

« Med-CORDEX is an open club of Mediterranean climate model developers and users, science-driven, self-organised and based on voluntary efforts. »



# Modelling the Sea in Med-CORDEX : a review

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# Med-CORDEX : an ocean-oriented initiative

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- ➔ Definition of the overarching goals (*Ruti et al. 2016, Somot et al. 2018b, www.medcordex.eu*) :
  - ORCM and RCSM as central modelling tools
  - Study ocean or coupled climate phenomena
  - Serve ocean impact community
- ➔ Regional ocean modelling community is part of Med-CORDEX since 2009
- ➔ Half of the steering committee members have a strong ocean focus

# Define ocean-dedicated modelling activities

the 5 modelling pillars of  
Med-CORDEX, phase 2  
(2016-2022)

## BASELINE runs

*Charact. past climate variability  
and future change, climate  
phenomena and impacts*

RCSM 10-50 km  
Atm-Land-River-Ocean

Evaluation 1979-2015 Scenario, 1971-2100  
RCP8.5, RCP2.6

## FMZ: free modelling zone

Push the limits  
of current protocols  
Test new ideas

## FPS convection

*Convection phenomena at  
high-resolution over Europe  
and the Mediterranean*

Convection-Permitting 1-3 km  
RCM 1°-17°E ; 40°-50°N

Case study Scenario RCP8.5  
1996-2005  
Evaluation 2041-2050  
2000-2014 2090-2099

## FPS air-sea

*Role of the air-sea coupling and  
small-scale ocean processes on  
regional climate*

Sensitivity tests to RCSM wave ORCM  
baseline runs Ocean zoom

Evaluation 1979-2015 Scenario, 1971-2100  
RCP8.5, RCP2.6

## FPS aerosol

*Role of the natural and  
anthropogenic aerosols in the  
Mediterranean region*

improved aerosol climatology interactive aerosol

Evaluation 1979-2015 Scenario, 1971-2100  
RCP8.5, RCP2.6

# Design ocean-inclusive simulation protocols

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## Illustrations with sections of the Phase 3 Baseline run protocol

- Keep the **same Med-CORDEX minimal domain**: Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea and related catchment basins (except for the Nile)
- Use **fully-coupled RCSM** including, at least, **atmosphere**, **land**, **river** and **ocean** components
- Use **improved model versions** : coupled rivers, higher resolution (min. **12 km** mandatory for atm, min. **10 km** for ocean), new components accepted, improved present climate behaviour, sea level representation
- Share **common ocean initial conditions and common forcings**: MedHYMAP, ERA5/ORAS5, CMIP6 GCMs, constant 12-values for the Nile, Chl-a dataset, evolving GHG, evolving aerosols
- Share **common spin-up criteria**

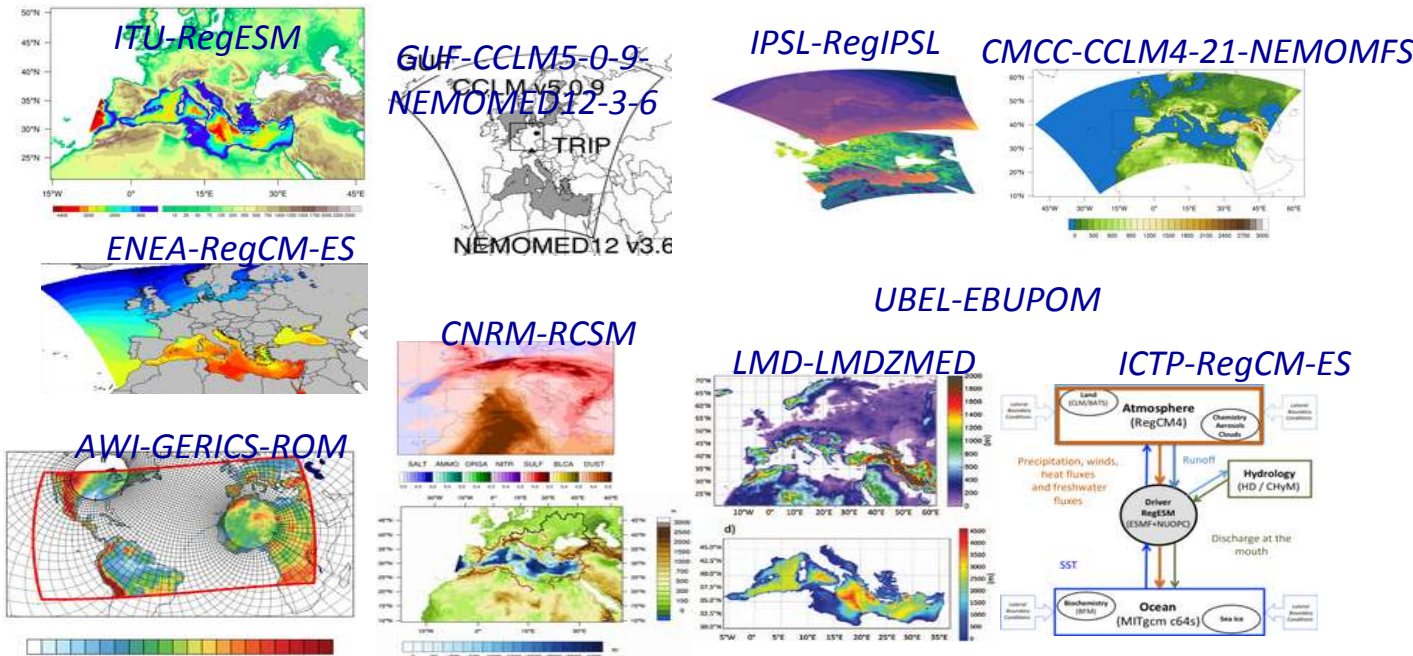
# Create large coordinated simulation ensembles

## Phase 1+2 Baseline runs

- ➔ RCSMs : Atmosphere, Land, Sea (+Rivers)
- ➔ Resolution: 5-25km for the sea
- ➔ 11 participating modelling groups : CNRM, ENEA, GUF, LMD, IPSL, CMCC, UBEL, ITU, AWI-GERICS, ICTP, INSTM
- ➔ 7 different ocean models, 21 different RCSM configurations
- ➔ 18 evaluation runs, 19 scenario runs, 6 driving GCMs, 3 RCPs

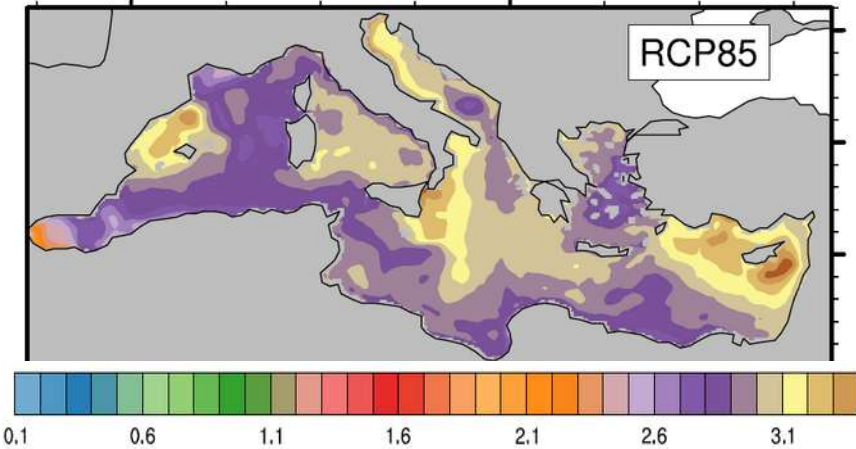
## List of runs

Model Naming	Institute	Contact	Climate components	Model short description
CNRM-RCSM	CNRM	S. Somot, F. Sevault	Atmosphere Land River Ocean	Atmosphere 2.5km, Ocean 50km, River 100m, Land 100m. Ref: Sevault et al. 2014
IPSL-RegESM	CNRM	S. Somot, F. Sevault, P. Nabat	Atmosphere Atmosphere Land (incl. Lake) River Ocean	Atmosphere 2.5km, Ocean 50km, River 100m, Land 100m. Ref: Sevault et al. 2014
ENEA-PROTHEUS v2	ENEA	A. Dell'Aquila	Atmosphere Land River Ocean	30km
ENEA-RegCM-ES	ENEA	G. Sannino	Atmosphere Land River	including RegCM 5.0km, longer study or hourly. Ref.
ENEA-REG	ENEA	G. Sannino	Atmosphere Land River Ocean	including WRF (12km), MedC as coupled hourly/day. Ref: Anzi et al. 2017
CLMcom-GUF-CCLM-NEMO	GUF	B. Ahrens	Atmosphere Land Ocean	including COSMO-CLM4.0, NEMO3.0-MED12
CLMcom-GUF-CCLM-0-9-N-EMOMED12-3-6	GUF	B. Ahrens, P. Kumar	Atmosphere Land River Ocean	including COSMO-CLM4.0, NEMO3.0-MED12, CTrip, Ocean. Ref: Piroso et al. 2019
LMD-LMDZMED_v1	LMD	L. Li	Atmosphere Land Ocean	including LMDZ4.0.0.0, ORF no river coupling. Ref: L'Heveder et al. 2013
LMD-LMDZMED_v2	LMD	L. Li	Atmosphere Land River Ocean	including LMDZ4.0.0.0, ORF single river coupling scheme. Ref.
IPSL-MORCEMED	IPSL	S. Bastin	Atmosphere Land Ocean	WRF31x20km, NEMO3.0-MED12
IPSL-RegIPSL	IPSL	Y. Polcher, R. Pennel	Atmosphere Land River Ocean	including WRF 3.7.1q20km, NEMO3.0-MED12, CAS3-MCT10. Ref.
IPSL-RegIPSLv2	IPSL	Y. Polcher, R. Pennel	Atmosphere Land River Ocean	including WRF 4.3.1q20km, NEMO3.0-MED12, CAS3-MCT10. Ref.
CMCC-CCLM4-21-NEMOMFS (50km)	CMCC	L. Cavicchia, P. Lionello	Atmosphere Land Ocean	COSMO-CLM v21 at 50km, T1L, CAS3-MCT10. Ref.
CMCC-CCLM4-21-NEMOMFS (12km)	CMCC	D. Corte, P. Lionello	Atmosphere Land Ocean	including COSMO-CLM v21 at 12km, T1L, CAS3-MCT10. Ref.
UBEL-EBUPOM2	UBELGRADE	V. Djarjevic	Atmosphere Land Ocean	including Eto (Eto-H) to Belgia phase 1 model. Ref.
ITU-RegESM1	ITU	B. Onof, F. Battaruz	Atmosphere Land Ocean	including RegCM 4.0q50km. Ref.
ITU-RegESM1.2	ITU	B. Onof, F. Battaruz	Atmosphere Land Ocean	including RegCM 4.0q12km, NAM 4q 14km (no river coupling) as introduced using RCM frequency. Ref: Battaruz and Sannino
AWI-GERICS-ROM4	AWI-GERICS	D. Seim, W. Cabos	Atmosphere Land River Ocean Biogeochemistry	including RegCM25km, MPIO-H, Biogeochemistry module. Ref.
AWI-GERICS-ROM2	AWI-GERICS	D. Seim, W. Cabos	Atmosphere Land River Ocean Biogeochemistry	including RegCM25km, MPIO-H, Biogeochemistry module. Ref.
AWI-GERICS-ROM11	AWI-GERICS	D. Seim, W. Cabos	Atmosphere Land River Ocean Biogeochemistry	including RegCM13km, MPIO-H, Biogeochemistry module. Ref.
ICTP-RegCM-ES	ICTP	E. Coppola, R. Farneti, F. Di Sante	Atmosphere Land River Ocean	including RegCM 4.3.1q20km (open to ENEA model but off). Ref: Shi et al. 2017, Di Sante
INSTM-LMD2ROMS-MED	INSTM	A. Harzallah	Atmosphere Land Ocean	LMDZ4 and ROMS-MED

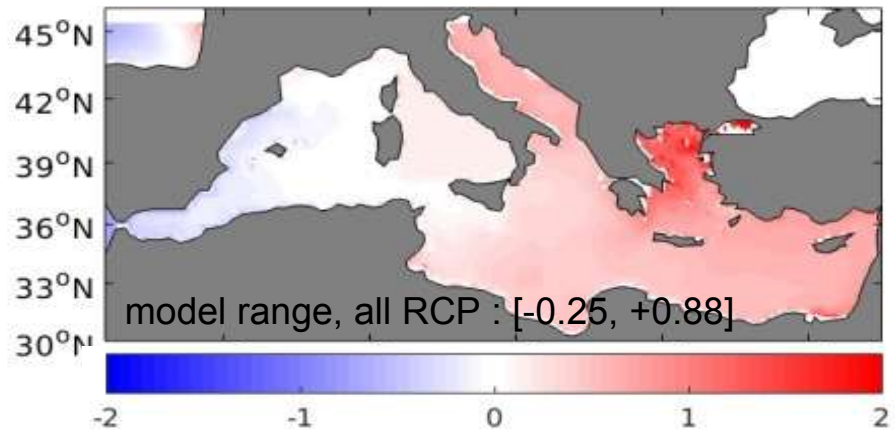


# Develop multi-model scientific studies

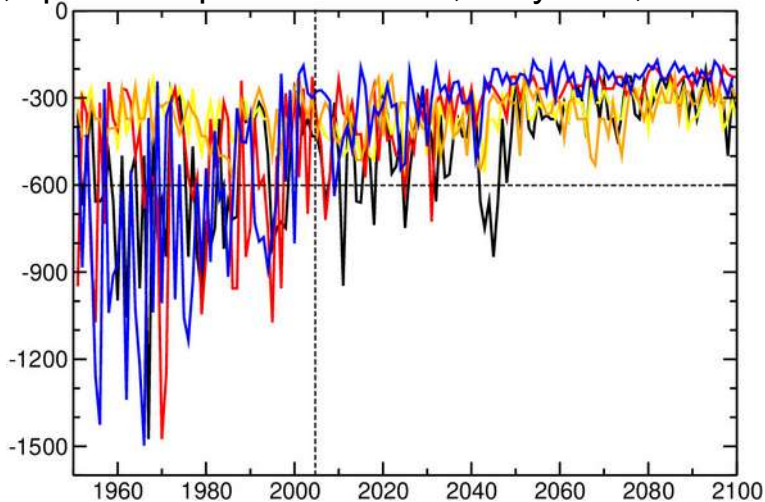
Yearly-mean SST change  
(°C, 2071–2100 vs 1976–2005, RCP8.5)



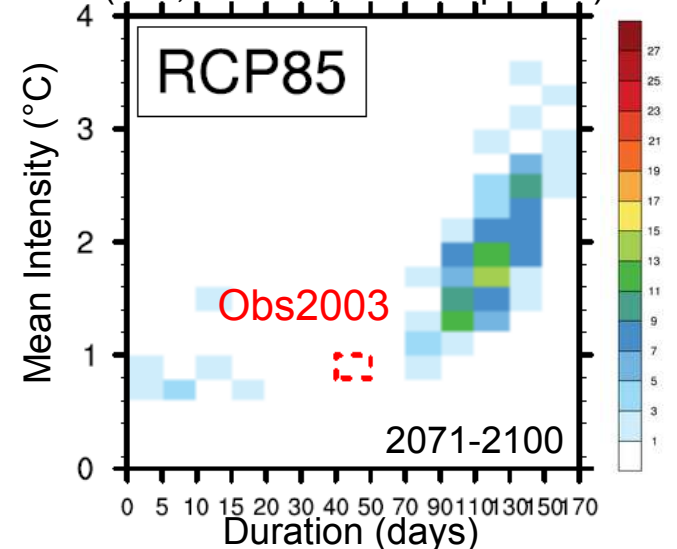
Yearly-mean SSS change  
(-, 2075–2100 vs 1980–2005, RCP8.5)



Gulf of Lions Open-Sea Deep Convection  
(m, spatio-temporal max MLD, daily data, RCP8.5)



Marine heatwaves charact.  
(IDF, RCP8.5, all data pooled)



# Communication, standardization, data sharing

## File naming & Variable lists for the ocean

CORDEX-CMIP6 Data Request: CORE Oceanic variables											
ag - aggregation for the highest-frequency output: i: instantaneous; a: averaged over output interval (in mode); c: cumulative over sampling period											
Version: 22 sept 2022											
Output variable name	units	ag	long_name	standard_name	Output frequency					Priority	
					mon	day	6hr	3hr	1hr		
theta	K	g	Sea Water Potential Temperature	sea_water_potential_temperature	x	x				CORE	10
vs	m/s	g	Sea Water Velocity	sea_water_velocity	x	x				CORE	10
uv	m/s	g	Sea Water U Velocity	sea_water_u_velocity	x	x				CORE	10
vw	m/s	g	Sea Water V Velocity	sea_water_v_velocity	x	x				CORE	10
rho	kg/m <sup>3</sup>	g	Sea Water Density	sea_water_density	x	x				TER1	10
rho_s	kg/m <sup>3</sup>	g	Sea Water Surface Density	sea_water_surface_density	x	x				TER1	10
zeta	m	g	Sea Surface Height Above Depth	sea_surface_height_above_depth	x	x				CORE	10
ts	K	g	Sea Surface Temperature	sea_surface_temperature	x	x			x	CORE	10
ts_s	K	g	Sea Surface Salinity	sea_surface_salinity	x	x				CORE	10
tsd	mm	g	Ocean Mixed Layer Thickness Defined by Sigma T	ocean_mixed_layer_thickness_defined_by_sigma_t	x	x				CORE	10
tsd5	mm	g	Ocean Mixed Layer Thickness Defined by Sigma T	ocean_mixed_layer_thickness_defined_by_sigma_t	x	x				CORE	10
tsd5	mm	g	Ocean Mixed Layer Thickness Defined by Sigma T	ocean_mixed_layer_thickness_defined_by_sigma_t	x	x				TER1	10
tsd5	mm	g	Ocean Mixed Layer Thickness Defined by Sigma T	ocean_mixed_layer_thickness_defined_by_sigma_t	x	x				TER1	10
tsd5	mm	g	Ocean Mixed Layer Thickness Defined by Sigma T	ocean_mixed_layer_thickness_defined_by_sigma_t	x	x				TER1	10
tsd5	mm	g	Ocean Mixed Layer Thickness Defined by Sigma T	ocean_mixed_layer_thickness_defined_by_sigma_t	x	x				TER1	10
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tsd5	mm	g	Ocean Mixed Layer Thickness Defined by Sigma T	ocean_mixed_layer_thickness_defined_by_sigma_t	x	x				TER1	10
tsd5	mm	g	Ocean Mixed Layer Thickness Defined by Sigma T	ocean_mixed_layer_thickness_defined_by_sigma_t	x	x				TER1	10

CORDEX/output/MED-11/CNRM/ECMWF-ERAINT/evaluation/r1i1p1/CNRM-RCSM6/v1/day/tos/  
tos\_MED-11\_ECMWF-ERAINT\_evaluation\_r1i1p1\_CNRM-RCSM6\_v1\_mon\_200601-201012.nc

Open science strategy (web page, Med-CORDEX community zenodo page)

Database : Ocean realm & Ocean datasets

The image shows two screenshots. The left one is from Zenodo, displaying the 'Med-CORDEX community open collection' page. It features a search bar, 'Recent uploads' section, and a list of items including 'Med-CORDEX phase 3: Common protocol for the Baseline runs for the CORDEX-CMIP6 framework'. The right screenshot is from the Med-CORDEX website, showing navigation tabs for 'SIMULATIONS PHASE 1', 'SIMULATIONS PHASE 2', 'SIMULATIONS PHASE 3', 'DATABASE', and 'SEARCH/DOWNLOAD'. It also includes a 'select search parameters' form with dropdown menus for 'realm', 'Institution', and 'Domain'.

The image shows a screenshot of the Med-CORDEX website's database search interface. At the top, there's a navigation menu with 'HOME', 'SIMULATIONS PHASE 1', 'SIMULATIONS PHASE 2', 'SIMULATIONS PHASE 3', 'DATABASE', and 'SEARCH/DOWNLOAD'. Below this is a secondary menu with 'USE DATA', 'HELP', 'SITEMAP', 'NEWS (FEB. 08, 2022)', 'WORKSHOPS', 'PUBLICATIONS', 'REFERENCES', and 'CONTACTS'. There are also 'USERS BY NATION', 'LOGIN', and 'PRIVACY' links. A search section contains 'DATASET SEARCH', 'FILE SEARCH/DOWNLOAD', 'VARIABLE SEARCH', and 'BROWSE THREDDS DATA SERVER'. A 'select search parameters' form is visible, with 'search fields (logical AND applied)' and dropdown menus for 'realm' (set to 'ocean'), 'Institution' (set to 'any'), and 'Domain' (set to 'any').

# Med-CORDEX impacts outside the community

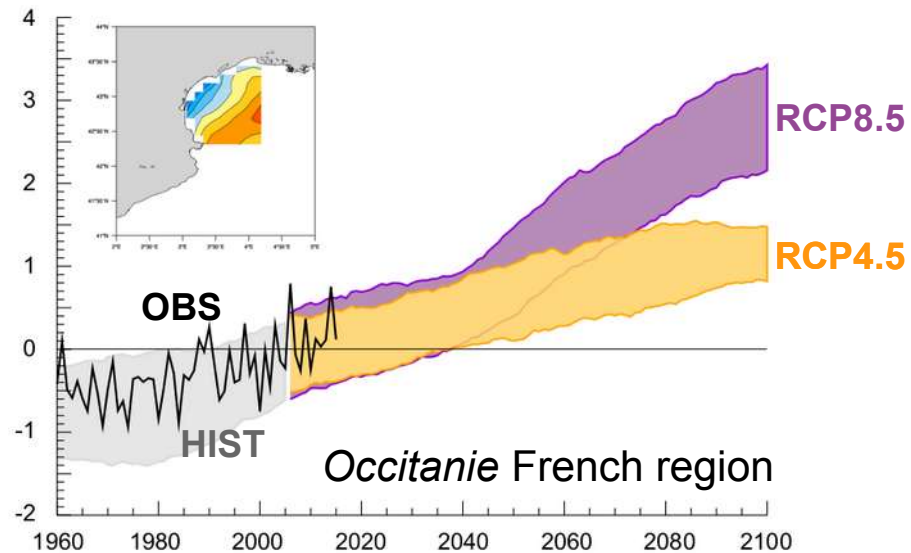
« the frequency and severity of marine heat waves of the Mediterranean Sea are projected to increase (Darmaraki et al. 2019) »  
(IPCC-AR6-WGI, Chap. 10)

« a surface salinity increase in the eastern Mediterranean Basin is more likely than not [...] (Adloff et al. 2015; Soto-Navarro et al. 2020) »  
(MedECC-MAR1, Chap. Drivers)

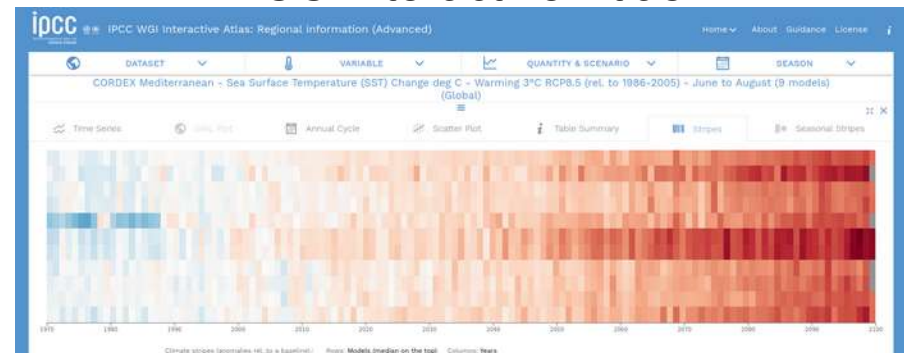
Med-CORDEX ocean datasets serve ocean climate change impact studies (fish habitat, biogeochemistry, MPA connectivity, fish biodiversity, sea level)

First contacts with ocean climate services

## RECO-CROCC report : SST anomaly (°C, wrt 2001-2020, 5 RCSMs, 20-yr filtered)



## Med-CORDEX SST data in the IPCC Interactive Atlas





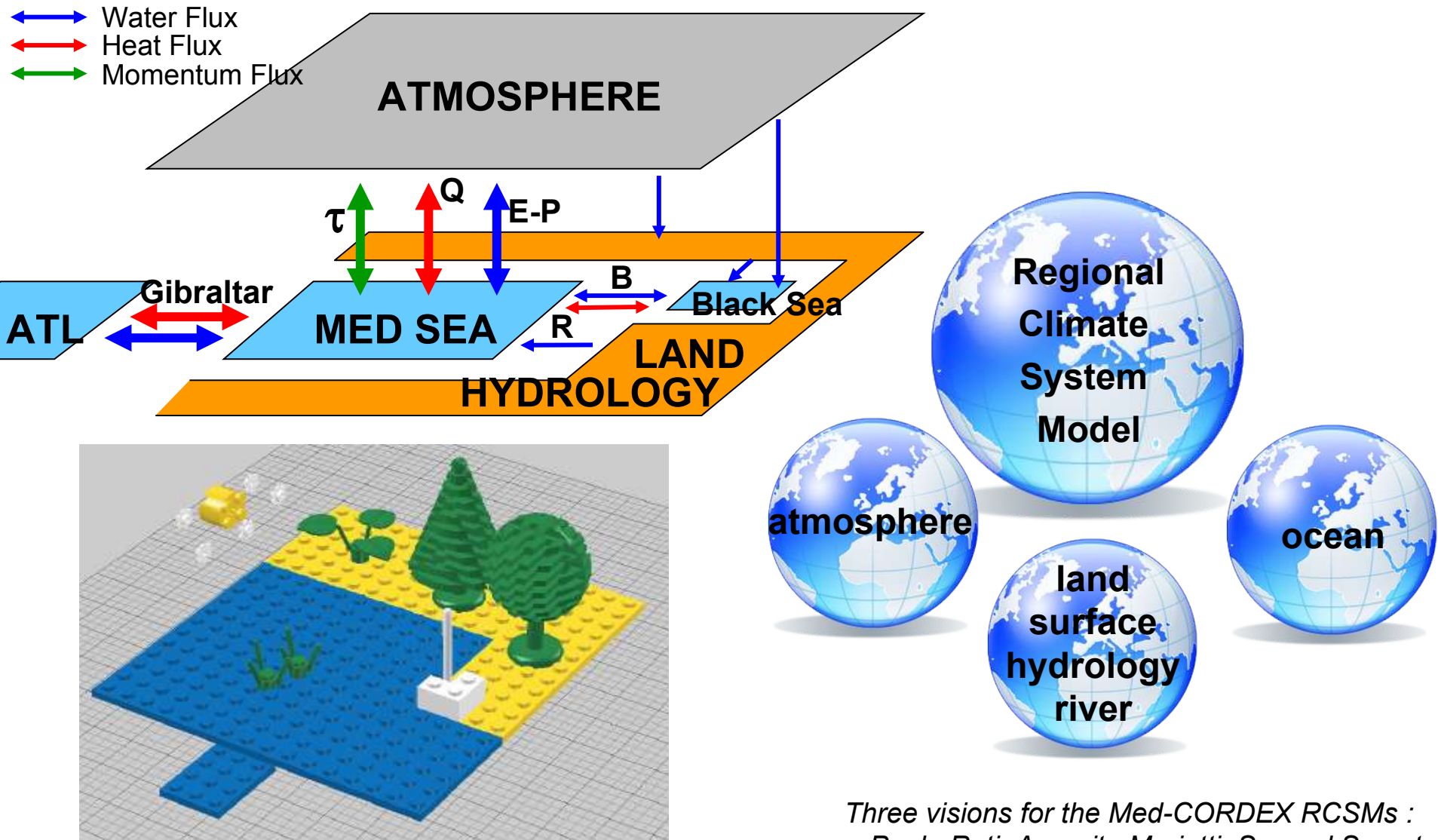
# Advice for launching a CORDEX-Ocean initiative

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- Any new international initiative require time and efforts. Does it worse it ?
- Define clearly what we want to achieve as a community
- Define the targeted outcomes (users, IPCC-AR7) of the initiative and the timeline
- How to place the CORDEX-Ocean initiative wrt other WCRP modelling activities
- Secure a small number of steering persons to drive the initiative
- Set open and efficient communication tools
- Encourage scientific informal exchanges and networking within the club
- Built the trust among the initiative members
- Take into account the diversity of the participants: different values, different scientific perspectives, different objectives and different levels of resource
- Interact regularly with SAT to place the initiative in the long-term CORDEX vision
- Find financial support for the involved modelling groups

# Representation of the regional climate system

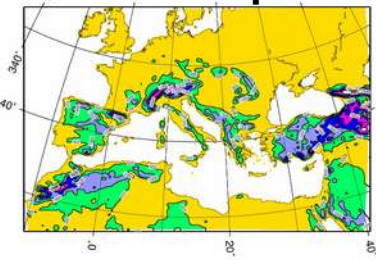
The regional climate system is fully coupled



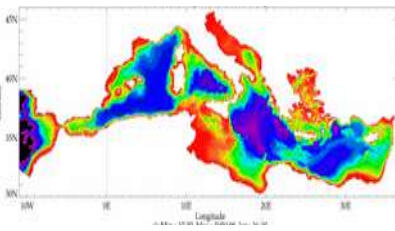
Three visions for the Med-CORDEX RCSMs :  
Paolo Ruti, Annarita Mariotti, Samuel Somot

# Ocean-dedicated simulation protocols : Med-CORDEX, phase 1 (2009-2015)

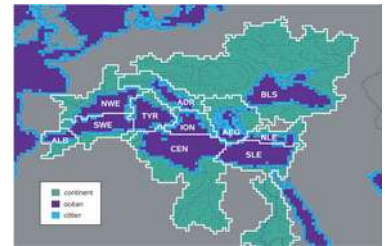
12km - atmosphere



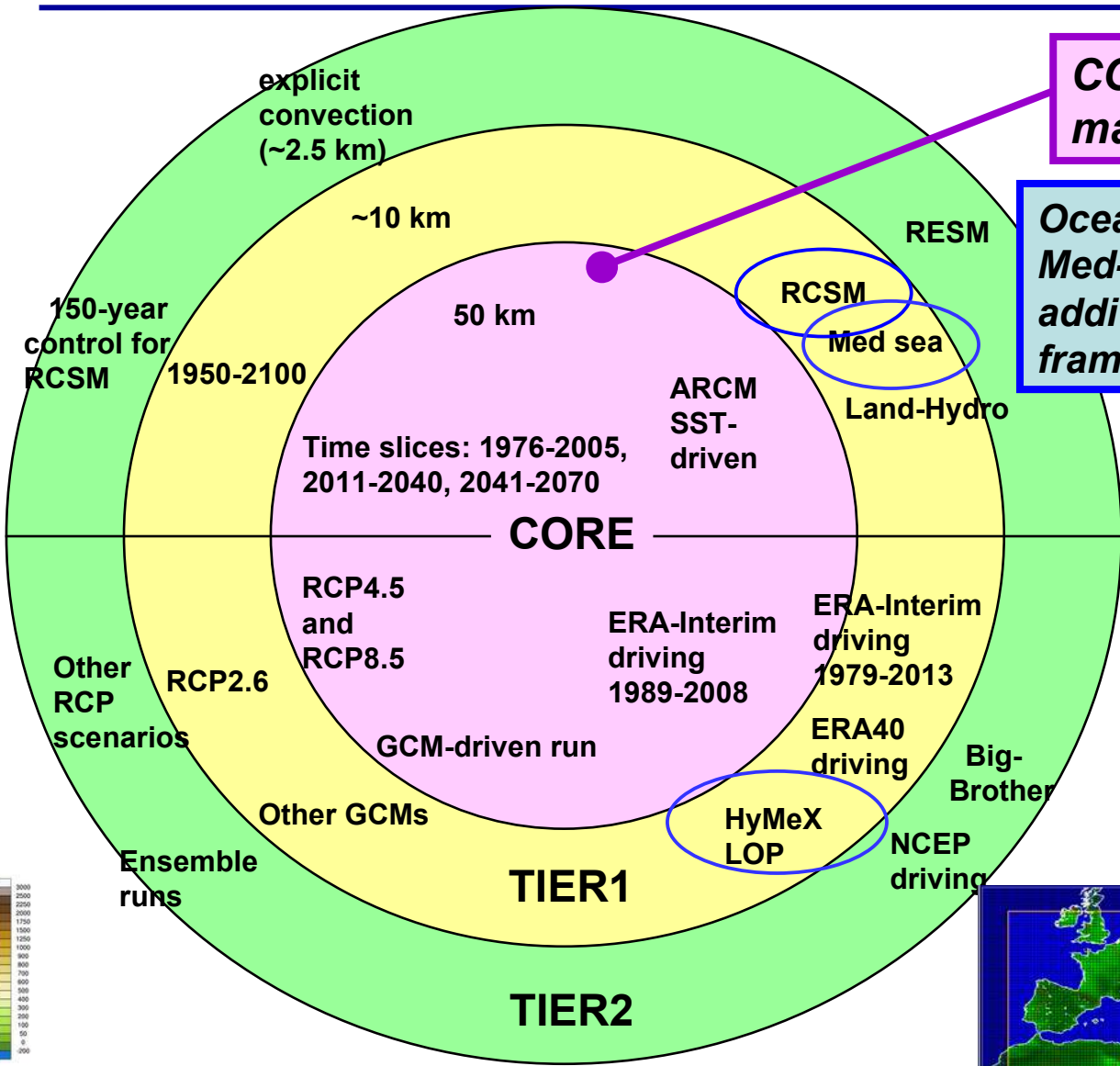
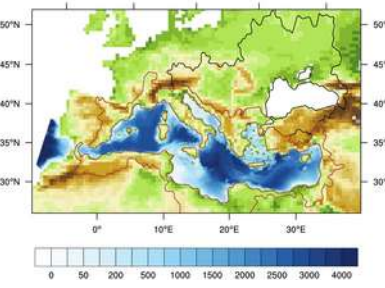
10km - ocean



50km - river



RCSM



**CORDEX mandatory**

**Ocean-oriented Med-CORDEX additional framework**

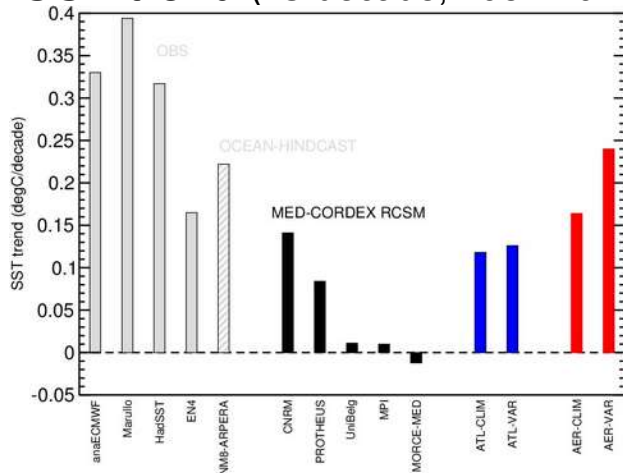


# Develop new knowledges

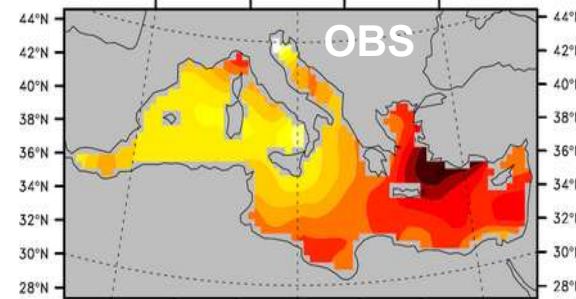
## Explaining the Mediterranean SST past trend

- Sensitivity tests with and without aerosol trend in a coupled RCM over the last decades
- Aerosol brightening effect explains part of the SST past trend in the Mediterranean Sea
- Ocean coupling allows to study this impact

SST trend (°C/decade, 1982-2012, Med Sea)



SST trend (°C/decade, 1982-2012)



SW trend (W/m2/decade, 1982-2012)

