



**Barcelona  
Supercomputing  
Center**

*Centro Nacional de Supercomputación*

# Desert dust modelling and forecasting in the BSC: SDS-WAS NAMEE RC

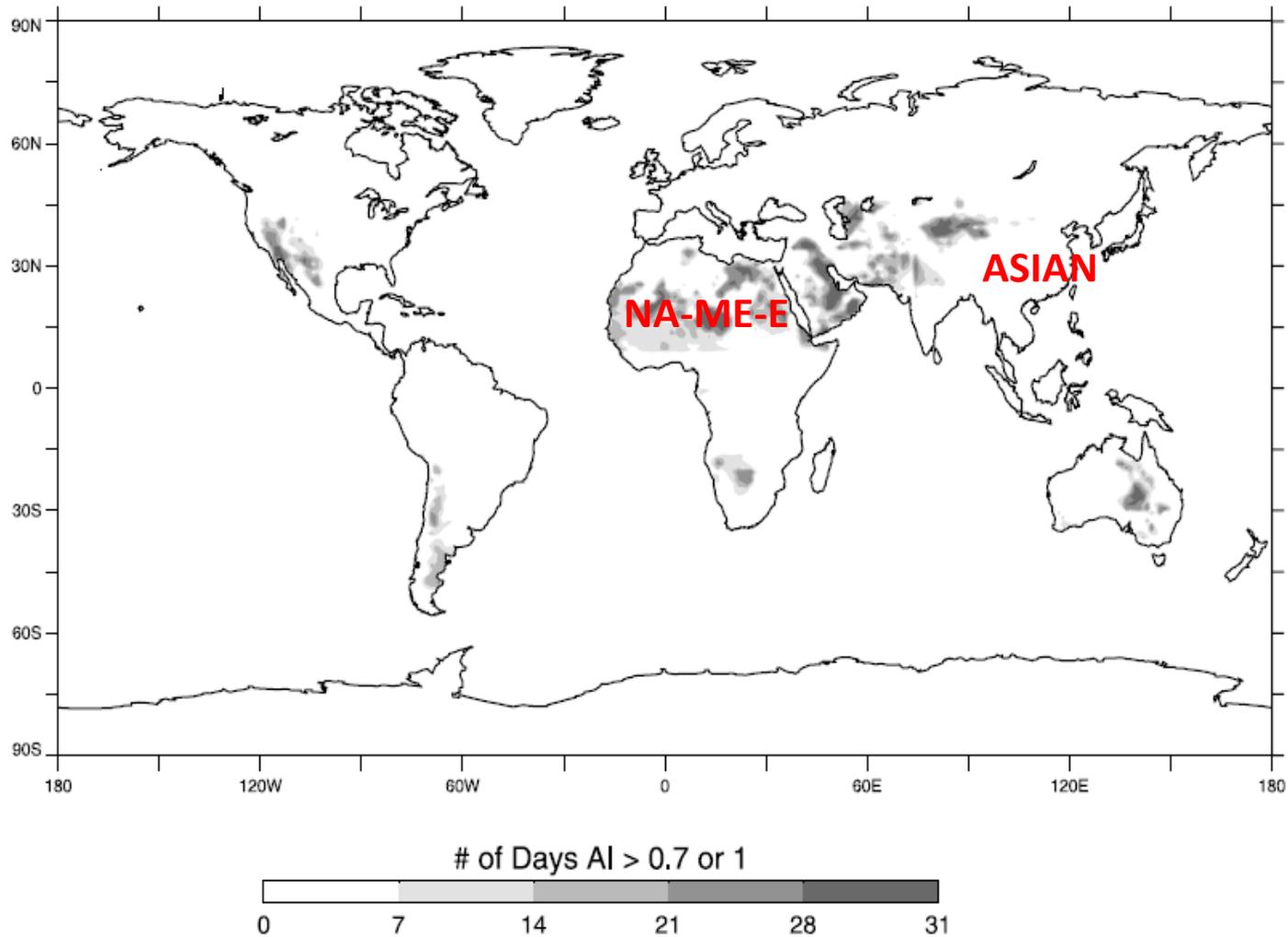
S. Basart, E. Terradellas, J.M. Baldasano, F. Benincasa and O. Jorba  
Earth Sciences Department  
Barcelona Supercomputing Center

The screenshot shows the WMO website interface. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Print', 'Save as PDF', 'Text-only version', 'Send by e-mail', and 'Bookmark'. Below these are language options: 'عربي', '中文', 'Français', 'Русский', 'Español', and 'Other languages'. The WMO logo and 'World Meteorological Organization' text are visible. A navigation menu on the left lists various sections like 'About us', 'Governance', 'Members', etc. The main content area features a header 'World Weather' and a sub-header 'WMO Sand and Dust and Assessment (SD)'. A search bar is located at the bottom left of the content area.

## OBJECTIVES:

- Identify and improve products to monitor and predict atmospheric dust by working with research and operational organizations, as well as with users
- Facilitate user access to information
- Strengthen the capacity of countries to use the observations, analysis and predictions provided by the WMO SDS-WAS programme

# SDS-WAS Regional Centers



*The global distribution of TOMS dust sources.  
Extracted from Prospero et al. (2002, Rev. Geophys.)*

# SDS-WAS: Asian RC (<http://www.sds.cma.gov.cn>)

**WMO Sand and Dust Storm Warning Advisory and Assessment System(WMO SDS WAS)**  
**ASIA/CENTRAL PACIFIC REGIONAL CENTRE**

Home | Forecast | Observation | Model InterComparison | News & Event | Publications | About us

### FORECAST

Concentration  
Movies of surface dust concentration distribution over Asia in 3 hours interval for 3 days forecast from the model CUACE/Dust.

**CUACE/DUST OF CMA** [see more>>](#) [MORE](#)

**MASINGAR OF JMA** [see more>>](#) [MORE](#)

**ADAM OF KMA** [see more>>](#) [MORE](#)

### NEWS & EVENT

- Severe Solar Blast Affects China's Communication
- Science Steering Committee
- Workshop on the Implementation of the WMO SDS-WAS Asia Node (28-30 October 2009, Seoul, Korea)
- Workshop on the Implementation of the WMO SDS-WAS Asia Node

### OBSERVATION

#### PM10

CMA JMA KMA Other

#### AOD

CMA JMA KMA Other

#### Satellite Observation

CMA JMA KMA Other

### MODEL COMPARISON

**Model InterComparison**  
To promote the SDS forecast ability and to evaluate SDS forecast models representation in Asia Regional Center, one of the most important activities is model inter-comparison. At present there are three operational forecast models CUACE/Dust...

### LOGIN

username  
password  
checking  0999  
[Login](#) [Register](#)

### SDS COLOR INDEX

No SDS
Suspended dust
Blowing sand
Sand And Dust Storm
Severe SDS
Extreme Severe SDS

### HDT LINKS

- cma
- wmo sds was
- ca was
- cms
- national regional center

### FORECAST DATA SHARING

Download Forecast Data from

The Center is managed by a consortium of AEMET and the Barcelona Supercomputing Center (BSC-CNS)



**Barcelona  
Supercomputing  
Center**

*Centro Nacional de Supercomputación*

**Nexus II Building. Barcelona**



**MareNostrum supercomputer**



# SDS-WAS: NA-ME-E RC (<http://sds-was.aemet.es>)

The screenshot shows the website for the Northern Africa-Middle East-Europe (NA-ME-E) Regional Center of the WMO Sand and Dust Storm Warning Advisory and Assessment System (SDS-WAS). The page features a header with the organization's name and logo, a navigation menu with categories like Home, About Us, and Forecast & Products, and a main content area with a list of services. A semi-transparent box is overlaid on the right side of the page, containing a list of key features.

**NORTHERN AFRICA-MIDDLE EAST-EUROPE (NA-ME-E) REGIONAL CENTER**  
*WMO Sand and Dust Storm Warning Advisory and Assessment System (SDS-WAS)*

**FORECAST AND PRODUCTS**

- Data exchange
- Joint visualization
- Common forecast evaluation
- Generation of multimodel products
- Calculation of monthly evaluation metrics
- New sources of data for model evaluation
- Sharing model output data files
- Time-averaged products

# SDS-WAS: Dust models



LMD

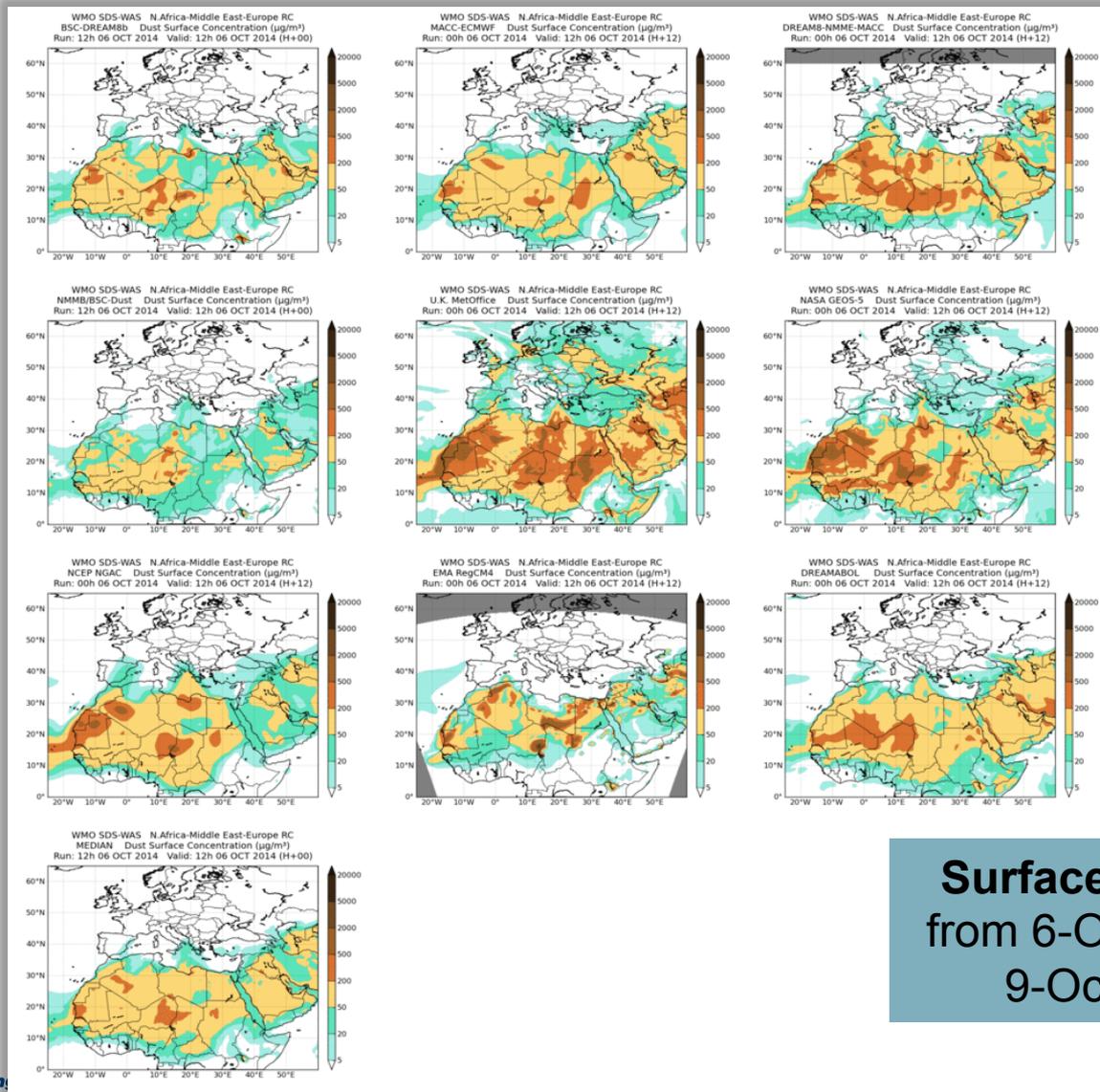


LSCE



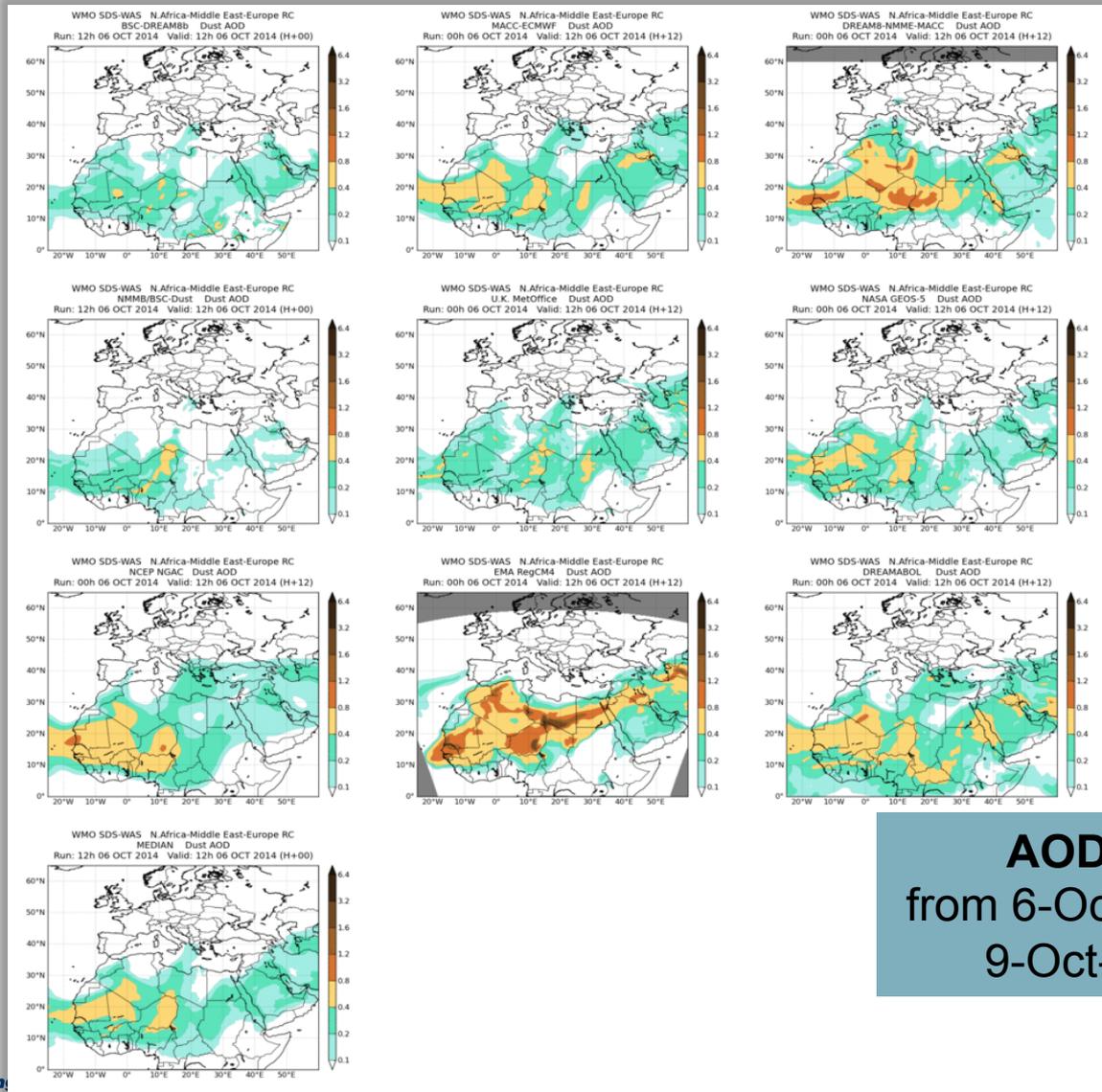
MODEL	RUN TIME	DOMAIN	DATA ASSIMILATION
BSC-DREAM8b	12	Regional	No
CHIMERE	00	Regional	No
LMDzT-INCA	00	Global	No
MACC	00	Global	MODIS AOD
DREAM-NMME-MACC	12	Regional	MACC analysis
NMMB/BSC-Dust	12	Regional	No
MetUM	00	Global	MODIS AOD
GEOS-5	00	Global	MODIS reflectances
NGAC	00	Global	No
EMA REG CM4	12	Regional	No
DREAMABOL	12	Regional	No

# SDS-WAS: Surface concentration joint visualization



Surface concentration  
from 6-Oct-2014 12:00 to  
9-Oct-2014 00:00

# SDS-WAS: AOD joint visualization

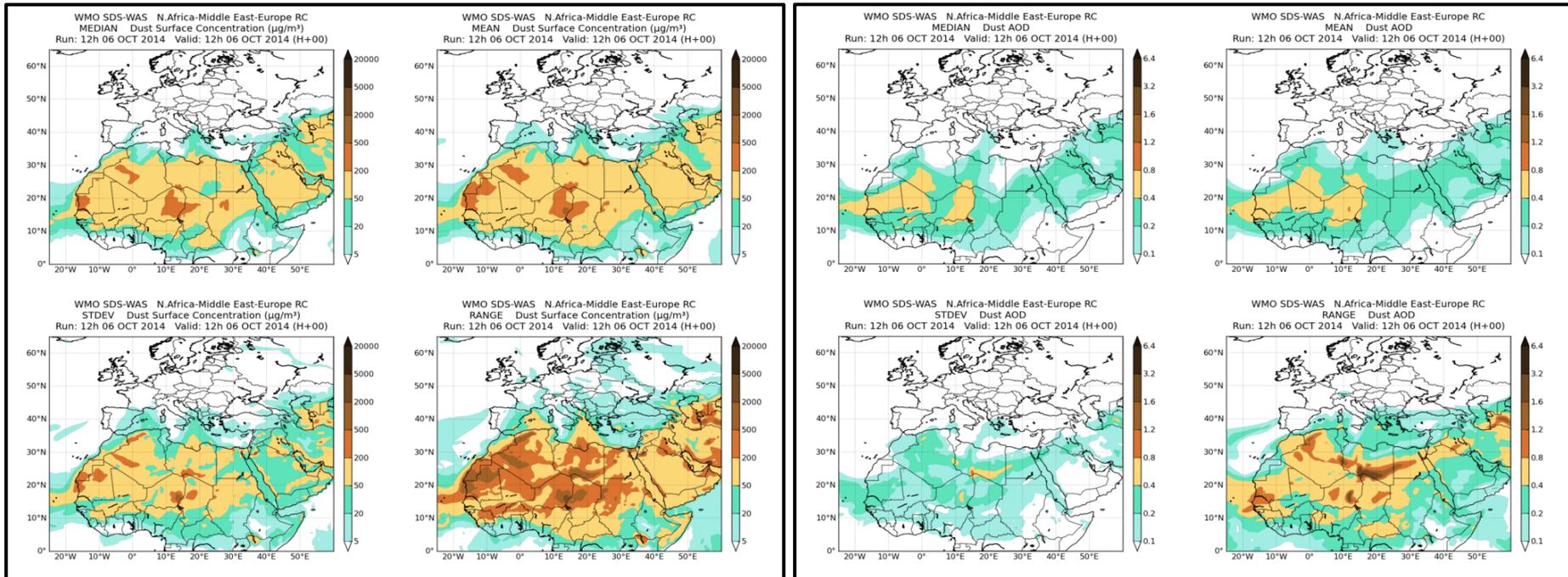


**AOD at 550nm**  
from 6-Oct-2014 12:00 to  
9-Oct-2014 00:00

# SDS-WAS: Generation of multi-model products

## Surface concentration

## AOD at 550nm



from 6-Oct-2014 12:00 to 9-Oct-2014 00:00

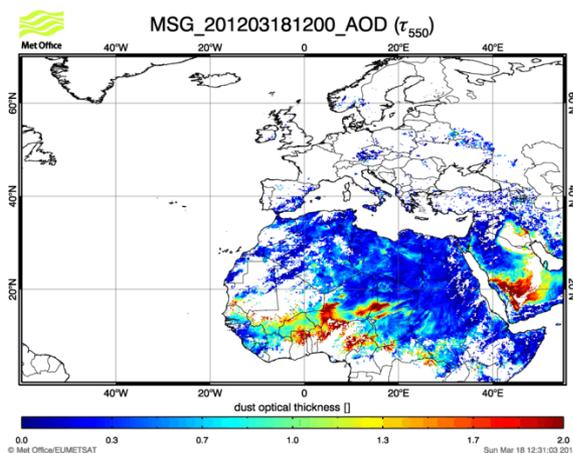
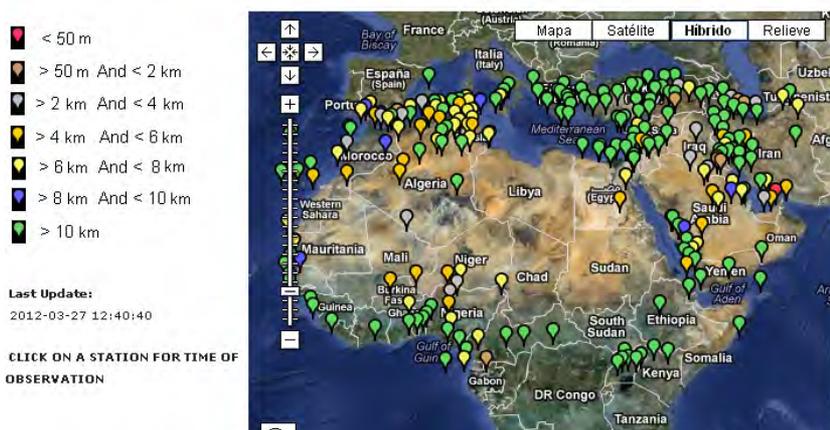
Model outputs are bi-linearly interpolated to a common  $0.5^\circ \times 0.5^\circ$  grid mesh. Then, different multi-model products are generated:

**CENTRALITY:** median - mean

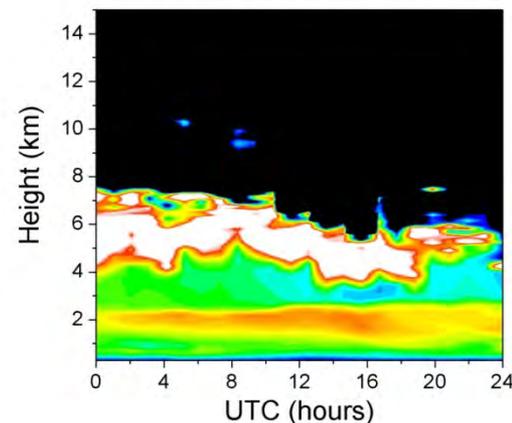
**SPREAD:** standard deviation – range of variation

## New sources of data for model evaluation

- Visibility
- MSG/SEVIRI
- MODIS
- OMI
- CALIPSO
- PARASOL
- MPLNET
- $PM_{10}$



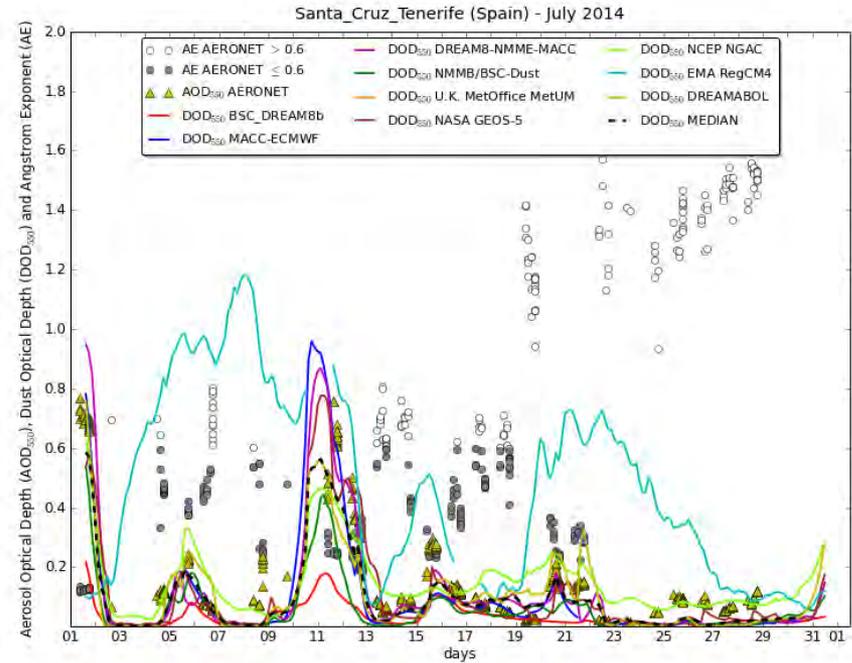
Micro Pulse LIDAR - Sta. Cruz de Tenerife



# SDS-WAS: Model intercomparison

The screenshot displays the website for the Northern Africa-Middle East-Europe (NA-ME-E) Regional Center of the WMO Sand and Dust Storm Warning Advisory and Assessment System (SDS-WAS). The page is titled "Northern Africa-Middle East-Europe (NA-ME-E) Regional Center Model Intercomparison" and is part of the MACC PROJECT. The breadcrumb trail shows: HOME > ABOUT US > FORECAST & PRODUCTS > PROJECTS & RESEARCH > MODEL INTERCOMPARISON > Model Intercomparison. The page is authored by Francesco Benincasa, last modified on May 29, 2012. A red circle highlights the "Forecast Evaluation" section, which contains a line graph comparing various model outputs. Other visible sections include "Outstanding" (with links to lectures and guidance), "Dust forecasts" (with a map of dust concentration), and "Dust observations". A search bar and a newsletter subscription form are also present.

# SDS-WAS: NRT Evaluation using AERONET



**Model evaluation metrics (bias, correlation, RMSE and FGE) are calculated for AERONET observations with  $AE \leq 0.6$  :**

- By regions: NA-ME-E, Sahel/Sahara, Middle East and Mediterranean
- By time periods: monthly, seasonal and annual

# SDS-WAS: NRT Evaluation using AERONET

You are here: Home > Forecast & Products > Forecast evaluation > Model evaluation metrics. Annual scores

## Model evaluation metrics. Annual scores

by Francesco Benincasa — last modified Jun 25, 2013 10:34 AM

Date:

Jan 2013 - Dec 2013. Dust Optical Depth.  
Threshold Angstrom Exponent = 0.600

### BIAS

	BSC_ DREAM8b	MACC- ECMWF	DREAMB- NMME-MACC	NMMB/ BSC-Dust	U.K. Met Office	NASA GEOS-5	NCEP NGAC	MEDIAN
<b>Sahel/Sahara</b> show stations	-0.19	-0.10	-0.04	-0.12	-0.06	-0.11	0.00	-0.10
<b>Middle East</b> show stations	-0.19	-0.11	0.00	-0.24	-0.06	-0.18	-0.16	-0.16
<b>Mediterranean</b> show stations	-0.15	-0.13	-0.08	-0.17	-0.09	-0.15	-0.07	-0.13
<b>TOTAL</b>	-0.18	-0.11	-0.05	-0.15	-0.07	-0.13	-0.04	-0.12

### ROOT MEAN SQUARE ERROR

	BSC_ DREAM8b	MACC- ECMWF	DREAMB- NMME-MACC	NMMB/ BSC-Dust	U.K. Met Office	NASA GEOS-5	NCEP NGAC	MEDIAN
<b>Sahel/Sahara</b> show stations	0.38	0.34	0.34	0.35	0.33	0.33	0.31	0.32

A set of evaluation metrics are selected:

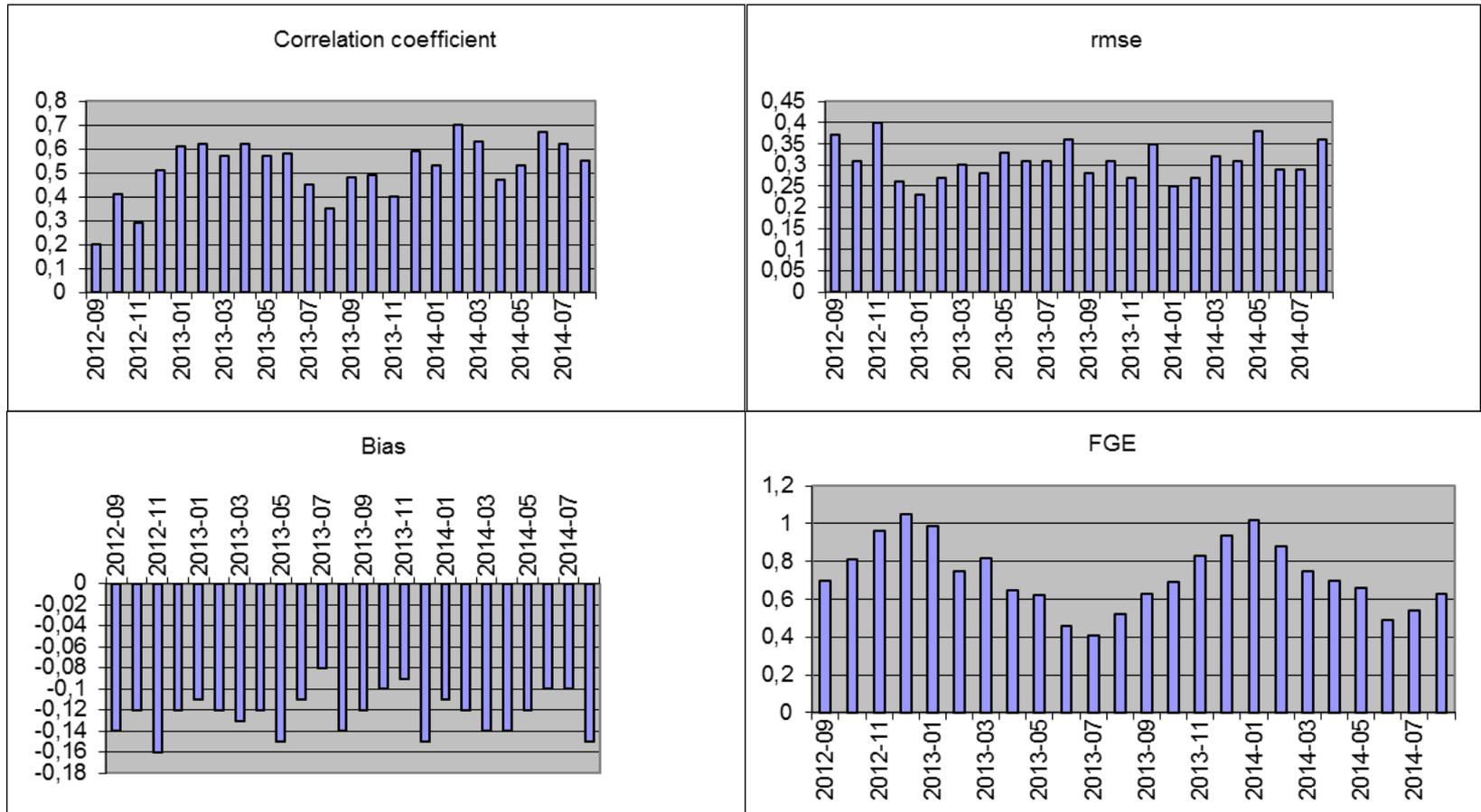
- Bias
- RMSE
- correlation coefficient
- FGE

Calculations evaluation metrics are done for:

- monthly/seasonal/annual
- sites and regions



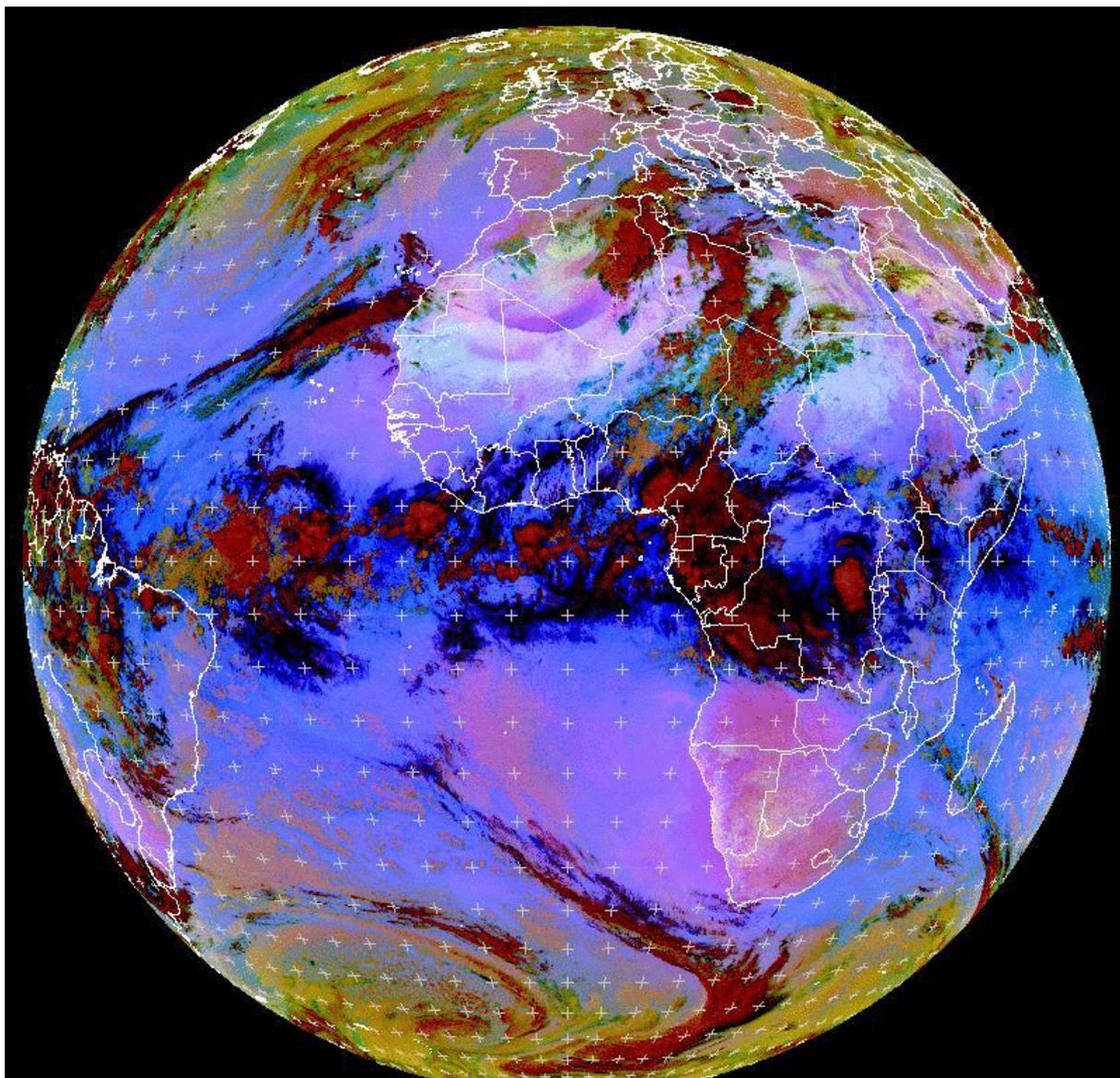
# SDS-WAS: Multi-model product evaluation using AERONET



# SDS-WAS: Multi-model product evaluation using AERONET

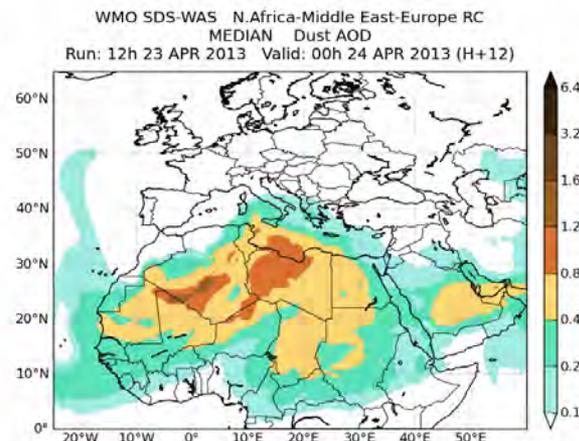
Period	Region	Mean Bias	Root Mean Square Error	Correlation coefficient	Fractional Gross Error	Number of cases
Autumn 2012	Sahara-Sahel	-0,12	0,37	0,37	0,61	1523
	Mediterranean	-0,16	0,36	0,06	1,13	1066
Winter 2013	Sahara-Sahel	-0,11	0,25	0,69	0,65	1610
	Mediterranean	-0,13	0,27	0,34	1,40	1051
Spring 2013	Sahara-Sahel	-0,10	0,28	0,68	0,56	2332
	Mediterranean	-0,15	0,32	0,41	0,96	1650
Summer 2013	Sahara-Sahel	-0,10	0,36	0,47	0,41	2483
	Mediterranean	-0,09	0,20	0,44	0,61	808
Autumn 2013	Sahara-Sahel	-0,09	0,31	0,52	0,52	1929
	Mediterranean	-0,12	0,27	0,20	1,12	987
Winter 2014	Sahara-Sahel	-0,11	0,30	0,69	0,65	1710
	Mediterranean	-0,14	0,26	0,28	1,51	921
Spring 2014	Sahara-Sahel	-0,12	0,34	0,58	0,29	2280
	Mediterranean	-0,14	0,31	0,52	0,91	1426
Summer 2014	Sahara-Sahel	-0,12	0,37	0,56	0,41	1885
	Mediterranean	-0,11	0,18	0,72	0,75	1164

# SDS-WAS: NRT Evaluation using satellite aerosol products



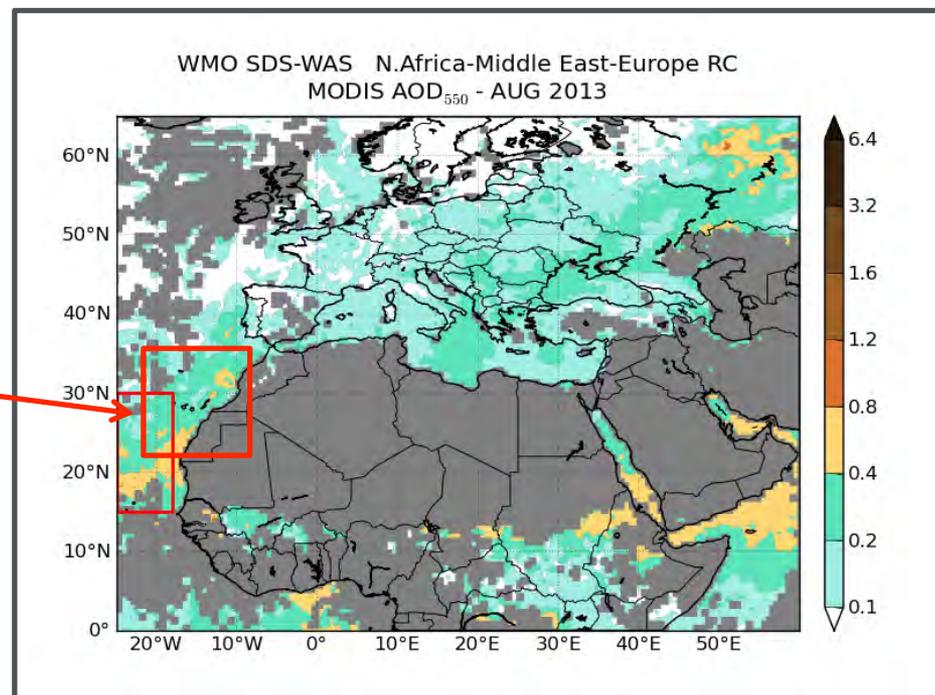
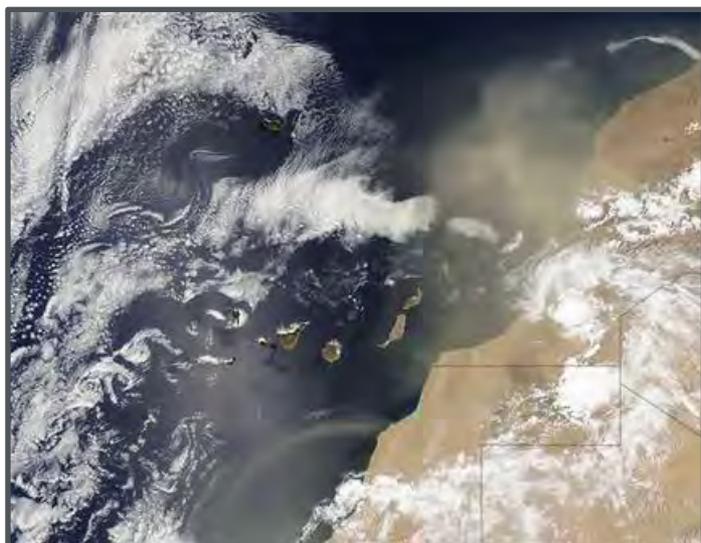
MET10 RGB-Dust 2013-04-24 00:00 UTC

## 24 April 2013



# SDS-WAS: NRT Evaluation using MODIS

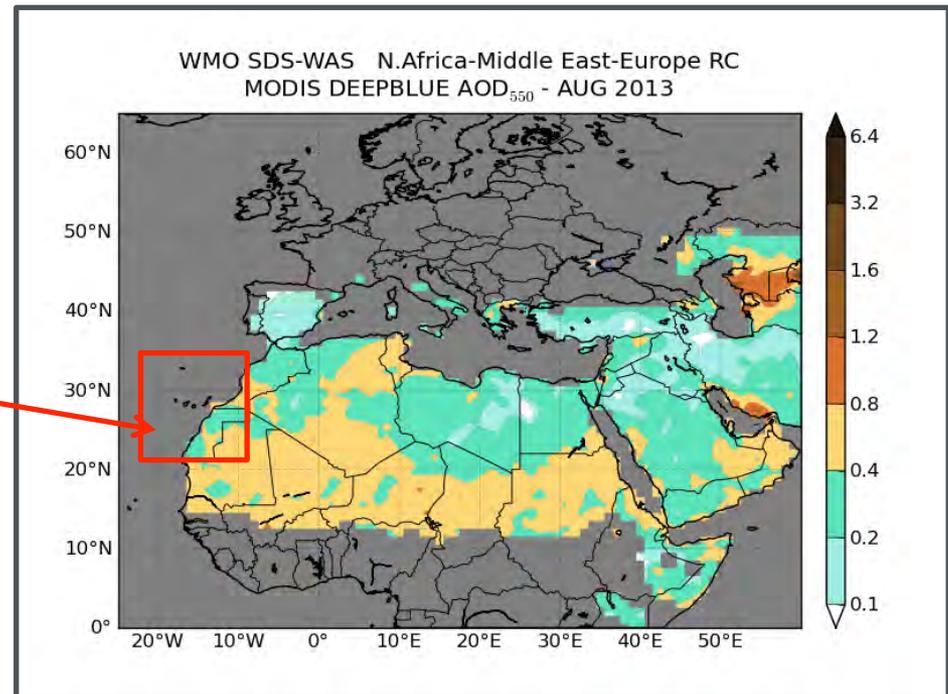
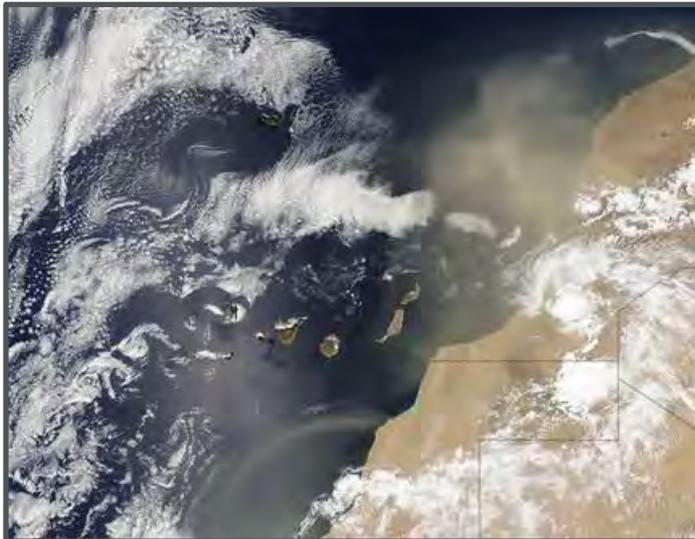
19th August 2013



	BIAS	ROOT MEAN SQUARE ERROR	CORRELATION COEFFICIENT	FRACTIONAL GROSS ERROR	NUMBER OF CASES
<b>BSC_ DREAM8b</b>	<b>-0.16</b>	<b>0.21</b>	<b>0.70</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>1220</b>
<b>NMMB/BSC- Dust</b>	<b>-0.13</b>	<b>0.20</b>	<b>0.68</b>	<b>0.81</b>	<b>1038</b>
<b>NCEP NGAC</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>0.21</b>	<b>0.78</b>	<b>0.41</b>	<b>1228</b>

# SDS-WAS: NRT Evaluation using MODIS Deep Blue

19th August 2013



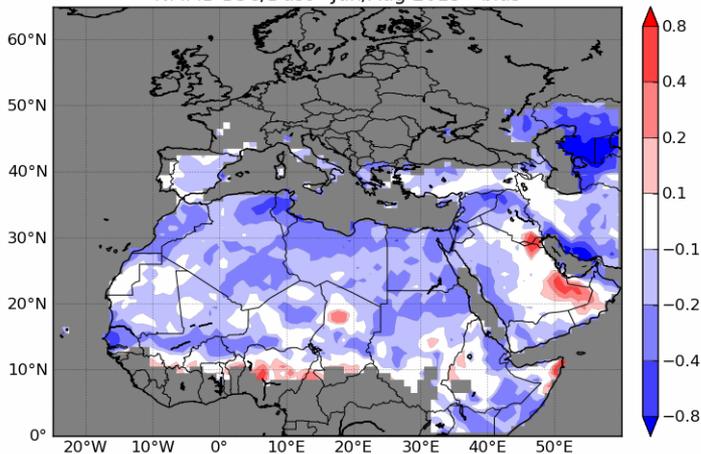
	BIAS	ROOT MEAN SQUARE ERROR	CORRELATION COEFFICIENT	FRACTIONAL GROSS ERROR	NUMBER OF CASES
<b>BSC_ DREAM8b</b>	<b>-0.17</b>	<b>0.31</b>	<b>0.28</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>42618</b>
<b>NMMB/BSC- Dust</b>	<b>-0.20</b>	<b>0.33</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>1.05</b>	<b>41049</b>
<b>NCEP NGAC</b>	<b>-0.06</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>0.32</b>	<b>0.64</b>	<b>42664</b>

# SDS-WAS: NRT Evaluation using MODIS Deep Blue

MB

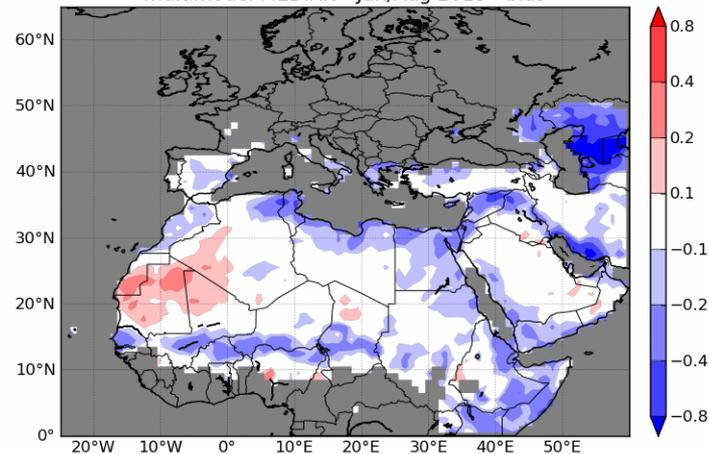
## NMMB-BSC/Dust

WMO SDS-WAS N.Africa-Middle East-Europe RC  
NMMB-BSC/Dust - Jun/Aug 2013 - bias

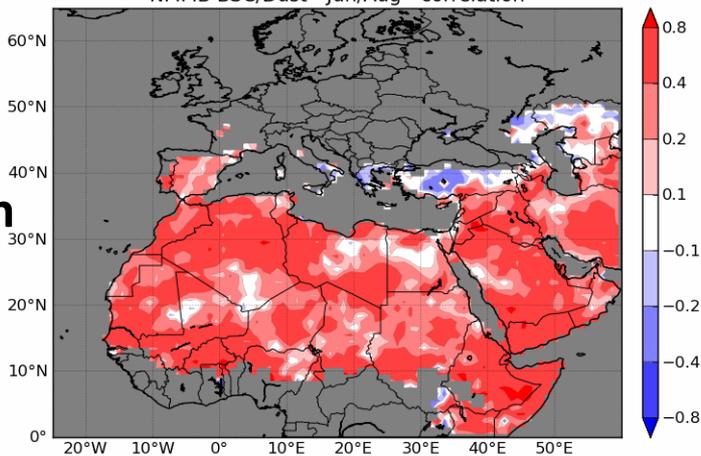


## Multimodel MEDIAN

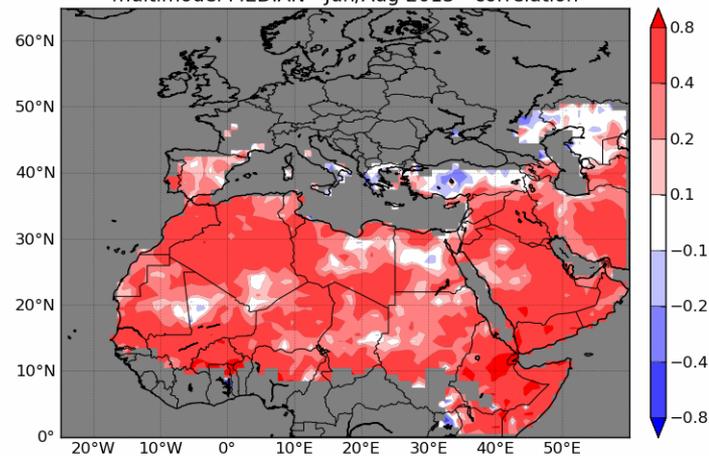
WMO SDS-WAS N.Africa-Middle East-Europe RC  
multimodel MEDIAN - Jun/Aug 2013 - bias



WMO SDS-WAS N.Africa-Middle East-Europe RC  
NMMB-BSC/Dust - Jun/Aug - correlation



WMO SDS-WAS N.Africa-Middle East-Europe RC  
multimodel MEDIAN - Jun/Aug 2013 - correlation

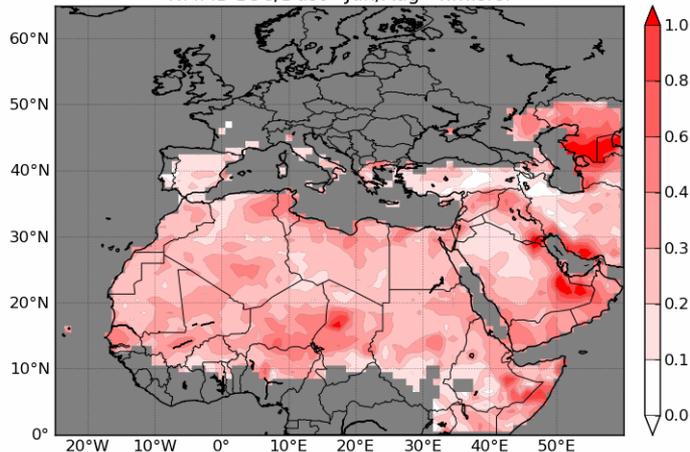


Correlation

# SDS-WAS: NRT Evaluation using MODIS Deep Blue

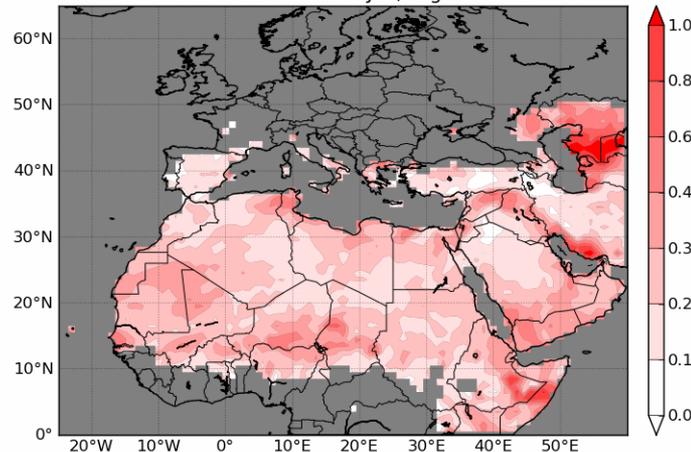
## NMMB-BSC/Dust

WMO SDS-WAS N.Africa-Middle East-Europe RC  
NMMB-BSC/Dust - Jun/Aug - r.m.s.e.



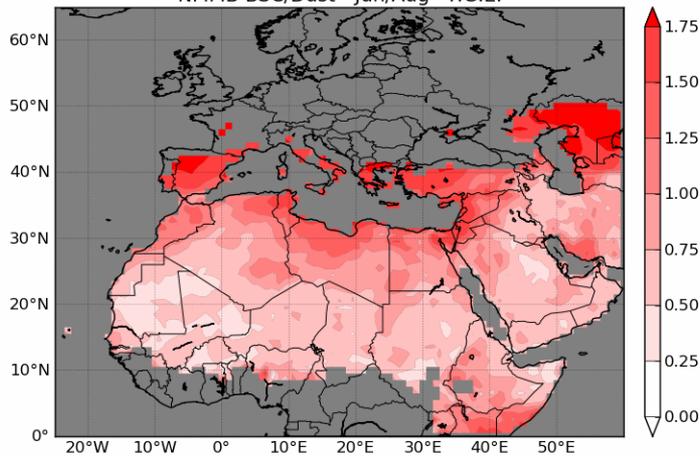
## Multimodel MEDIAN

WMO SDS-WAS N.Africa-Middle East-Europe RC  
multimodel MEDIAN - Jun/Aug - r.m.s.e.

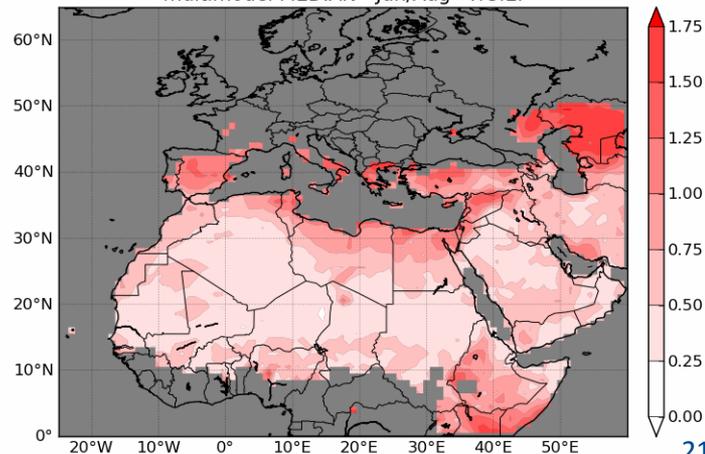


RMSE

WMO SDS-WAS N.Africa-Middle East-Europe RC  
NMMB-BSC/Dust - Jun/Aug - F.G.E.



WMO SDS-WAS N.Africa-Middle East-Europe RC  
multimodel MEDIAN - Jun/Aug - F.G.E.



FGE

# SDS-WAS: Evaluation using VISIBILITY data

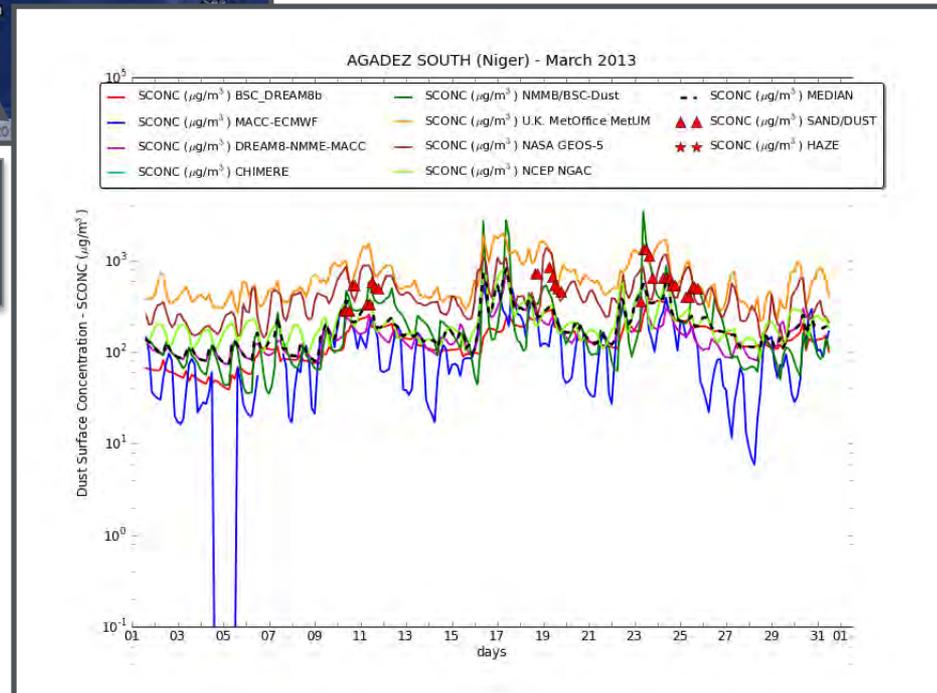


**AGADEZ SOUTH, Niger**  
**March 2013**

**PM10 = 1339.84 V<sup>-0.67</sup>**  
**Ben Mohamed et al. (1992)**



**PM10 = 1772.24 V<sup>-1.1</sup>**  
**Camino et al., submitted to Aeolian Research**



# SDS-WAS: Files download

<b>BSC-DREAM8b v2.0</b>	<a href="#">DOWNLOAD FILES</a>	<a href="#">Model website</a>	
<b>MACC-ECMWF</b>	<a href="#">DOWNLOAD FILES</a>	<a href="#">Model website</a>	
<b>DREAM-NMME-MACC</b>	<a href="#">DOWNLOAD FILES</a>	<a href="#">Model website</a>	
<b>NMMB/BSC-Dust</b>	<a href="#">DOWNLOAD FILES</a>	<a href="#">Model website</a>	
<b>NASA-GEOS-5</b>	<a href="#">DOWNLOAD FILES</a>	<a href="#">Model website</a>	
<b>NCEP-NGAC</b>	<a href="#">DOWNLOAD FILES</a>	<a href="#">Model website</a>	
<b>Multimodel</b>			

Title	Size	Modified
<b>latest</b> - <i>(download all)</i>	4.0 kB	Apr 18, 2013 09:00 PM
<b>2013</b> - <i>(download all)</i>	4.0 kB	Apr 01, 2013 09:00 PM
<b>2012</b> - <i>(download all)</i>	4.0 kB	Apr 08, 2013 04:30 PM

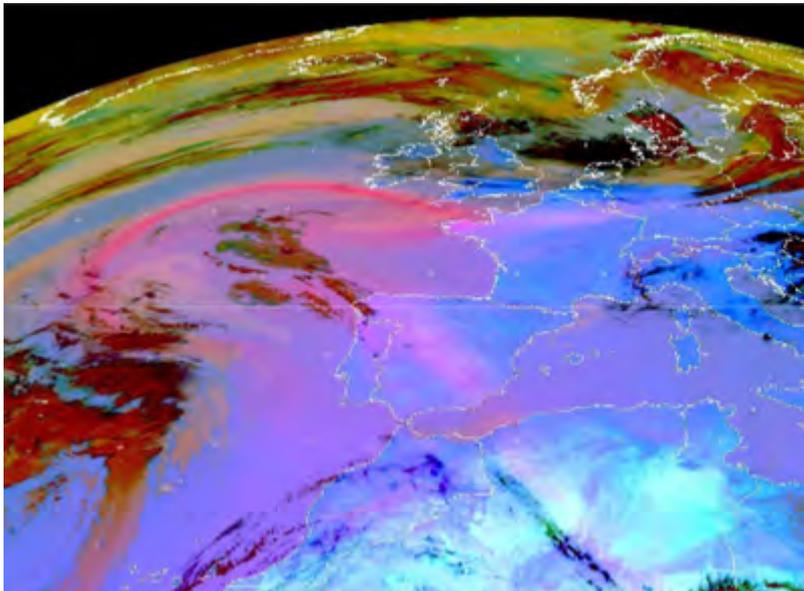
- Daily forecasts of dust surface concentration and dust optical depth will be displayed on a page together with a menu to allow visualization of the archived products and/or download of the numerical files for a selected range of dates.
- Access to the download pages shall be restricted to those groups that authorize the exchange of their own data.



# SDS-WAS: Model intercomparison

The screenshot shows the website for the Northern Africa-Middle East-Europe (NA-ME-E) Regional Center of the WMO Sand and Dust Storm Warning Advisory and Assessment System (SDS-WAS). The page features a navigation menu with the following items: HOME, ABOUT US, FORECAST & PRODUCTS, PROJECTS & RESEARCH, MATERIALS, NEWS, EVENTS, and CONTACT US. The 'PROJECTS & RESEARCH' menu is expanded, showing a list of sub-items: MACC II Project, Model Intercomparison, West Asia Regional Program to Combat Sand and Dust Storm, International Cooperative for Aerosol Prediction (ICAP), DIAPASON, and SDS-WAS studies. The 'SDS-WAS studies' item is highlighted with a red circle. Below the menu, the main content area displays a news article titled 'Forecasting the North African dust outbreak towards Europe occurred in April 2011'. The article text includes: 'Four state-of-the-art dust forecast models are examined to assess their performance to predict up to 72 hours ahead an intense Saharan dust outbreak over Western Europe up to Scandinavia between 5th and 11th April 2011. The capacity of the models to predict the evolution of the dust cloud is assessed by comparing their results with aerosol optical depth from AERONET and MODIS, as well as with dust surface concentration from air-quality monitoring stations. In addition, the CALIOP vertical profiles of extinction are used to examine the predicted vertical dust distribution of each model. To identify possible reasons for the different model performance, the wind fields yield by the simulations are evaluated with 10-m winds observed at meteorological stations and the vertical wind profiles from two radio sounding stations in the source region.' Below the text, there are two references: 'Huneus, N. et al. (2014): Forecasting the North African dust outbreak towards Europe in april 2011: A model intercomparison. MACC II Open Science Conference, Brussels' and 'Basart, S. et al. (2012): Dust forecast model intercomparison: Case study of the dust cloud of April 2011. 24th ACCENT/GLOREAM Workshop, Barcelona'. The website URL 'sds-was.aemet.es/projects-research' is visible in the bottom left corner.

# SDS-WAS: Model intercomparison April 2011



*MSG/SEVIRI RGB product 7 April  
Courtesy of EUMETSAT*

- The selected dust event corresponds to the one which occurred between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of April of 2011.
- Participating models: BSC-DREAM8b, NMMB/BSC-Dust, ECMWF-MACC, UKMetOffice-UM and NMME-DREAM-MACC
- Comparison of each forecast (at 24, 48 and 72h) output to in-situ measurements of AOD (from AERONET), surface concentration (PM) and satellite retrieved AOD (MODIS, CALIPSO) and meteorology.

*(Huneus et al., in preparation)*

**Contact: Nicolás Huneus ([nhuneus@dgf.uchile.cl](mailto:nhuneus@dgf.uchile.cl))**

# SDS-WAS: Lidar and models intercomparison



69 dust cases between Jan 2011 – Jun 2013



**BSC-DREAM8b v2**  
**NMMB-BSC/Dust**



**DREAM8-NMME-MACC**



**BOLCHEM**

# SDS-WAS: Study of a haboob in Iran



Case study of the small-scale extreme dust storm occurred in **Tehran** on **2nd June 2014**, at 5:30 PM local time, lasting less than 2 hours according to public evidence.

Based on public news, the dust storm caused several deaths, reduction of visibility to several tenths meters in the city, and adverse disturbance of the public traffic. The blowing wind reached 110 km/h.

**Contact: Slobodan Nickovic ([nickovic@gmail.com](mailto:nickovic@gmail.com))**

# Barcelona Dust Forecast Center (<http://dust.aemet.es/>)

*First Specialized Center for Mineral Dust Prediction of WMO  
NMMB/BSC-CTM selected to provide operational forecasts at ~10km*

The screenshot shows the website's header with the title "BARCELONA DUST FORECAST CENTER" and logos for AEMet, BSC, and WMO. A navigation menu includes links for HOME, FORECAST, EVALUATION, OTHER PRODUCTS, METHODS, NEWS, EVENTS, ABOUT US, and CONTACT. A newsletter sign-up form is on the left, and a featured article about WMO Global Telecommunications System is on the right. At the bottom, there is a dust forecast map for Northern Africa, Middle East, and Europe.

**BARCELONA DUST FORECAST CENTER**

Log in

WMO SDS-WAS || NA-ME-E Regional Center

HOME FORECAST EVALUATION OTHER PRODUCTS METHODS NEWS EVENTS ABOUT US CONTACT

**NEWSLETTER**

Keep up to date with our activities!

Full Name

Your email

Subscribe

**SEARCH**

Search Site Search

**HOME**

- Forecast
- Evaluation
- Other products
- Methods

**Dust forecasts available on the WMO Global Telecommunications System**

The forecasts published on this web portal are also available on the Global Telecommunications System of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

[Read More](#)

**World Meteorological**

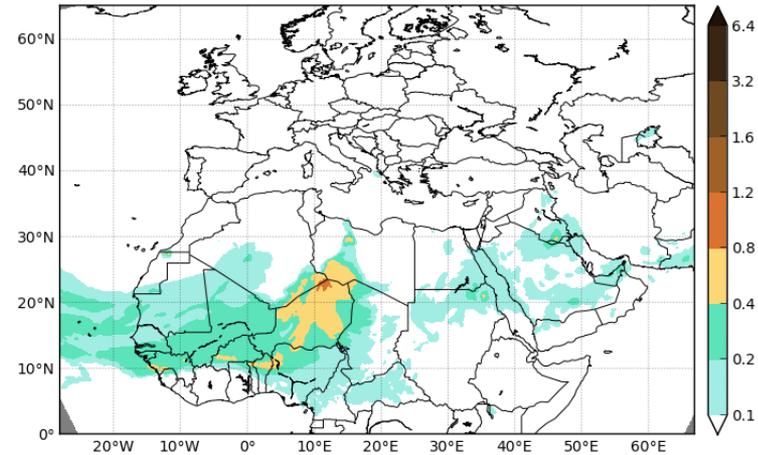
Barcelona Dust Forecast Center  
NMMB/BSC-Dust Res: 0.1°x0.1° Dust Surface Conc. (µg/m³)  
Run: 12h 06 OCT 2014 Valid: 00h 07 OCT 2014 (H+12)

**Dust forecast**

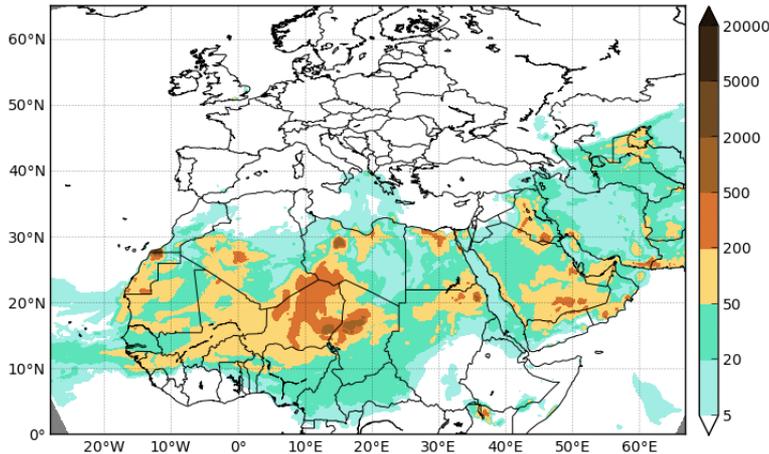
Latest dust forecast for Northern Africa, Middle East and Europe

- Dust Optical Depth at 550nm**
- Dust Dry Deposition**
- Dust Load**
- Dust Surface Concentration**
- Dust Surface Extinction at 550nm**
- Dust Wet Deposition**

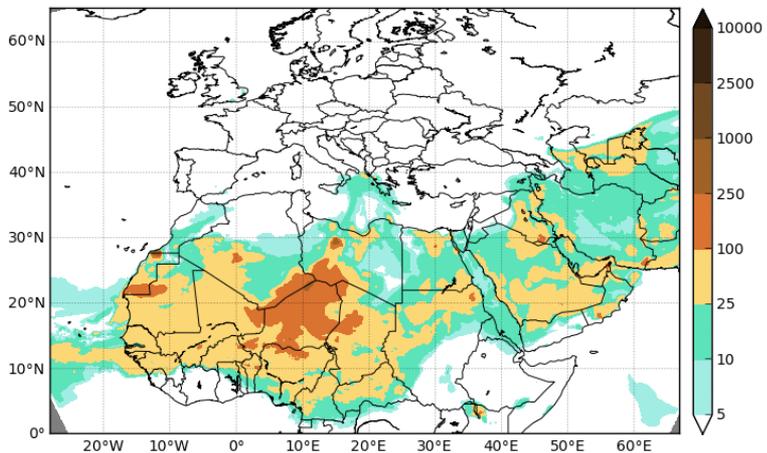
Barcelona Dust Forecast Center  
NMMB/BSC-Dust Res:0.1°x0.1° Dust AOD  
Run: 12h 06 OCT 2014 Valid: 12h 06 OCT 2014 (H+00)



Barcelona Dust Forecast Center  
NMMB/BSC-Dust Res:0.1°x0.1° Dust Surface Conc. ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )  
Run: 12h 06 OCT 2014 Valid: 12h 06 OCT 2014 (H+00)



Barcelona Dust Forecast Center  
NMMB/BSC-Dust Res:0.1°x0.1° Dust Surface Ext. ( $\text{Mm}^{-1}$ )  
Run: 12h 06 OCT 2014 Valid: 12h 06 OCT 2014 (H+00)



# BDFC : NRT Evaluation using AERONET



## Monthly scores

Date 2014-09

Methods: AERONET-based scores

Sep 2014. Dust Optical Depth.  
Threshold Angstrom Exponent = 0.600

	BIAS	ROOT MEAN SQUARE ERROR	CORRELATION COEFFICIENT	FRACTIONAL GROSS ERROR	NUMBER OF CASES
Sahel/Sahara show stations	-0.23	0.35	0.39	1.00	550
Middle East show stations	-0.17	0.18	0.30	0.91	19
Mediterranean show stations	-0.26	0.33	0.27	1.50	414
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-0.24</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>1.21</b>	<b>983</b>

A set of evaluation metrics are selected:

- Bias
- RMSE
- correlation coefficient
- FGE

Calculations evaluation metrics are done for:

- monthly/seasonal/annual
- sites and regions

# Next Dust events

## 4th Training Course on WMO SDS-WAS products *17-20 November 2014, Casablanca, Morocco*



welcome you to Casablanca, Morocco, for the '*4th Training Course on WMO SDS-WAS products (satellite and ground observation and modelling of atmospheric dust)*' to be held 17-20 November 2014.

The local organizer of the event is the National Meteorology Direction

The course coordinators are SDS-WAS. Regional Center for Northern Africa, Middle East and Europe and Barcelona Dust Forecast Center

**More information at:**

***<http://sds-was.aemet.es/events/4th-training-course-on-wmo-sds-was-products>***



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**Thank you!**

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