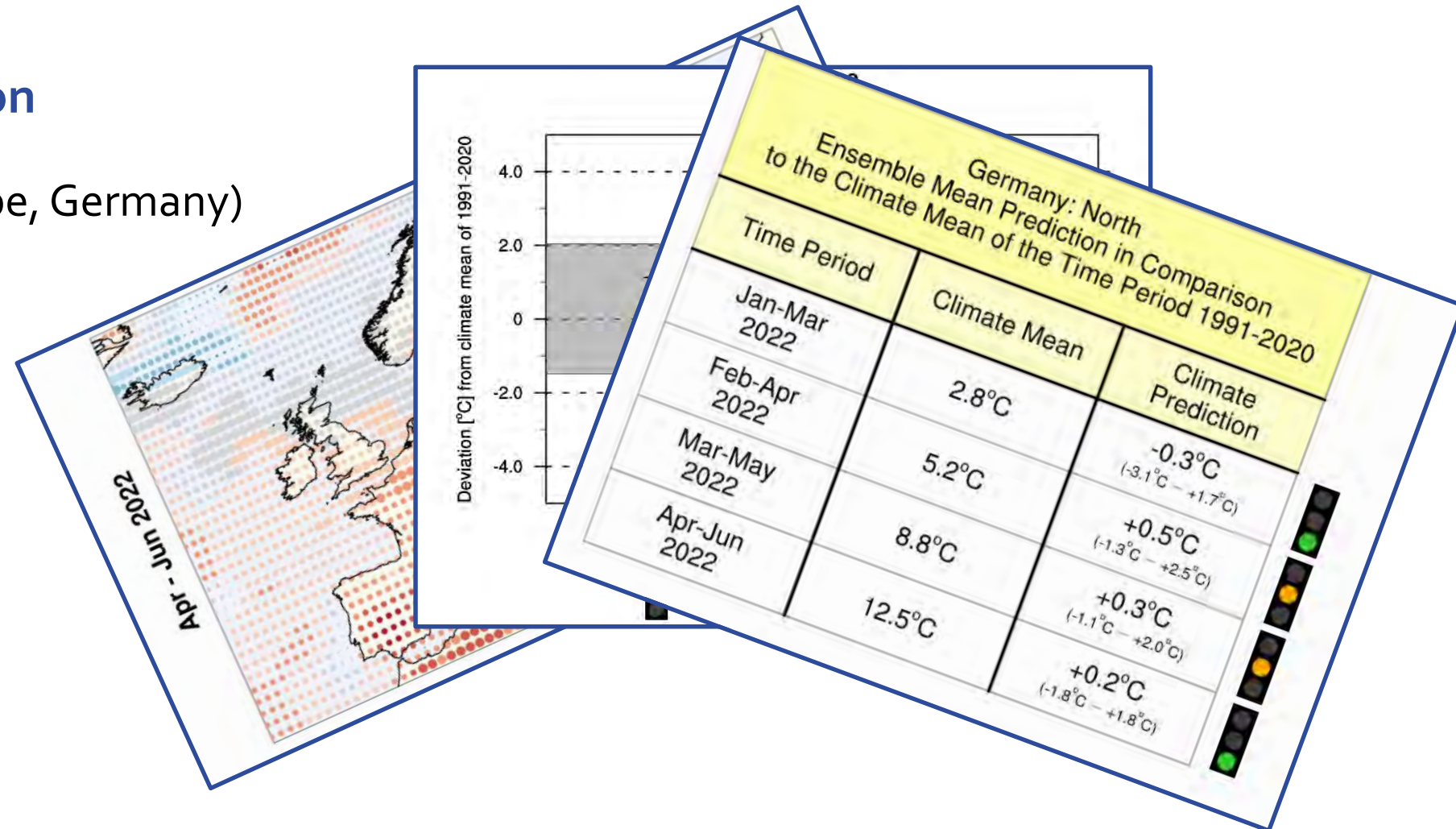
Kreienkamp, F. et al., 2019

Types of Visualisation

- ➔ Maps (World, Europe, Germany)
- ➔ Timeseries
- ➔ Tables

Variables:

- ➔ Temperature
- ➔ Precipitation
- ...more to come!

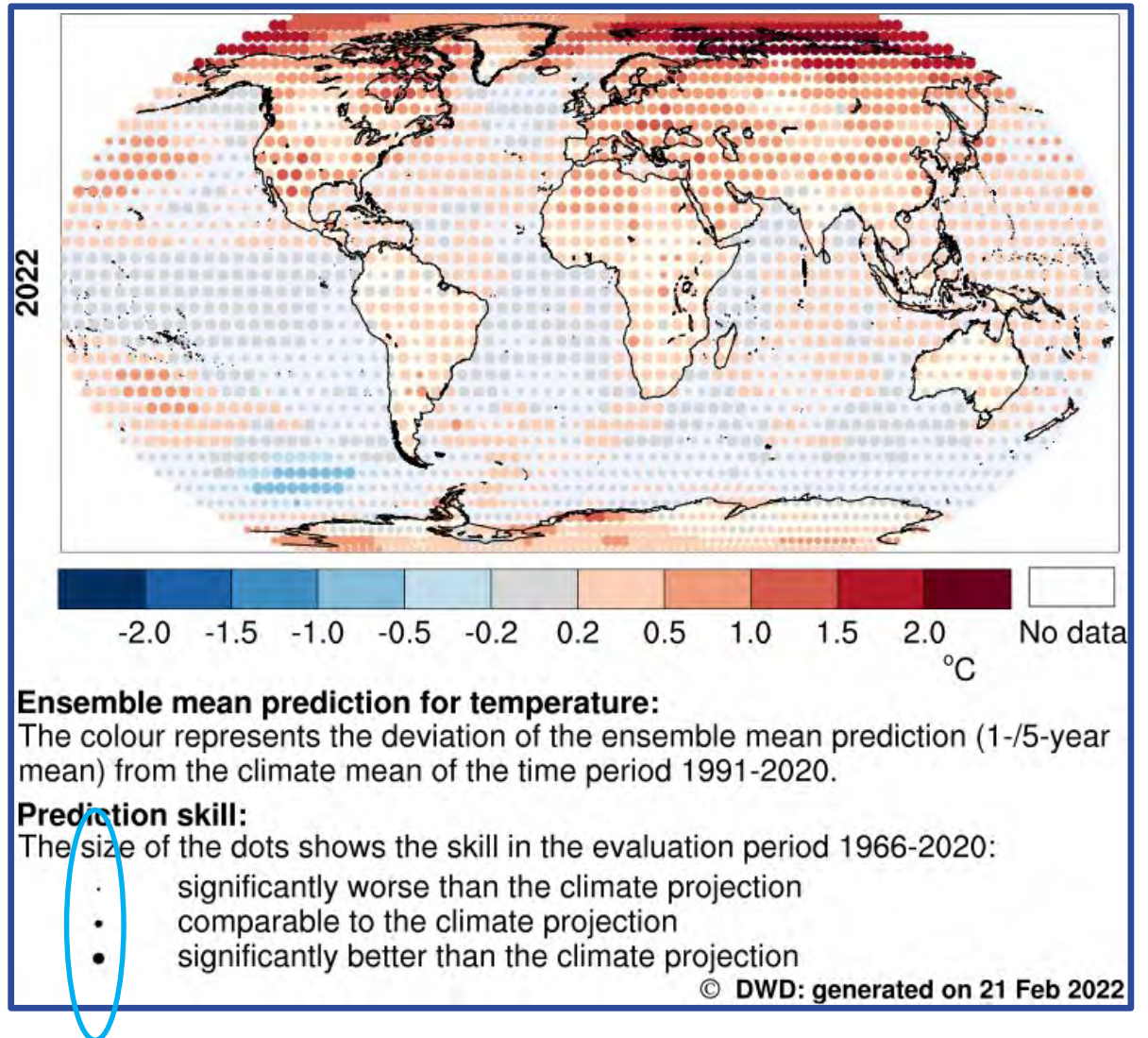


Prediction Types

→ Ensemble mean and probabilistic predictions

Our Principle

→ Combined display of prediction and skill



Prediction Types

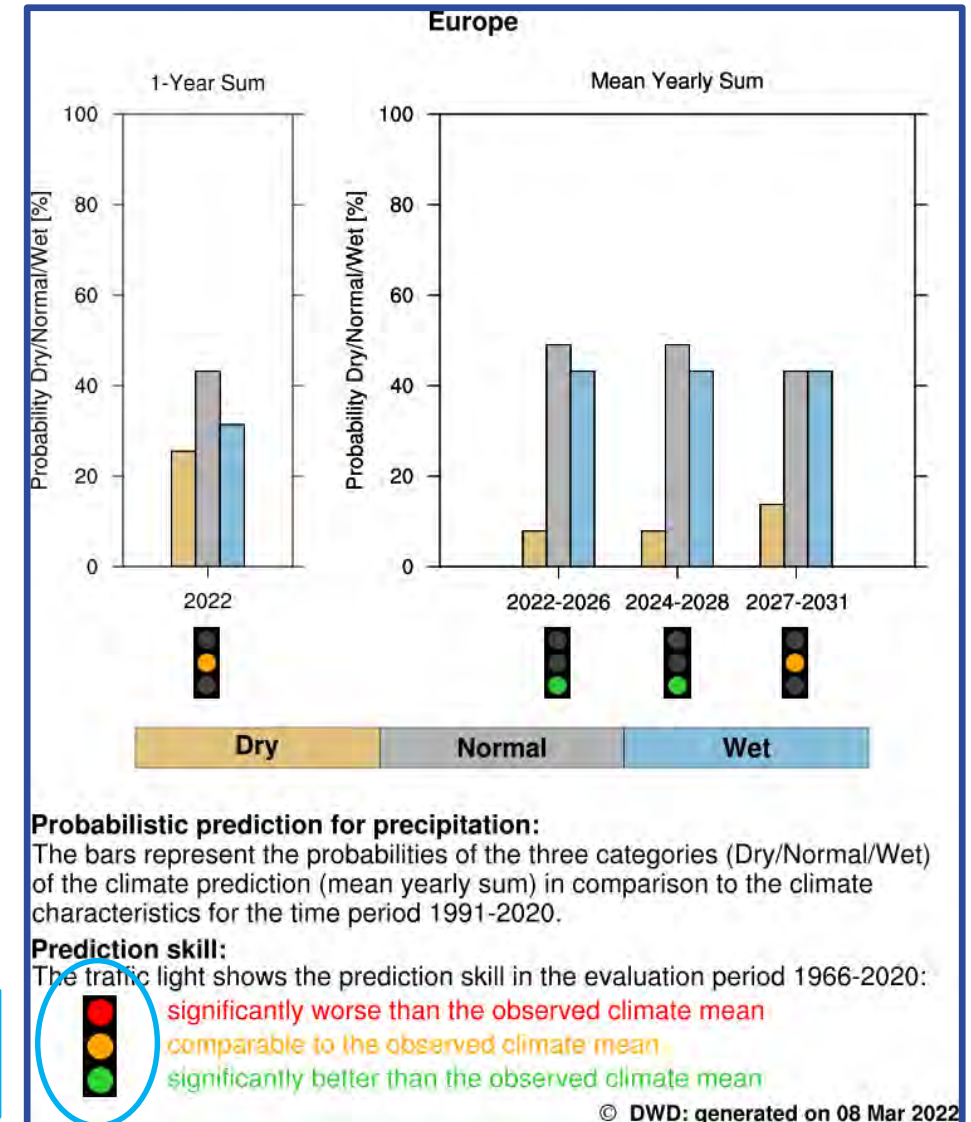
→ **Ensemble mean** and **probabilistic** predictions

Our Principle

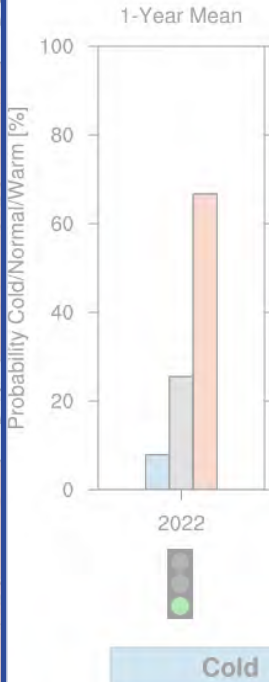
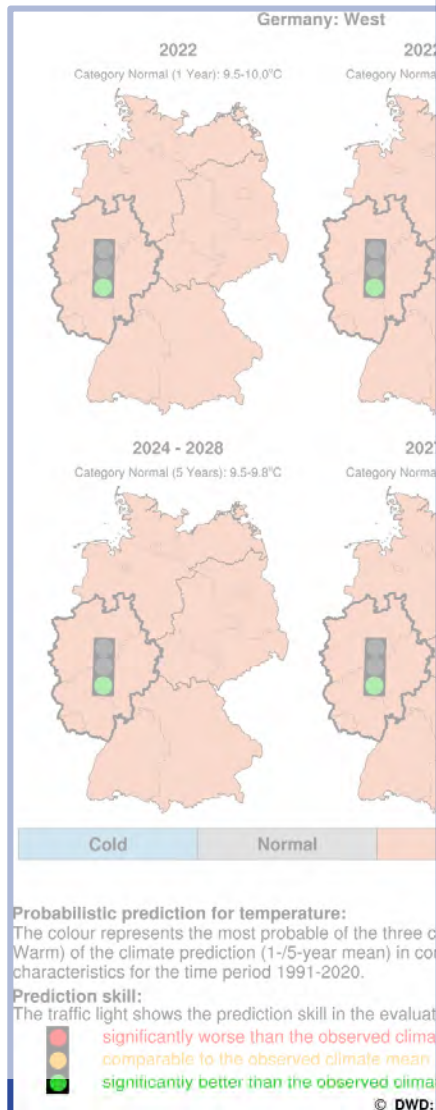
- Combined display of prediction and **skill**
 - Ensemble mean: **MSESS**
 - Probabilistic predictions: **RPSS**
 - Reference prediction: observed climate mean and climate projection (decadal predictions)
 - Correlation maps (Category: Expert Climate Prediction Skill)

Info

Statistical postprocessing of decadal predictions:
Recalibration (Pasternack et al., 2018, 2021)



LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK...



Germany: West Probability of the Categories Cold/Normal/Warm in Comparison to the Climate Characteristics for 1991-2020				
Time Period	Category Normal	Cold	Normal	Warm
2022	9.5 - 10.0°C	8%	25%	67%
2022-2026	9.5 - 9.8°C	2%	2%	96%
2024-2028	9.5 - 9.8°C	2%	8%	90%
2027-2031	9.5 - 9.8°C	2%	2%	96%



Probabilistic prediction for temperature:

The table represents the probabilities of the three categories (Cold/Normal/Warm) of the climate prediction (1-/5-year mean) in comparison to the climate characteristics for the time period 1991-2020.

Prediction skill:

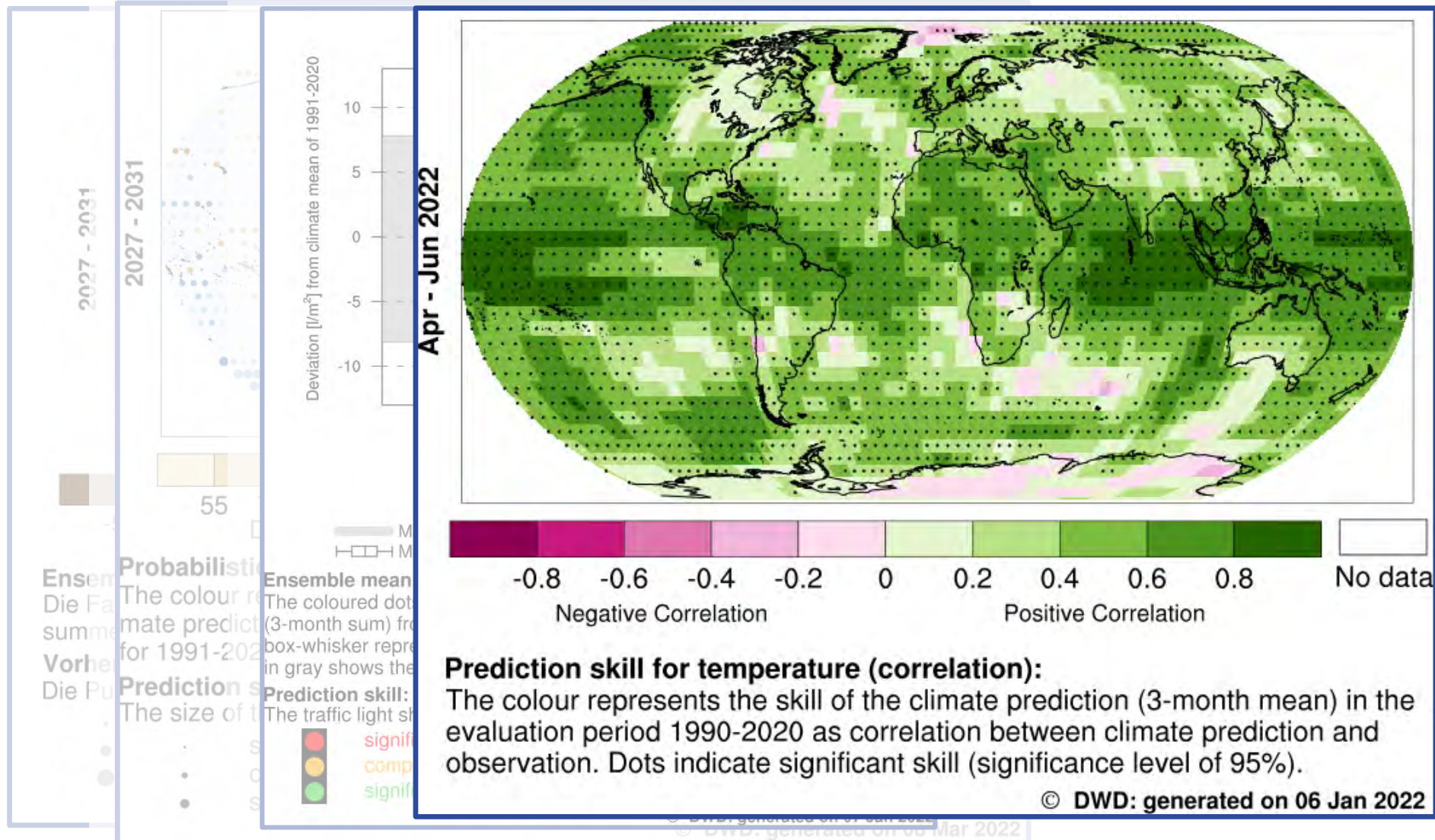
The traffic light shows the prediction skill in the evaluation period 1966-2020:



significantly worse than the observed climate mean
comparable to the observed climate mean
significantly better than the observed climate mean

© DWD: generated on 08 Mar 2022

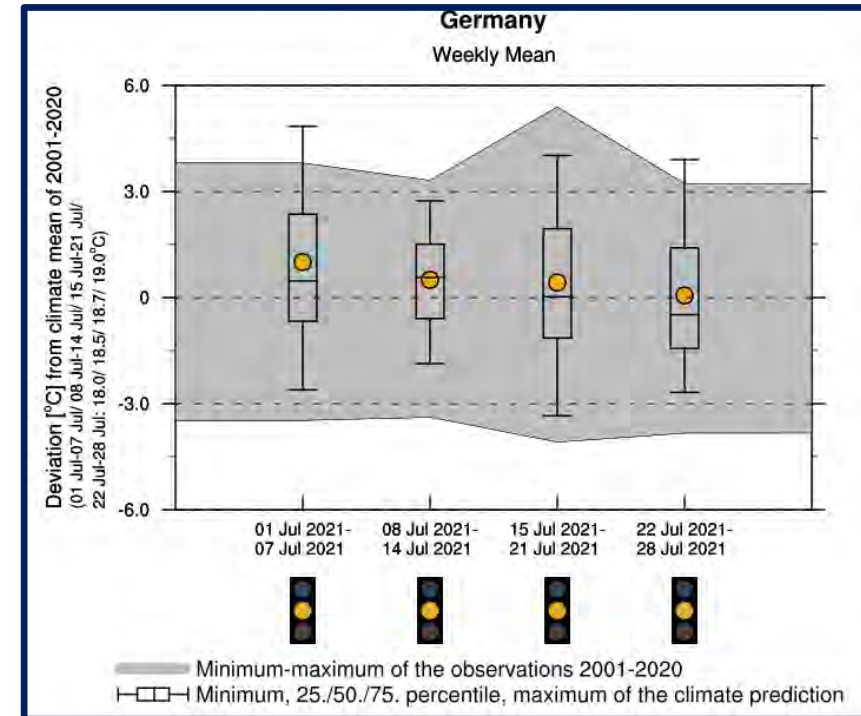
Basic probability
prediction



Expert climate
predictions

Future Plans

→ Subseasonal predictions (preoperational)

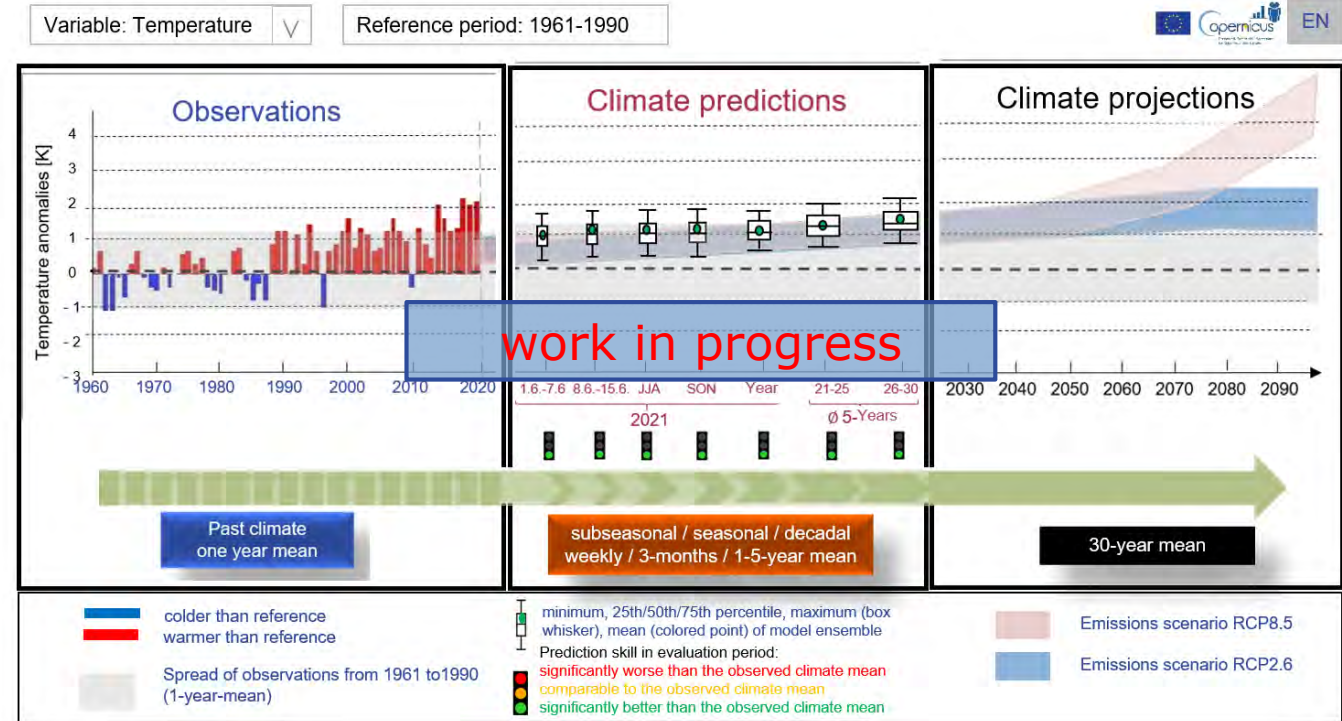


Future Plans

- Subseasonal predictions (preoperational)
- Multi-year seasonal means

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- ➔ Subseasonal predictions (preoperational)
- ➔ Multi-year seasonal means
- ➔ A seamless timeseries
 - ➔ Including observations & climate projections



Future Plans

- Subseasonal predictions (preoperational)
- Multi-year seasonal means
- A seamless timeseries
 - Including observations & climate projections
- Drought indices & ENSO
- Updated model version for our next decadal prediction in 2023
- Multi-model ensembles

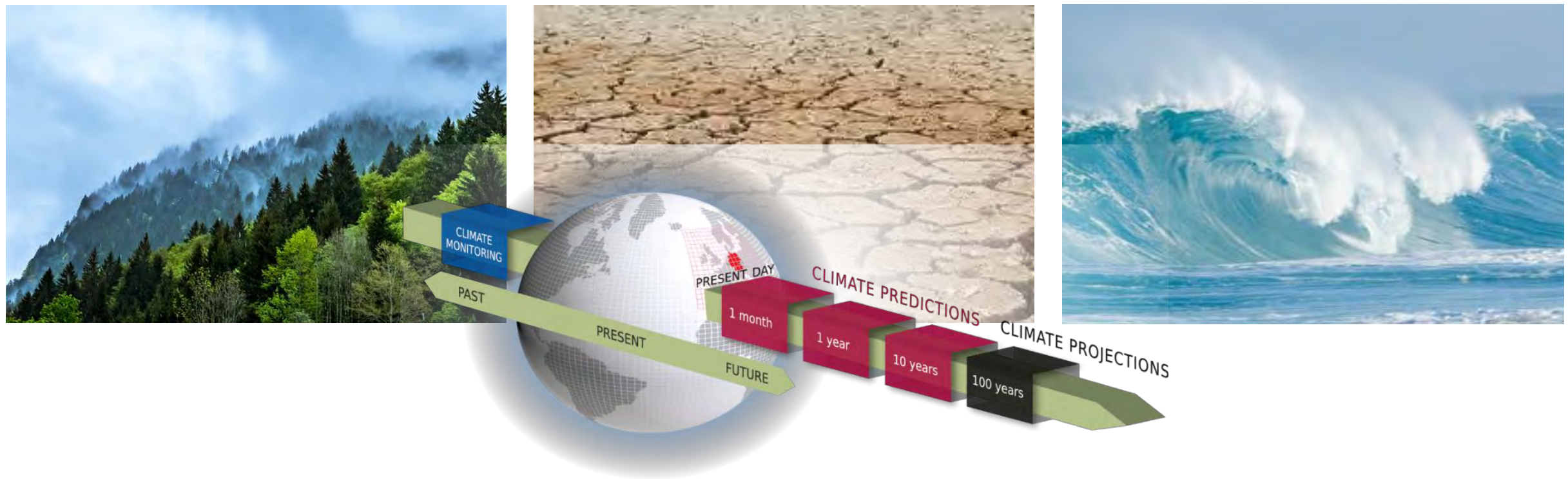
user engagement

Summary

<https://www.dwd.de/climatepredictions>

- **High demand** for climate predictions on subseasonal, seasonal and decadal time scales from manifold (German) users from business, politics and society.
- Website provides information on climate predictions which is **consistent** on three timescales and it is **developed in close collaboration with our users**.
- Our mission: meet **users' needs**, enhance their **understanding** of climate predictions, and create awareness of the importance of the prediction skill.
- Work in progress!

Thank you!



Appendix

Model Configurations (since 2021)

	Subseasonals	Seasonals	Decadals
climate model	IFS (ECMWF) ¹	GCFS2.1 (DWD) ²	MPI-ESM (DWD)
spatial resolution	~36 km	~100 km	~200 km
initializations	weekly (Mon & Thu)	monthly (1.)	yearly (Nov)
temporal coverage	46 days	6 months	10 years
prediction ensemble	51 simulations	50 simulations	16 simulations
hindcast ensemble	11 simulationen	30 simulationen	16 simulatons
available hindcasts	20 years BP	1990-today	1961-today

¹<https://www.ecmwf.int/en/forecasts/documentation-and-support/extended-range-forecasts>

²https://www.dwd.de/EN/ourservices/seasonals_forecasts/project_description.html

³Pohlmann, H., Müller, W.A., Kulkarni, K., Kameswarrao, M., Matei, D., Vamborg, F.S.E., et al. (2013). Improved forecast skill in the tropics in the new MiKlip decadal climate predictions. Geophys. Res. Lett. 40, 5798–5802. doi: 10.1002/2013GL058051 ;

³Brune, S., Nerger, L., Baehr, J. (2015). Assimilation of oceanic observations in a global coupled Earth system model with the SEIK filter. Ocean Modell. 96, 254–264. doi: 10.1016/j.ocemod.2015.09.011

Details on Predictions and Evaluations

- Observation Data: ERA5, GPCC, GPCP, HYRAS, DWD-CDC¹
- Evaluation period: dependent on available hindcasts; 1961-2020 for decadal predictions
- Skill measures:
 - Ensemble-Mean prediction: Pearson Correlation Coefficient and Mean Squared Error Skill Score (MSESS)²
 - Probability prediction: Ranked Probability Skill Score (RPSS)³
- Bootstrapping & significance test at 95% confidence level

Background information

[Introduction](#) >

[Climate prediction models](#) >

[Climate predictions](#) >

[Skill of climate prediction](#) >

[Collaboration with partners](#) >

All details on our
[website, "Background
information"](#)

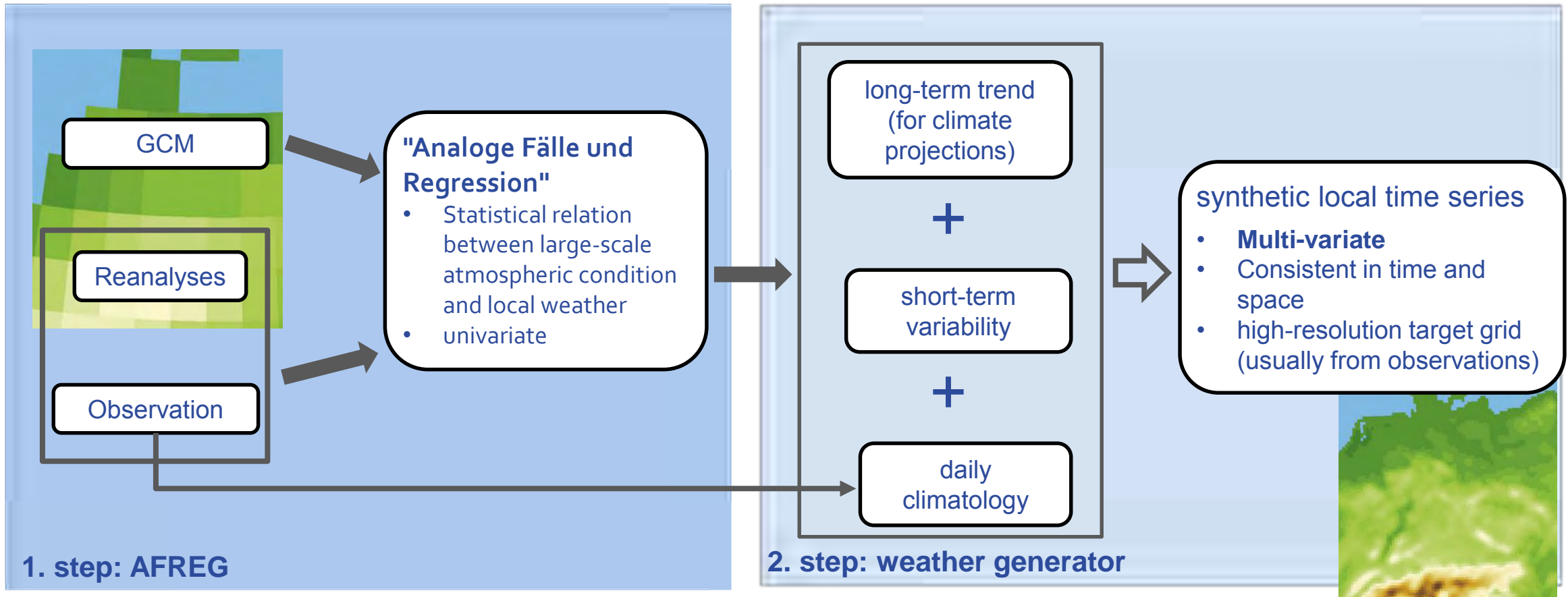
¹ Details: https://www.dwd.de/EN/ourservices/kvhs_en/help/1_bkgrd_info/05_skill/start_node.html ; "What observations are used for comparison?"

² Goddard, L., A. et al., 2013: A verification framework for interannual-to-decadal predictions experiments. – Climate Dyn. 40, 245–272.
DOI:10.1007/s00382-012-1481-2.

³ Ferro, C.A.T., Richardson, D.S., Weigel, A.P. (2008). On the effect of ensemble size on the discrete and continuous ranked probability scores. Meteor. Appl. 15, 19-24. doi: 10.1002/met.45.

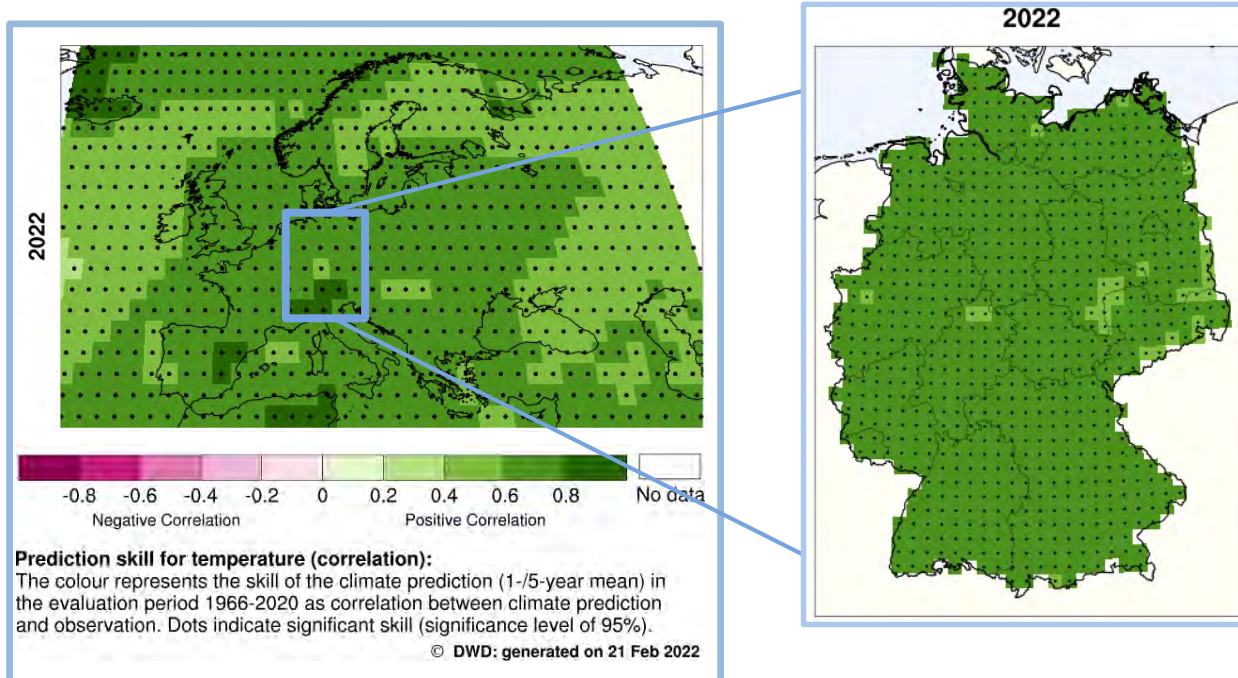
EPISODES

EPISODES is an **empirical-statistical downscaling** method developed at the Deutscher Wetterdienst based on a perfect-prognosis approach. We apply it to sub-seasonal, seasonal, and decadal predictions.



Kreienkamp, F., Paxian, A., Fröh, B. et al. Evaluation of the empirical-statistical downscaling method EPISODES. Clim Dyn 52, 991–1026 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00382-018-4276-2>

Statistical Downscaling with EPISODES



- Empirical-statistical downscaling method
- Downscaling possible for all variables with high-resolution observation data
- Preservation of skill from large-scale model

Configuration:

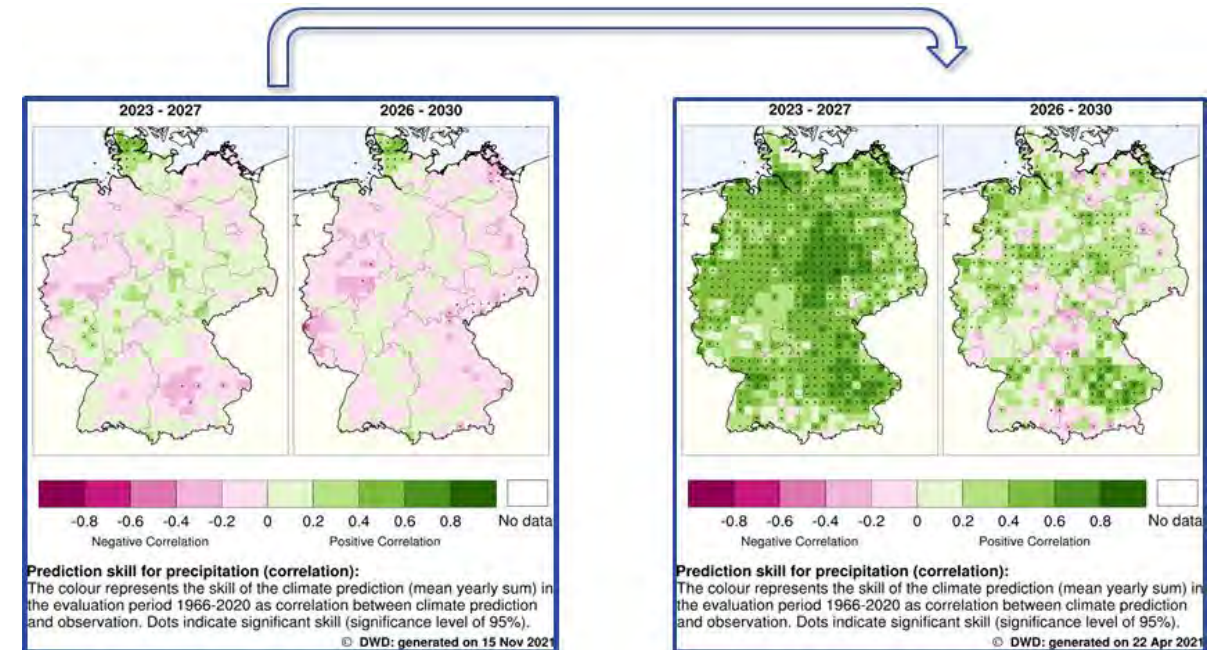
- GCM: MPI/ESM – LR
- Reanalysis data: NCEP/NCAR
- Observation Data: HYRAS¹
- Spatial resolution: originally 5km
- Regression built in timeperiod 1951-2015

¹ Rauhe, M., Steiner, H., Riediger, U., Mazurkiewicz, A., Gratzki, A. (2013). A Central European precipitation climatology - Part I: generation and validation of a high-resolution gridded daily data set (HYRAS). Meteorol. Z. 22, 235–256. doi: 10.1127/0941-2948/2013/0436

Reducing systematic errors of decadal ensemble predictions

- ➔ Recalibration method DeFoReST (Pasternack et al. 2018)
- ➔ Parametric correction of
 - ➔ Lead-time dependent errors (drift)
 - ➔ Start time dependent errors (trend)
 - ➔ Conditional bias
 - ➔ Ensemble spread
- ➔ Measurement for optimization: continuous ranked probability score (CRPS)
- ➔ Since 2021: estimation of model coefficients by non-homogeneous boosting (Paternack et al. 2021)

Recalibration



A. Pasternack, H. W. Rust, J. Bhend, M. Liniger, W. A. Müller: Parametric Decadal Climate Forecast Recalibration, Geosci. Model Develop., 2018.

A. Pasternack, A., Grieger, J., Rust, H.W., Ulbrich, U. (2021). Recalibrating decadal climate predictions – what is an adequate model for the drift? Geosci. Model Dev. 14, 4335–4355. doi: 10.5194/gmd-14-4335-2021, 2021.