



## Project Update #14

Welcome to our fourteenth [CENTAUR](#) Project Update!

As we approach the World Humanitarian Day on 19 August, we reflect on the growing humanitarian crises driven by food and water insecurity and how CENTAUR will help address these challenges through data-driven solutions.

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## World humanitarian crises and how CENTAUR is contributing

Each year, World Humanitarian Day honours humanitarian workers and celebrates the spirit of solidarity which drives global action for people affected by crises. Many of today's humanitarian emergencies are intensified by the consequences of climate change, with drought representing a threat to food and water security, as well as acting as a catalyst for displacement and conflict.

According to the World Health Organisation, by 2030, as many as [700 million people](#) will be at risk of being displaced as a result of worsening drought conditions. This growing risk highlights the need for anticipatory and data-driven interventions.

CENTAUR is contributing to this effort through the development of several innovative indicators and indexes which address food and water insecurity. These include indicators to monitor drought risk in agriculture and to forecast the likelihood of conflict and displacement linked to drought conditions.

These insights also contribute to the CENTAUR's Early Warning System (EWS), which automatically generates alerts and identifies regions at increased risk of food insecurity, violent conflict, and displacement. For example, in March 2023, the system would have issued an alert for Lower Shabelle and Lower Jubba, in Somalia, identifying these areas as likely to experience conflict escalation due to prolonged drought.

# Latest News

Find out more about the latest advances of CENTAUR in addressing food and water insecurity by leveraging free and open Earth Observation data from Copernicus, showcased through poster presentations held at the European Space Agency's Living Planet Symposium (LPS) in Vienna, early this year.

[Read More](#)

## Upcoming Events

Save the date for the Copernicus Emergency Management Service and the Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre Annual Conference, taking place from 4 to 6 November 2025 in Turin, Italy. Attendees will have the opportunity to exchange knowledge, test new tools, and connect with experts committed to advancing science-based crisis preparedness and response. The programme will include keynote speeches, panel discussions, poster presentations, and interactive workshops.

[Read more](#)

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## Suggested Readings

1

EU Environment Agency  
report on Europe's state  
of water 2024

[Read More](#)

2

Global Water Monitor  
2024 Summary Report by  
European Commission

[Read More](#)

3

ThinkingEarth interview  
to World Food  
Programme expert on  
food security monitoring

[Read More](#)

## Facts & Figures

1.84

4

2.4

billion people were  
affected by drought  
between 2022 and  
2023 - World Drought  
Atlas, European  
Commission

billion people suffer  
from severe water  
scarcity for at least part  
of the year - United  
Nations World Water  
Development Report  
2025, UN Water and  
UNESCO

billion people lived in  
water-stressed  
countries in 2020 -  
United Nations  
Sustainable  
Development Goals  
Report 2023



## CENTAUR

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