Drought & Climate Indicators — Programme & Service Context

Domain: Drought & Climate Indicators
Track: D — Knowledge Base Population
Status: ACTIVE (descriptive, reviewer-safe)

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1. Copernicus Programme Context

Within the **Copernicus Programme**, drought and climate indicators are treated as **environmental and climatic descriptors** used to characterise variability, anomalies, and long-term conditions affecting land, water, and ecosystems.

These indicators support: - Climate monitoring and assessment - Environmental and land condition context - Policy-relevant climate reporting

They are documented as **observational or derived indicators**, not as operational decision or response systems.

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2. Copernicus Services Involved

Drought and climate indicators are primarily referenced through the following Copernicus services:

Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S)

- Core service for climate variables and indicators
- Provides climate indicators related to temperature, precipitation, soil moisture, and drought conditions
- Focuses on consistency, comparability, and long-term climate records

Copernicus Land Monitoring Service (CLMS)

- References drought-related indicators in the context of land surface and vegetation condition
- Supports monitoring of land and ecosystem responses to climatic variability
- Indicators are contextual, not prescriptive

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3. Indicator Positioning

Within Copernicus documentation, drought and climate indicators are positioned as: - Measures of climatic state or anomaly - Descriptive indicators supporting

monitoring and reporting - Inputs to climate assessment frameworks

They do not constitute forecasts, early-warning systems, or response mechanisms at this level.

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4. Relationship to Environmental Monitoring

Drought and climate indicators are commonly linked with: - Precipitation and temperature records - Soil moisture and evapotranspiration variables - Vegetation condition indicators

SAL records these relationships **descriptively**, without combining indicators or inferring impacts.

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5. Positioning Statement

Within SAL, drought and climate indicators are positioned as: - Climate-related descriptors referenced by EU programmes - Components of broader climate and environmental monitoring systems - Contextual information for understanding datasets and services

No prediction, risk assessment, or management interpretation is implied.

References (descriptive sources)

- Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) — Climate Indicators Overview

- Copernicus Land Monitoring Service (CLMS) — Land and vegetation condition context

- European Environment Agency (EEA) — Climate and drought indicator context