Project Update #10

Welcome to our tenth CENTAUR Project Update!

In this issue, we explore recent extreme weather events and growing food insecurity worldwide. We also highlight how the CENTAUR Horizon Europe project is working to strengthen preparedness and response efforts for these challenges.

What's Happening Around the World?

From devastating floods to worsening food insecurity, extreme weather events continue to impact millions worldwide. Here's a snapshot of recent events:

Floods:

- **Bosnia and Herzegovina & Croatia:** From 26 to 29 March, heavy rainfall caused significant flooding and landslides in central and northern Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as northeastern Croatia. This led to nearly 150 evacuated individuals and over 1,000 flooded homes in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

- **Spain**: Storm Laurence brought nearly 100mm of rain and strong winds to southern, eastern and central regions. This caused widespread flooding and evacuations, particularly in Málaga and Seville, as well as in parts of Valencia and Córdoba. Following this, Storm Martinho, the fourth storm in just two weeks, impacted northern Spain, leading to some cities to declare a state of emergency.

- **Italy**: On 14 March, northern and central parts of the country were impacted by heavy rainfall, resulting in floods and landslides.

- **Mozambique:** Tropical Cyclone Jude made landfall on 10 March, bringing strong winds and flooding to the coast.

Displacement & Food Insecurity:

- **Somalia:** Failed rainy seasons have worsened drought conditions, intensified water scarcity, and reduced agricultural output. This is projected to worsen food insecurity between April and June, impacting at least 4.4 million people. This is expected to lead to a rise in internal displacement, with over 230,000 people projected to be displaced during this period, raising the overall number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) to 4.1 million.

- **Kenya:** The latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis indicates that approximately 2.8 million people in arid and semi-arid counties will face acute food insecurity from April to June 2025. This has been exacerbated by below-average rains in 2024 and early 2025.

How does CENTAUR Contribute?

CENTAUR seeks to improve early warning systems and situational awareness for urban flooding and food and water security. Our team has developed 11 flood indicators to improve early detection, response coordination and damage assessment.

In addition to flood monitoring, we have developed indicators for food and water security, including agricultural drought forecasting, food security assessments, and people movement tracking. These indicators aim to support better crisis anticipation and response.

We are testing these indicators within seven use cases, including Spain, Italy, Mozambique, and Somalia, to refine their effectiveness and contribute to improved preparedness strategies

Read the report on CENTAUR use cases and index definitions

Latest News

CENTAUR Attends the 4th Copernicus EMS Global Flood Forecasting & Monitoring Annual Meeting

Last week, CENTAUR participated in the 4th annual Global Flood Forecasting and Monitoring Meeting, organised by the Copernicus Emergency Management Service (CEMS).

4th CEMS GLOBAL FLOOD FORECASTING & MONITORING MEETING

Online event
2-3 April 2025

Rio Grande do Sul Flooding, Brazil, April-June 2024
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Suggested Readings

1

Heavy rainfall fills empty reservoirs in Spain, bringing drought relief and floods

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2

Extreme weather events in 2024 led to the highest number of new displacements since 2008

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3

Tackling climate crisis will increase economic growth, OECD research finds

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Facts & Figures

605

extreme weather events occurred worldwide in 2024

700,000+

people globally were displaced as a result of floods in 2024

1,700

fatalities worldwide were caused by extreme weather events in 2024

partners:

CENTAUR

Email sent by SpaceTec Partners on behalf of the CENTAUR project consortium

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