CORDEX

Coordinated Regional Downscaling Experiment Sponsored by WCRP

High Resolution regional climate simulations for

- 1. Understanding Regional Climate Process
- 2. Improving climate models
- 3. Capacity Building
- 4. Providing evaluated high resolution regional climate projections for land-regions worldwide
- 5. Linking climate modelling better with regional impact, adaptation and vulnerability assessment



The real climate system operates on much smaller spatial and shorter temporal scales (e.g. weather)

Climate is the average (in space and time) of weather



Larger scale atmospheric motions and surface forcing influence Climate/weather variability in systematic ways in different regions.





These interactions involve planetary-scale monsoon circulation, continental scale surface heat gradients, vertically constrained jets (African Easterly Jet), synoptic scale waves, interactions with the subtropical anticyclone and convective scale heating.

Given accurate large scales can we simulate important regional processes?

In tropical cyclones convective scale heating plays an important role in cyclone development but is also organized by meso- and cyclone scales





Tropical Cyclones are also influenced by the large scale

Tracks and Intensity of All Tropical Storms















Motivating an <u>Ensemble</u> approach to <u>High Resolution</u> Regional Climate Downscaling

Collaboration allows for an increased number of common RCM projections to be available to all groups, helping to better understand and quantify uncertainty of future climate conditions : Ensembles/PRUDENCE projects.

Table 2: The first step WP2B.1 GCM/RCM matrix and relationship with current proposals from WP3.3

GCM's	RCM's												
	METO- HC	MPIMET	CNRM	DMI	ETH	КИМІ	ICTP	SMHI	UCLM	C4I	GKSS	MetNo	СНМІ
METO- HC	1950- 2100				1950- 2050			1950- 2050	1950- 2050				1950- 2050
MPIMET	1950- 2100	1950- 2100		1950- 2050*		1950- 2050	1950- 2050			1950- 2050			
FUB													
IPSL		1950- 2050									1950- 2050		
CNRM			1950- 2050	1950- 2050*									
NERSC								1950- 2050				1950- 2050	

'Contractually-obliged' simulations currently proposed by WP3.3

"Non-contractually-obliged' simulations currently proposed by WP3.3

Runs currently proposed by WP3.3 for partners not formally involved in WP2B.1

WP2B.1 first-step runs

* One of the DMI runs will be extended to 2100







	-	Sector States		A CARLE	S. Aline
The Rossby Centre		AOGCM (Institute, country)	Emission scena rio	Horisontal resolution (km)	
Ensemble	1	Arpège (CNRM, France)	A1B	50	
	2	BCM (NERSC, Norway)	A1B	50	
Different AOGCMs				25	
Different / to oolwis	4	CCSM3 (NCAR, USA)	A2	50	
	5		A1B	50	
Different initial	6		B2	50	
conditions	7	ECHAM4 (MPI-met, Germ	A2	50	
	8		B2	50	
Different medel	9	ECHAM5 (MPI-met, Germ	A2	50	
	10		A1B	50	
formulation (GCM)	11			50	
				50	
	13			25	
Different emission	14			12.5	
scenarios	15		B1	50	
	16	HadCM3	ref (Q0)	A1B	50
Different	17	(nadley Centre, UK)	low (Q3)		50
rocolution	18		high (Q16)		50
resolution	19		low (Q3)		25
	20	IPSL-CM4 (IPSL, France)	A1B	50	

3 RCM runs all using ECHAM5 A1B GCM as forcing but each ECHAM5 run started from a different initial condition in 1860, allows an estimate of the (natural) variability portion of a regional climate change signal



Model estimates of natural variability defined by different initial dates is a lot smaller than the forced climate change signal by ~2075

30yr DJF temperature change from the 3 ECHAM5 GCM forced runs (2016-2045) minus (1961-1990)

Differences due to natural variability can be of the same magnitude as the simulated climate change signal.



-4

-4

-6



2





Change in mean, SCN-CTRL



-2

-2



4



Differences result from circulation responses in each GCM member





Summary of component contributions to temperature & precipitation climate change uncertainty for Europe Based on a large matrix of GCM, RCM and emission Scenarios sampled through the ENSEMBLES project



Precipitation simulated over the European Alps







Simulation of intense precipitation improves greatly with resolution

Evaluation of short-term precipitation events for urban hydrology







JJA METNO KLIMAGRID11 6km JJA ECAD EOBS50 25km DJF METNO KLIMAGRID11 6km DJF ECAD EOBS50 25km Ê lat (°) ____0 DJF SMHIRCA30 ERA40 12km DJF SMHIRCA30 ERA40 50km DJF SMHIRCA30 ERA40 25km DJF SMHIRCA30 ERA40 6km (°) e1 09 lat JJA SMHIRCA30 ERA40 25km JJA SMHIRCA30 ERA40 6km JJA SMHIRCA30 ERA40 50km JJA SMHIRCA30 ERA40 12km lat (°) ⁰⁹



lon (°)

lon (°)

lon (°)

lon (°)



Summer temperatures in the 2080s difference to present day, due to A2 emissions



Simulated climate change on islands is very different to the surrounding Mediterranean Sea, and is only captured by the RCM

Hadley Centre models

High Resolution (Regional) Climate Models

- 1. Should reproduce similar large-scales to the driving data
- 2. Can provide localized improvement in near surface variables of importance to IAV e.g. precipitation in complex topography
- 3. Can improve simulated climate variability e.g. precipitation
- 4. Can improve the simulation of small-scale extremes e.g. Tropical Cyclones, convective events
- 5. Can provide regional ownership of regional climate questions
- 6. Can provide a means for interaction with regional IAV groups
- 7. Can be used in training/capacity building







- •12 domains with a resolution of 0.44° (approx. 50x50km²)
 •Focus on Africa
- •High resolution ~0.11°x0.11° for Europe (by some institutions)

Pan-CORDEX conference held in Trieste March 2011

An Africa-CORDEX diagnostics/training group has been formed (30 transdisciplinary African scientists) has had 2 training/analysis workshops using CORDEX-RCM simulation data. 3rd next week.

Euro-CORDEX group established. Europe CORDEX runs in progress

Arctic-CORDEX team will have first meeting in Sweden March 2012

CORDEX East-Asia had a workshop Sept 2011, hosted by KMA to begin to organize and share East Asia downscaling activities. Unsure of status

Meeting between AgMIP and CORDEX held April 2011 to develop a set of climate-agriculture projects: initially over the Americas

CORDEX project detailed in CLIVAR Exchanges special issue on CMIP5

First review paper of ERA-interim forced Africa-CORDEX ensemble accepted for publication in Journal of Climate.
Data and format issues:

6hrly model level data is available from CMIP5 GCMs on the ESG system

Presently 11 GCMs: historical (1950-2005), RCP4.5 & 8.5 (2006-2100) in a common format. At least 1 member per GCM, some GCMs multiple members available. At least 2 GCMs have LBCs for RCP2.6 also.

Translators have been developed, allowing parallel downscaling runs. e.g. at SMHI we have downscaled 6 historical + RCP4.5 + RCP8.5 CMIP5 GCMs over Africa. Plus are also running over Europe and Arctic.

We routinely now run different CORDEX domains or the same domain with different GCM boundary forcing in parallel

http://wcrp.ipsl.jussieu.fr/RCD_Projects/CORDEX/cordex_archive_specifications_110628.pdf

e.g File naming conventions File names should follow this structure: VariableName_Domain_GCMModelName_CMIP5ExperimentName_CMIP5Ensemble Member_RCMModelName_RCMVersionID_Frequency_StartTime_EndTime.nc CORDEX output specifications now follow as closely as possible CMIP5

CORDEX data will now be archived & broadcast through the ESG system This has been tested by SMHI and DKRZ using Africa-CORDEX data

BADC, DKRZ, IPSL (European ESG nodes) working with SMHI & DMI to further develop a file checker developed for CMIP5 to be applicable to CORDEX data. This will allow groups to check data and file name compliance for broadcasting through the ESG.

SMHI will test the full system and broadcast Africa-CORDEX data through the ESG node at DKRZ ~April/May 2012.

ESG software is being updated to allow CORDEX file & search attributes

BADC & DKRZ will provide CORDEX archiving in 2012 thru their ESG nodes.

SMHI, DMI and U. Cape Town (Africa-data) will provide similar facilities in 2013. Possibly also IITM (South Asia data) and KMA (East Asia data)

http://wcrp.ipsl.jussieu.fr/RCD_Projects/CORDEX/cordex_archive_specifications_110628.pdf

http://cordex.dmi.dk/joomla/











Latitudinal progression of the West African Monsoon Monthly mean precipitation averaged between 10W-10E















An ensemble can be used to investigate higher order climate variability & potential changes: of importance in impact assessment e.g. agriculture



2-6 day band-passed precipitation variance highlights African Easterly Waves that deliver the majority of precipitation in the Sahel region







Connecting climate projections with impact models





SMHI (50km²) reproduces well the mean annual malaria incidence pattern with respect to TRMM-ERAINT & GPCP-ERAINT control experiment





Number of drought-affected people in Africa from WFP Africa RiskView based on rainfall and potential evapotranspiration using: ERA-Interim, SMHI/RCA (ERA-int) at 0.44, 0.22 & 0.11°. Black bars: historical record of WFP emergency operations (EMOP) in response to drought. EMOP reflects planned interventions & should be considered a lower bound to the actual drought-affected people.



	Regional Climate Model Evaluation System Application to CORDEX (JPL/UCLA; D. Waliser, J. Kin	(RCMES) n, C. Mattman, et al.)	
AV • •	AIRS gridded daily 3D temperature and water vapor TRMM 3B42 3-hourly gridded daily precipitation ERA-Interim 6-hourly surface temperature & dewpoint, 3D temperature & geopotential NCEP daily Unified Rain gauge Database (URD), 0.25° resolution Satellite-based Snow Water Equivalent (SWE)	Facilitate the use of observations for: •RCM evaluation •RCM development •Decision Support •RCM Performance Metrics •Africa - analysis ongoing (UCT, Rossby Ctr) •N. America - just funded via NASA NCA call. •E. Asia - exploring	
FU	MODIS daily Cloud fraction Climate Research Units (CRU) monthly precipitation and temperature (Tavg, Tmin, Tmax) at 0.5° resolution. TURE CERES radiation, CloudSat atmospheric ice and liquid, MODIS snow cover, ISCCP cloud fraction, MERRA, etc.		
Iı R	ngest obs/models, re-gridding, calculate metrics (e.g, bias, MSE, correlation, significance, PDFs), and visualize results	(e.g, bias, ze results	

(e.g., contour, time series, Taylor).

Annual precipitation climatology for 1989-2006





- Model errors range from -17.5% to +20%
- All models generate good spatial pattern (spatial corr. coef. > 0.9 vs. the MODIS data).
- Model ensemble generally agree more closely with the REF data than individual models.
 - the smallest bias and RMSE against the MODIS data.
 - the highest spatial correlation with the MODIS data.
 - Model ensemble does not improve spatial variability.

CORDEX-Africa Hindcast Domain

CORDEX-AFRICA DOMAIN: Ø.44DEG RE



Annual Cycle RMSE(K)



Annual Cycle Correlation



ALC: NO

Selecting GCMs for downscaling and filling A multi-RCP, multi-GCM, multi-RCM matrix

Data availability

Global performance for historical period

Global Climate Sensitivity

Regional (area of interest) performance historical period

Completeness of process representation in terms of Potential feedbacks e.g. Coupled carbon cycle


























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				AL .	-				
	GCM	RCP	RCM1	RCM2	RCM3	RCM4	RCM5	RCM6	10.000
12.5	HadGEM	8.5/4.5/2.6							
10 11 A	MPI-ESM	8.5/4.5/2.6							-18
	EC-Earth	8.5/4.5/2.6							
	ARPEGE	8.5/4.5							
	PSL-CM	8.5/4.5							
	NorESM	8.5/4.5							
	MIROC	8.5/4.5							
in the second	MRI	8.5/4.5							
	CCSM	8.5/4.5							
	GFDL-ESM	8.5/4.5							
	CSIRO	8.5/4.5							
	CanESM	8.5/4.5							

Procedure

- 1. Make ERA-interim driven runs and provide selected data to a regional evaluation team
- 2. Form a regional (South Asia CORDEX) evaluation team, identify metrics and collect suitable observations
- 3. Feedback evaluation findings to modeling groups
- 4. Identify and interact with regional IAV communities India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Burma, Maldives etc
- 5. Make and evaluate GCM-driven historical runs
- 6. Make and assess GCM-driven projection runs.
- 7. Archive and distribute GCM-RCM projection data and interact with regional IAV communities

Timeline

Commitments

Responsibilities

Follow up