



Turning climate-related information into added value for traditional **MEDiterranean Grape, Olive and Durum wheat food systems**

NEWSLETTER n° 1

December 2018

Dear Madame or Sir,

Thank you for joining the MED-GOLD community! Welcome.

As part of it, we are glad to send you our first newsletter. You will receive it regularly every 6 months. This will keep you updated on the latest research developments and the next activities organised by the project.

In the following sections of this first newsletter, you will find a summary of the first project steps undertaken and a list of announcements that can be of your interest. Enjoy!

Climate services for the Mediterranean agri-food system

Climate change is a global threat on food security and the Mediterranean region will be one of the most affected areas worldwide. MED-GOLD aims to develop climate services for the agriculture and food sectors impacted by climate variability and change. The project will provide novel pilot services to help farmers define both medium-term management strategies and long-term planning actions for three traditional Mediterranean crops (grapes, olives and durum wheat) and their associated products (wine, olive oil and pasta).

More information

First stage of the project: User needs first

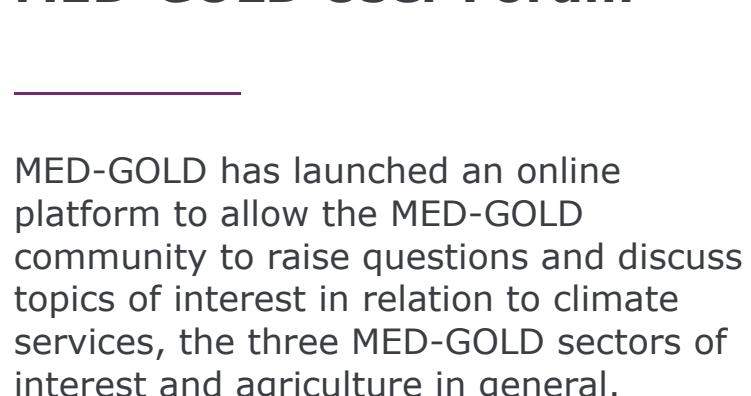
Knowing user needs is paramount to develop climate services tailored to the MED-GOLD sectors of interest. Only this way climate services can be helpful and usable. With the objective to identify user needs in terms of weather and climate information, **focus groups and workshops** were conducted during May and June 2018.

Technical experts from the Portuguese winery Sogrape Vinhos S.A. participated in the [focus groups for grape](#), whereas participative workshops were organised for olive and durum wheat crops. Various agricultural technicians working in different departments of the Spanish cooperative Dcoop participated in the [olive workshop](#), while the [durum wheat workshop](#) involved regional institutions, farmers, producer associations and elevators working with the Italian companies Barilla and Horta.



Photo by J. López, olive workshop

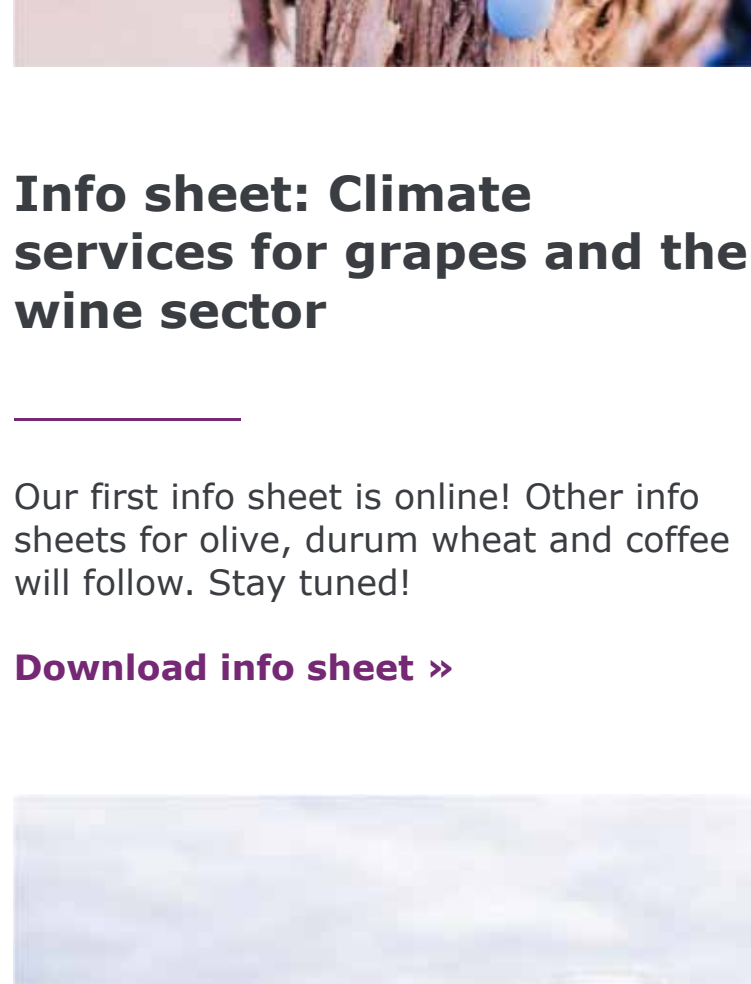
Announcements



MED-GOLD User Forum

MED-GOLD has launched an online platform to allow the MED-GOLD community to raise questions and discuss topics of interest in relation to climate services, the three MED-GOLD sectors of interest and agriculture in general.

[Click here to receive an invitation to join the forum»](#)



Info sheet: Climate services for grapes and the wine sector

Our first info sheet is online! Other info sheets for olive, durum wheat and coffee will follow. Stay tuned!

[Download info sheet »](#)



Webinar: Climate services as drivers of value into the Mediterranean wine sector

Join our first webinar directed to users from the wine sector. It will take place in January 2019 and will be held in Portuguese (an English summary will follow on our website).

Information on the webinar will be uploaded soon.

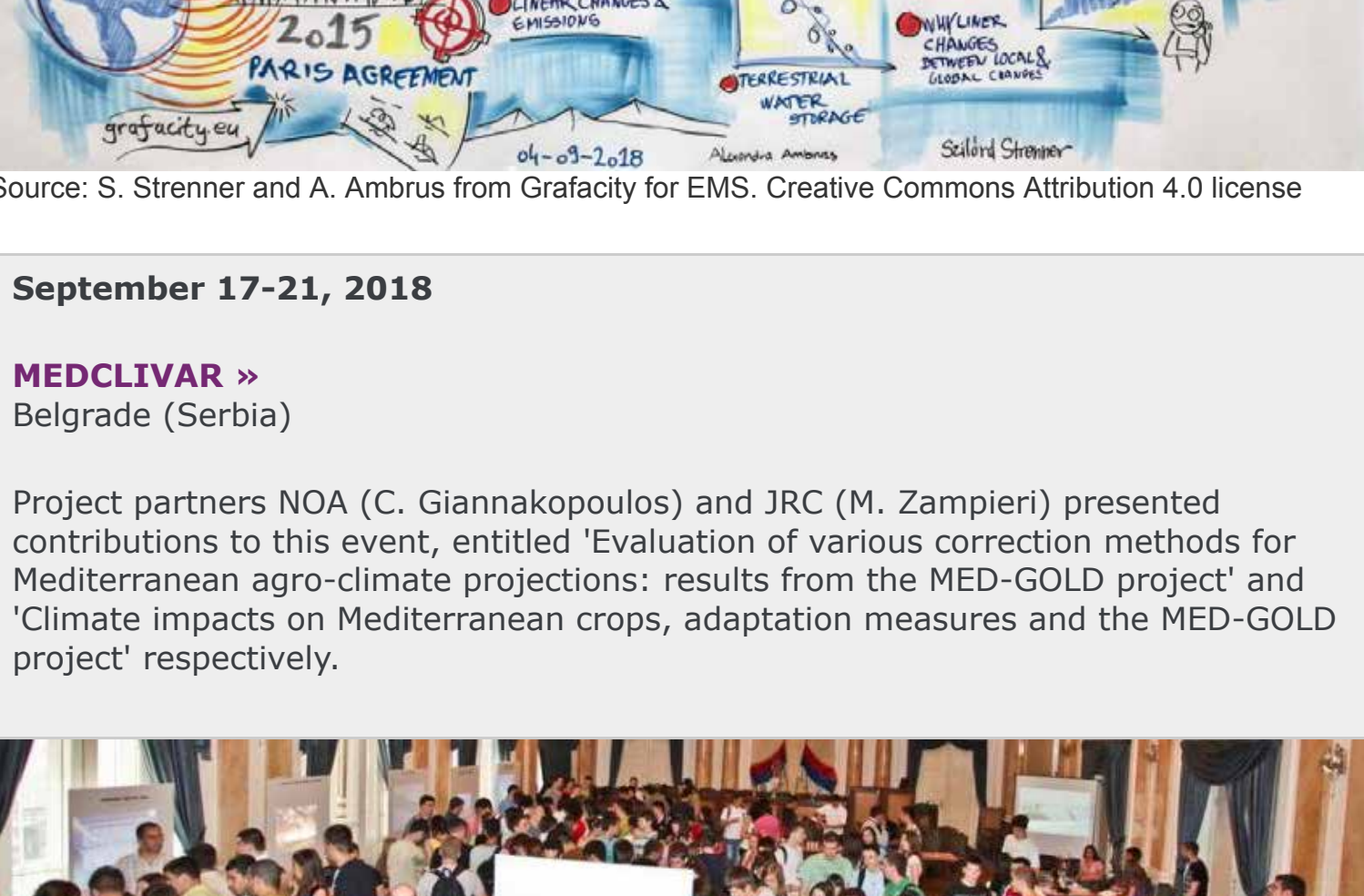
[Webinar information »](#)

Events with MED-GOLD presence

September 3-7, 2018

European Meteorological Society (EMS) »
Budapest (Hungary)

The project coordinator (A. Dell'Aquila, ENEA) presented the contribution 'Voices from the field: climate prediction requirements in the agricultural sector from the MED-GOLD initiative'.



Source: S. Strenner and A. Ambrus from Grafacy for EMS. Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 license

September 17-21, 2018

MEDCLIVAR »
Belgrade (Serbia)

Project partners NOA (C. Giannakopoulos) and JRC (M. Zampieri) presented contributions to this event, entitled 'Evaluation of various correction methods for Mediterranean agro-climate projections: results from the MED-GOLD project' and 'Climate impacts on Mediterranean crops, adaptation measures and the MED-GOLD project' respectively.



Photo by C. Giannakopoulos, MEDCLIVAR venue

October 17-19, 2018

Climateurope Festival »
Belgrade (Serbia)

ENEA (A. Dell'Aquila) and Sogrape (A. Graça) presented the MED-GOLD project in the interactive session 'Climate services at work: matching users' needs & discussing solutions'. One of the take-home messages was that 'forecasts bring profit'. Project partners joined the round table 'The future of wine', held at Jeremic winery in Smederevo. Sogrape (A. Graça) participated in the round table on behalf of MED-GOLD and BSC (M. Terrado) chaired the session, in which also participated our sister project VISCA (Maha Al-Salehi). Two posters were presented in the market place by ENEA and BSC partners.



Photo by M. Terrado, Climateurope festival interactive session

October 29-31, 2018

MED-GOLD General Assembly »
Porto (Portugal)

The MED-GOLD consortium held their annual meeting in Sogrape's Ferreira Cellars in Porto. The General Assembly was preceded by an Open Stakeholder Workshop and a Press Conference.

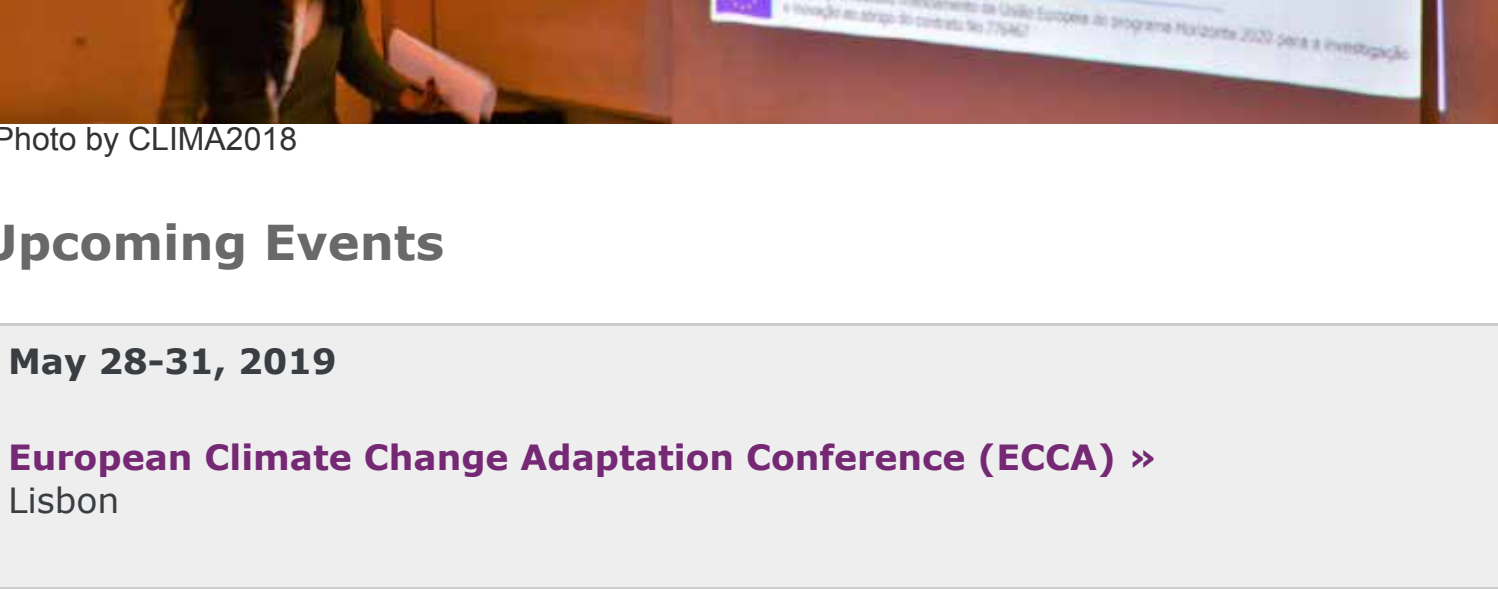


Photo by M. Bruno-Soares, MED-GOLD consortium

November 4-6, 2018

International DWV Congress (German Winegrowers Association) »
Stuttgart (Germany)

The MED-GOLD champion user for grapes and the wine sector, Sogrape (A. Graça), was a speaker in the 63rd edition of this meeting.



Source: www.dwv-kongress.de

November 19-23, 2018

41st World Congress of Vine and Wine »
Punta del Este (Uruguay)

Sogrape (A. Graça) presented the MED-GOLD project to more than 300 delegates from 48 countries. The congress is organized yearly by the International Organization for Vine and Wine (OIV) and is followed by its General Assembly where new resolutions and collective expertise documents, among other, are approved as guiding documents for its Member States. Currently, the OIV has passed one resolution on climate change monitoring (OIV-VITI 517-2015) and another three relevant resolutions are currently being drafted.

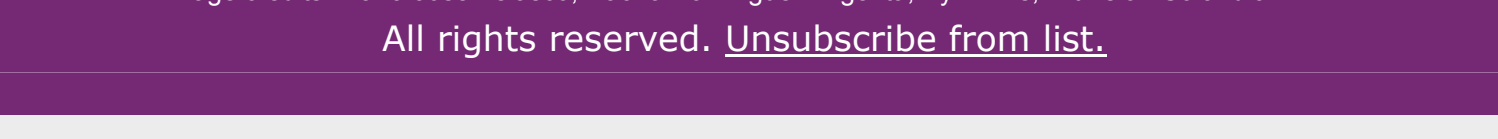


Photo by International Organisation of Vine and Wine

November 22-23, 2018

CLIMA2018 »
Faro (Portugal)

Sogrape (M. Teixeira) presented the MED-GOLD project to the Portuguese community attending this event, putting special emphasis on the perspectives from the wine sector.

Photo by CLIMA2018

Upcoming Events

May 28-31, 2019

European Climate Change Adaptation Conference (ECCA) »
Lisbon

Publications

Ponti, L., Gutierrez, A.P., Boggia, A., Neteler, M. (2018) [Analysis of grape production in the face of climate change](#). Climate 6(2): 20.

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