

# Drought & Climate Indicators — Scope and Boundaries

**Domain:** Drought & Climate Indicators

**Track:** D — Knowledge Base Population

**Status:** ACTIVE (descriptive, reviewer-safe)

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## 1. Thematic Scope

Within SAL, **drought and climate indicators** refer to descriptive indicators used to characterise climatic conditions, variability, and anomalies as documented by EU programmes and services.

This scope includes: - Climate-related indicators associated with drought conditions - Indicators derived from precipitation, temperature, soil moisture, and related variables - Descriptive indicators used for climate monitoring and reporting

Drought and climate indicators are treated as **environmental descriptors**, not as operational response or decision variables.

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## 2. Spatial Scope

The spatial scope reflects the characteristics of referenced EU datasets: - Regional to continental coverage (Europe-focused products) - Global coverage for selected climate variables - Spatial resolution defined by underlying datasets and services

SAL does not downscale, harmonise, or infer local-scale impacts.

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## 3. Temporal Scope

The temporal scope includes: - Historical and near-real-time climate records - Aggregated temporal indicators (e.g. monthly, seasonal, annual) - Long-term time series used for climate assessment

SAL does not perform forecasting, early-warning analysis, or trend attribution.

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## 4. Indicator and Product Boundaries

Indicators within SAL may originate from: - Observational climate datasets - Derived indicators documented by Copernicus services - Aggregated climate indices used for reporting purposes

SAL does not assess indicator performance, thresholds, or uncertainty metrics.

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## 5. Explicit Exclusions

The following are **explicitly outside scope**: - Drought early-warning or alert systems - Risk assessment or impact modelling - Sector-specific vulnerability analysis - Agricultural, economic, or policy recommendations - AI-driven inference or optimisation

SAL maintains a **strictly descriptive boundary** for drought and climate indicators.

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## 6. Positioning Summary

Within SAL, drought and climate indicators are positioned as: - Descriptive measures of climatic conditions and variability - Components within EU climate monitoring frameworks - Contextual references for understanding datasets and services

This scope definition ensures suitability for EU reviewer and grant contexts.