



()

IAEA

How can CORDEX enhance assessments of climate change impacts and adaptation?

Timothy Carter Finnish Environment Institute, SYKE Climate Change Programme







ÎÎÎÎÎ

()

IAEA

- **Priorities for IAV research**
- **Demand for climate information**
- Added value of downscaling
- Framing uncertainties
- Conclusions







()

IAEA

What's this IAV anyway?

Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability

but not everyone agrees

IAV







The evolution of risk assessment as applied to climate change, particularly adaptation, since the establishment of the IPCC in 1988

Assessment	Policy Question	Stage of Risk Assessment	Methodological Approaches	Scenario Requirement	Years
First generation	Is climate change a problem?	Scoping the question, risk identification	Sensitivity analysis	Incremental scenarios for primary climate variables	1988–1992
Second generation	What are the potential impacts of unmanaged climate change?	Risk analysis	Scenario-driven impact assessment	Climate model derived scenarios for multiple variables at global and regional scale	1988–2001
Third generation	How do we effectively adapt to climate change?	Risk evaluation	Risk assessment Vulnerability assessment	Model derived scenarios for many variables, consistent with other scenarios, integration at a range of scales	1995–2007
Fourth generation	Which adaptation options are the most effective?	Risk management	Risk management Mainstreaming adaptation	Dynamic scenarios of climate and other key drivers, conditional probabilities	2001 ongoing
Fifth generation	Are we seeing the benefits?	Implementation and monitoring	Implementation, monitoring and review	Updating scenarios through observation and learning by doing	2007 ongoing

IPCC, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Source: Jones and Preston (2011)







ÎÎÎÎÎ

()

IAEA

- **Priorities for IAV research**
- **Demand for climate information**
- Added value of downscaling
- Framing uncertainties
- Conclusions







ÎÎÎÎÎ

()

IAEA

- Priorities for IAV research
- **Demand for climate information**
- Added value of downscaling
- Framing uncertainties
- Conclusions





(�)

IAFA

Some key motivations of users in requesting climate information

- Obtaining general information about climate change major messages at various scales
- Obtaining information tailored to user requirements and adaptation decision-making
- Communicating uncertainties in future projections
- Ensuring comparability across assessments for coordinating integrated responses
- Reconciling projections with recent trends and with planning/policy scenarios
- Addressing changes in frequency and magnitude of extreme weather events







()

IAEA

Who are the IAV community?

- Empiricists
 - Observed impacts (long-term/extreme events); observed adaptation (reactive and anticipatory; to averages/extremes; maladaptation)
- Impact modellers
 - Disciplinary/process focus (and ESMs); disciplinary/applied focus; inter disciplinary/applied focus; integrated assessment; global to local
- Experimentalists
 - Gas enrichment; controlled climate; materials; land use management
 - Vulnerability assessors
 - Mapping indices/indicators; local (household) to global
- Adaptation researchers
 - Adaptation processes; adaptation practices; management for adaptation
 and mitigation; development of analytical methods, tools and metrics
- Adaptation policy analysts
 - Governance; coherence; integration; mitigation/adaptation; emergency planning; implementation
- Well, that's just a sample!







(�)

IAFA

How many of these can make use of downscaled climate projections?

- Empiricists
 - Qualitatively; could help to frame studies (e.g. surveys, questionnaires)
- Impact modellers
 - High demand, though not all merited; impacts of extreme weather; variability change; differential impacts over varied terrain

Experimentalists

- Little use except perhaps qualitatively for experimental design
- Vulnerability assessors
 - Can offer added value for quantifying certain indicators
- Adaptation researchers
 - Informing about climate risk; identification and appraisal of adaptation measures
- Adaptation policy analysts
 - Awareness raising of future regional climate, including extremes







ÎÎÎÎÎ

()

IAEA

- Priorities for IAV research
- **Demand for climate information**
- Added value of downscaling
- Framing uncertainties
- Conclusions







ÎÎÎÎÎ

()

IAEA

- Priorities for IAV research
- **Demand for climate information**
- Added value of downscaling
- Framing uncertainties
- Conclusions







What more does downscaling offer?

Conditional on the global projection downscaled:

- Finer-scale spatial resolution
- More realistic physical representation of local climate
- Improved resolution of extreme weather events
- [Maybe] enhanced realism in estimates of future climate

Note: Downscaling also throws up issues concerning the quality of "non-climate" information required at the same spatial scale (e.g. social, economic, land use, other environmental stresses)







Methods of regional climate change scenario construction, listed in the order of increasing complexity and resource demand (*example adaptation activities in parentheses*) #1

	Method (application)	Advantages	Disadvantages
1	Sensitivity analysis Resource management, Sectoral	1. Easy to apply; 2. Requires no future climate change information;3. Shows most important variables/ system thresholds; 4 Allows comparison between studies.	1. Provides no insight into the likelihood of associated impacts unless benchmarked to other scenarios; 2. Impact model uncertainty seldom reported or unknown.
2	Change factors Most adaptation activities	1. Easy to apply; 2. Can handle probabilistic climate model output	1. Perturbs only baseline mean and variance; 2. Limited availability of scenarios for 2020s.
3	Climate analogues Communication, Institutional, Sectoral	1. Easy to apply; 2. Requires no future climate change information; 3. Reveals multi-sector impacts/vulnerability to past. climate conditions or extreme events, such as a flood or drought episode.	1. Assumes that the same socio-economic or environmental responses recur under similar climate conditions; 2. Requires data on confounding factors such as population growth, technological advance, conflict.
4	Trend extrapolation New infrastructure (coastal)	 Easy to apply; 2.Reflects local conditions; Uses recent patterns of climate variability and change; 4. Instrumented series can be extended through environmental reconstruction; 5. Tools freely available. 	 Typically assumes linear change; 2. Trends (sign and magnitude) are sensitive to the choice/length of record; 3. Assumes underlying climatology of a region is unchanged; 4. Needs high quality observational data for calibration; Confounding factors can cause false trends.
5	Pattern-scaling Institutional, Sectoral	 Modest computational demand; 2. Allows analysis of GCM and emissions uncertainty; Shows regional and transient patterns of climate change; 4. Tools freely available. 	1. Assumes climate change pattern for 2080s maps to earlier periods; 2. Assumes linear relationship with global mean temperatures; 3. Coarse spatial resolution.







Methods of regional climate change scenario construction, listed in the order of increasing complexity and resource demand (*example adaptation activities in parentheses*) #2

	Method (application)	Advantages	Disadvantages
6	Weather generators Resource management, Retrofitting, Behavioural	1. Modest computational demand; 2. Provides daily or sub-daily meteorological variables; 3. Preserves relationships between weather variables; 4. Already in widespread use for simulating present climate; 5. Tools freely available.	1. Needs high quality observational data for calibration and verification; 2. Assumes a constant relationship between large-scale circulation patterns and local weather; 3. Scenarios are sensitive to choice of predictors and quality of GCM output; 4. Scenarios are typically time-slice rather than transient.
7	Empirical downscaling New infrastructure, Resource management, Behavioural	1. Modest computational demand; 2. Provides transient daily variables; 3. Reflects local conditions; 4. Can provide scenarios for exotic variables (e.g., urban heat island, air quality); 5. Tools freely available.	1. Requires high quality observational data for calibration and verification; 2. Assumes a constant relationship between large-scale circulation patterns and local weather; 3. Scenarios are sensitive to choice of forcing factors and host GCM; 4. Choice of host GCM constrained by archived outputs.
8	Dynamical downscaling New infrastructure, Resource management, Behavioural, Communication	 Maps regional climate scenarios at 20- 50km resolution; Reflects underlying land-surface controls and feedbacks; Preserves relationships between weather variables; Ensemble experiments are becoming available for uncertainty analysis. 	 Computational and technical demand high; 2. Scenarios are sensitive to choice of host GCM; Requires high quality observational data for model verification; 4. Scenarios are typically time-slice rather than transient; 5. Limited availability of scenarios for 2020s.
9	Coupled AO/GCMs Communication, Financial	1. Forecasts of global mean and regional temperature changes for the 2020s; 2. Reflects dominant earth system processes and feedbacks affecting global climate; 3 Ensemble experiments are becoming available for uncertainty analysis.	1. Computational and technical demand high (supercomputing); 2. Scenarios are sensitive to initial conditions (sea surface temperatures) and external factors (such as volcanic eruptions); 3. Scenarios are sensitive to choice of host GCM; 4. Coarse spatial resolution.







()

IAEA

Downscaling lessons for hydrology

- 1. What more (if anything) can be learnt from downscaling method comparison studies?
 - Little more from intercomparison studies; recommend "sensitivity" step to determine key climate variables and most appropriate downscaling method CORDEX?
- 2. Can dynamical downscaling contribute advantages that can not be conferred by statistical downscaling?
 - Yes. Regional climate change signals can differ from GCMs, particularly in regions with complex orography; improved simulation of higher moment climate statistics
- 3. Can realistic climate change scenarios be produced from dynamically downscaled output for periods outside the time period of simulation using methods such as pattern scaling?
 - Yes for temperature; maybe for other variables; but transient runs now common
- 4. What new methods can be used together with downscaling to assess uncertainties in hydrological response?
 - Probabilistic methods offer promise of more robust treatment of uncertainties
- 5. How can downscaling methods be better utilized within the hydrological impacts community?
 - Comparison of offline or coupled online hydrological modelling (with feedbacks); testing if hydrological models are "fit for purpose" for assessing climate change impacts
 S Y K E





ÎÎÎÎÎ

()

IAEA

- Priorities for IAV research
- **Demand for climate information**
- Added value of downscaling
- Framing uncertainties
- Conclusions







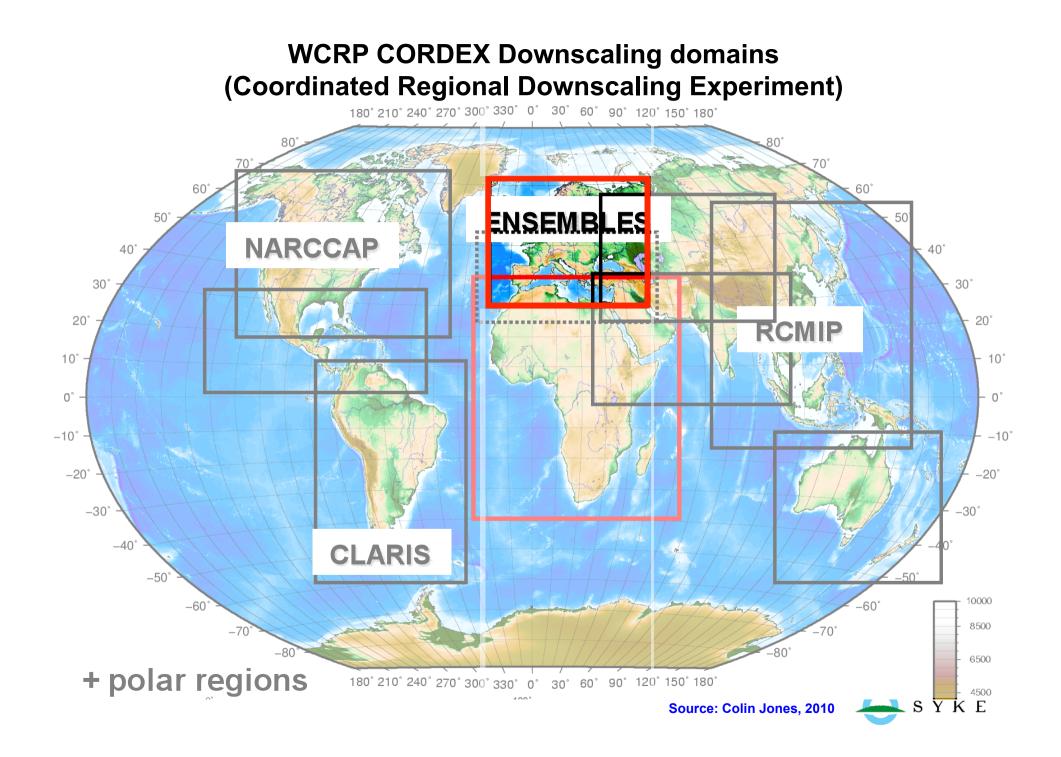
ÎÎÎÎÎ

()

IAEA

- Priorities for IAV research
- **Demand for climate information**
- Added value of downscaling
- Framing uncertainties
- Conclusions

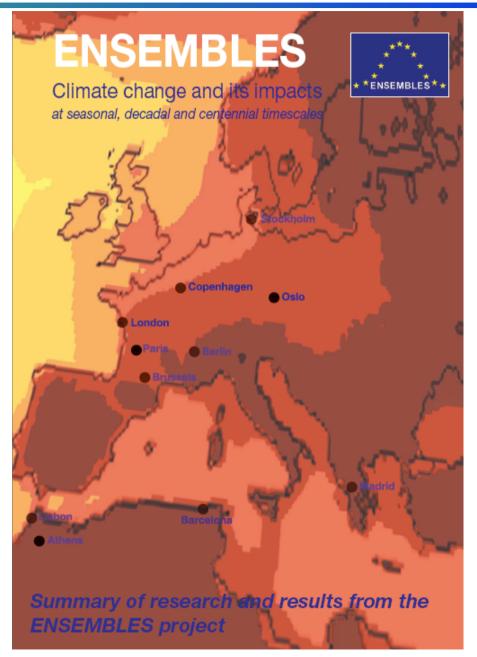






International Conference on the Coordinated Regional Climate Downscaling Experiment – CORDEX, Trieste, Italy, 21-26 March 2011



The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics 



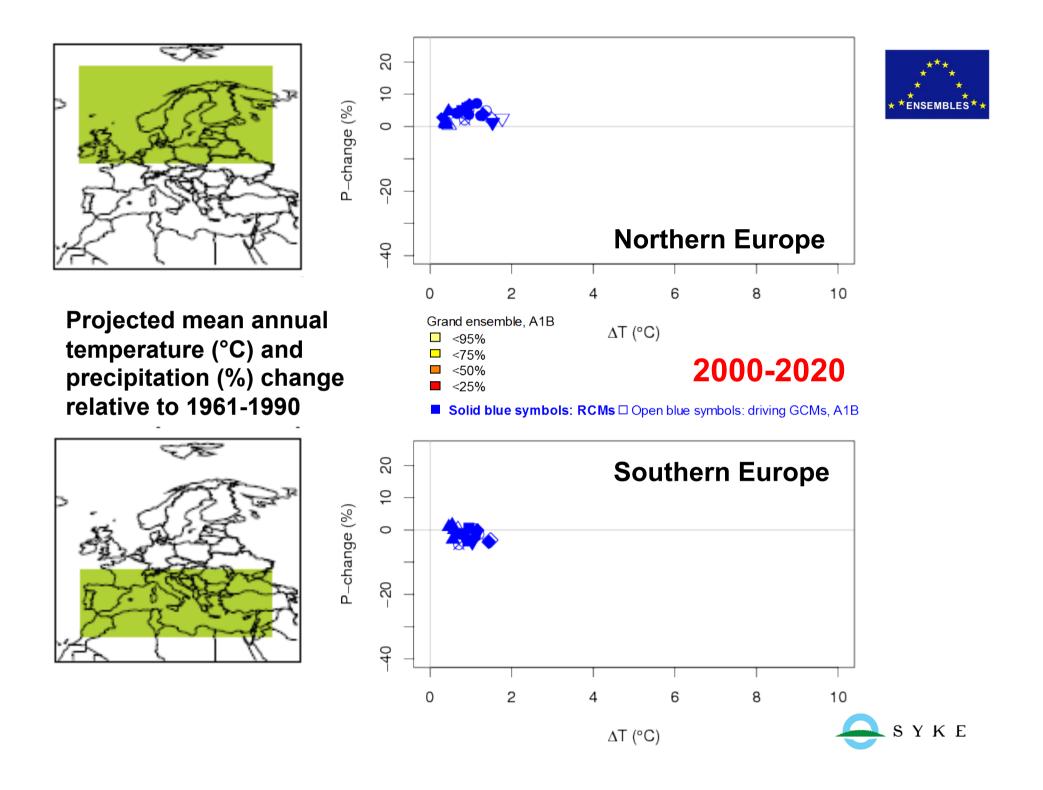


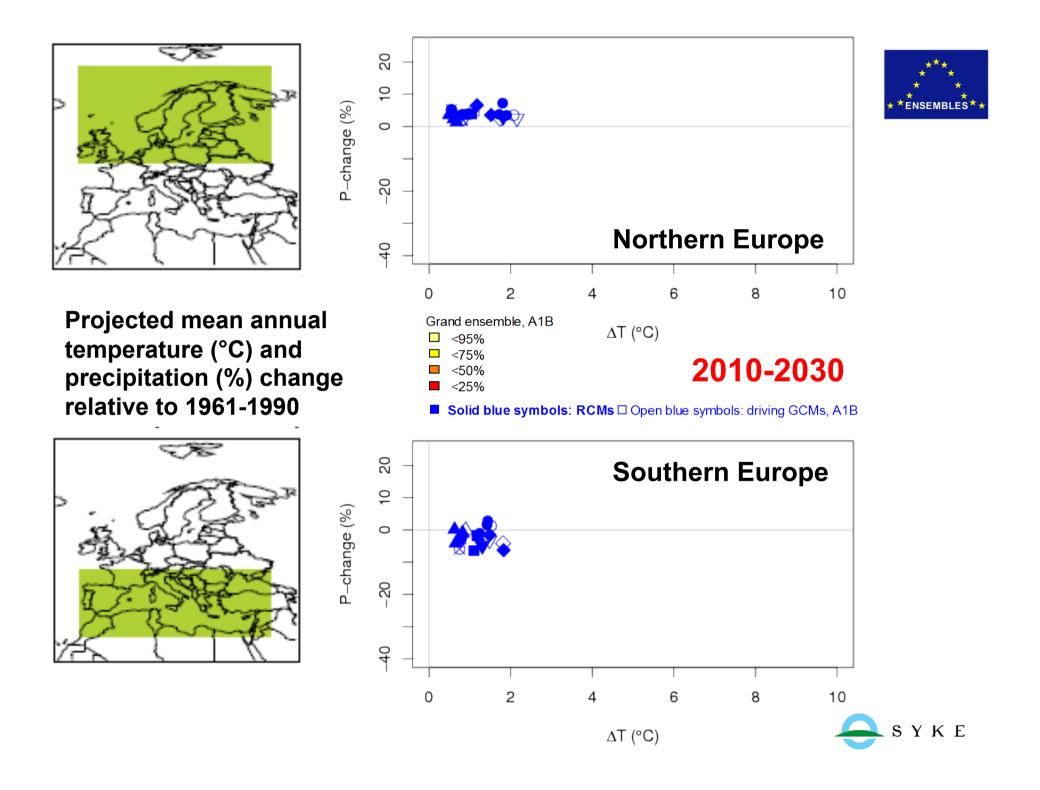
What new long-term climate information does ENSEMBLES offer impact analysts?

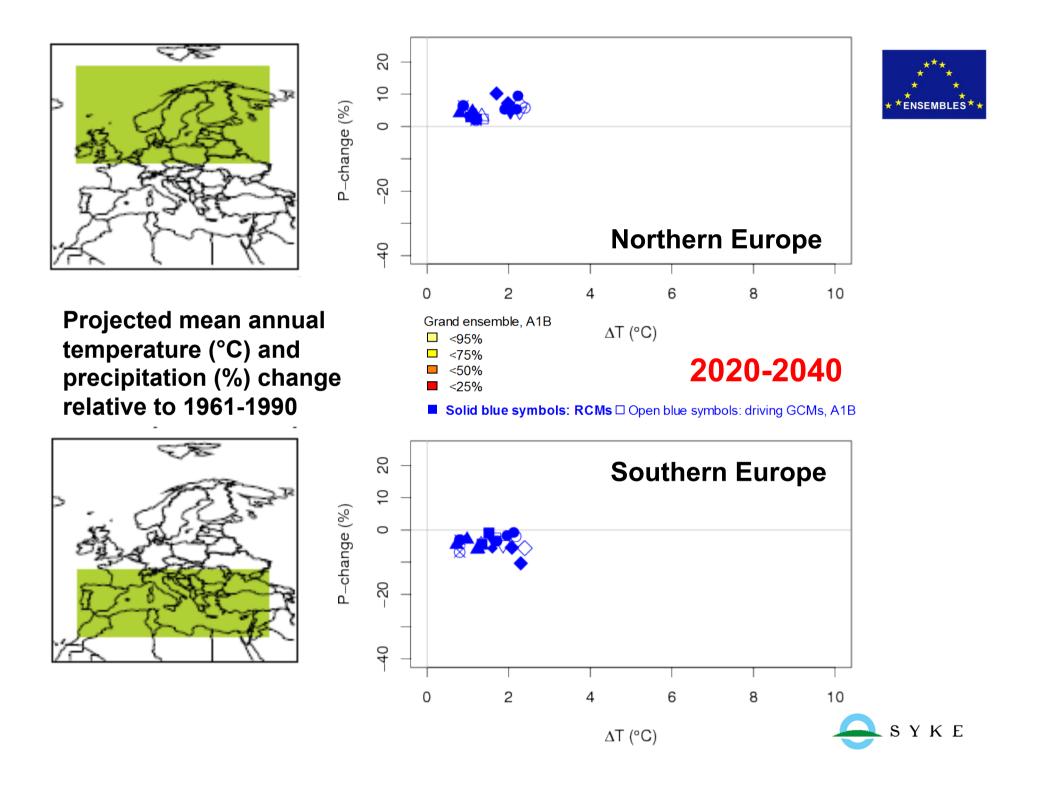
RCM and GCM projections (Giorgi regions)

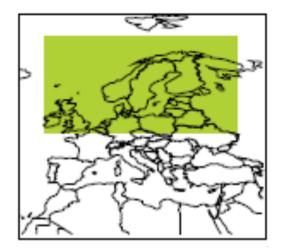
John Caesar (Met Office), Stefan Fronzek (SYKE), Ines Hoeschel (FUB), Philip Lorenz (MPI), Aurore Voldoire (CNRM)

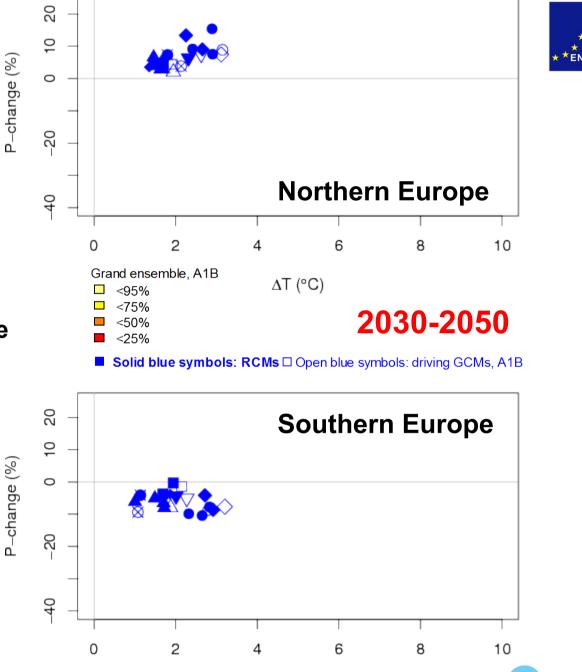






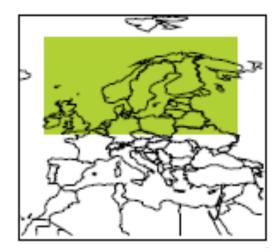


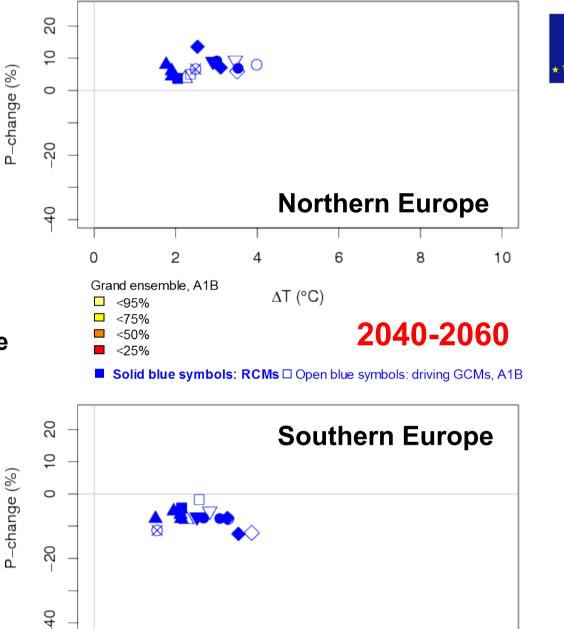




 $\Delta T (°C)$

SYKE





2

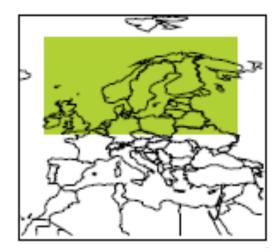
4

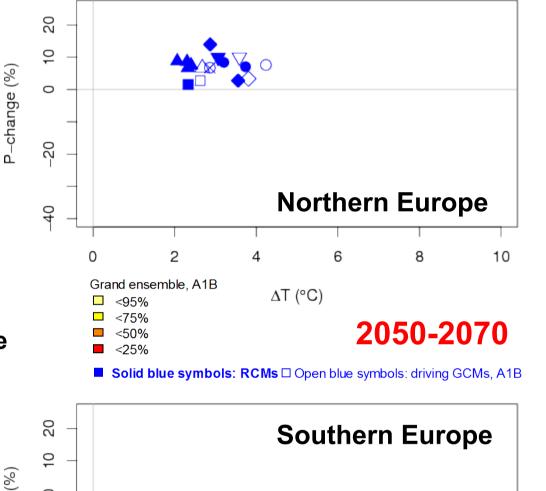
 $\Delta T (°C)$

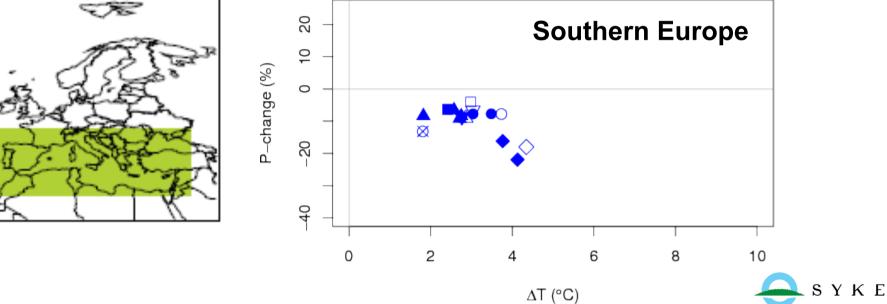
6

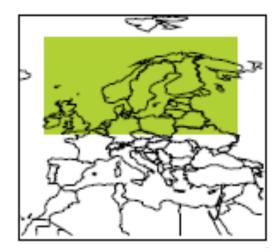
0

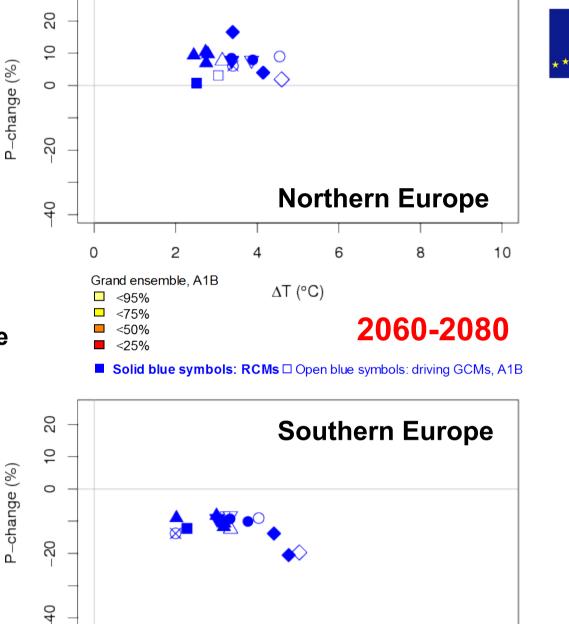












2

4

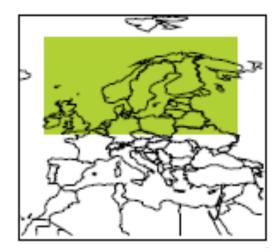
 $\Delta T (°C)$

0



10 _____ S Y К Е

8



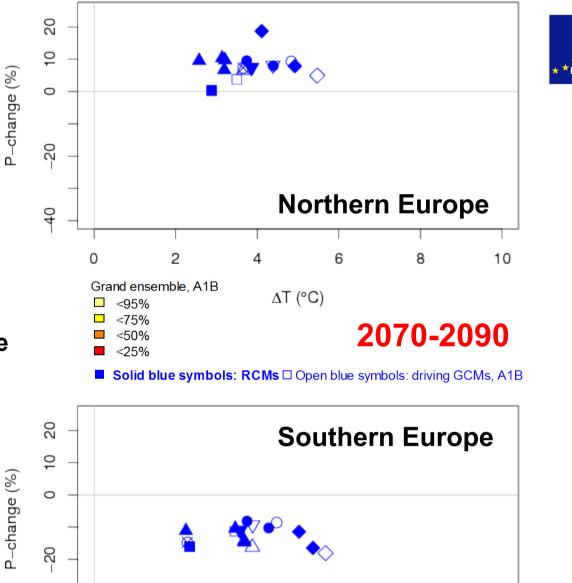
40

0

2

4

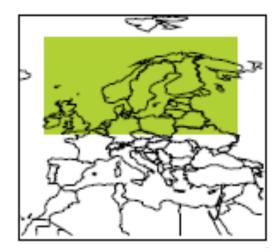
 $\Delta T (°C)$





8

6



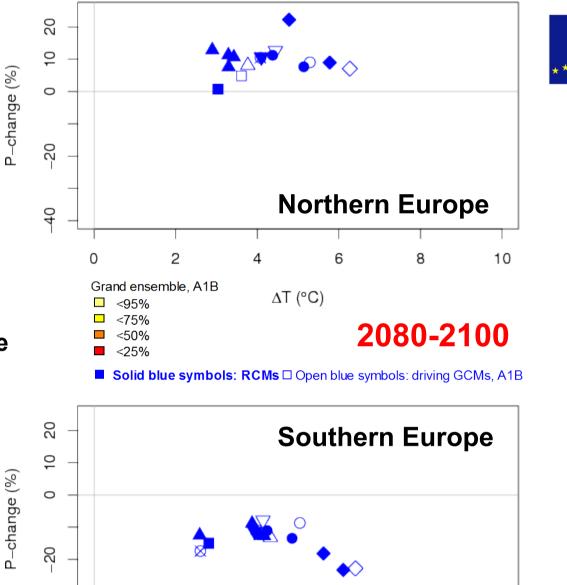
40

0

2

4

 $\Delta T (°C)$





8



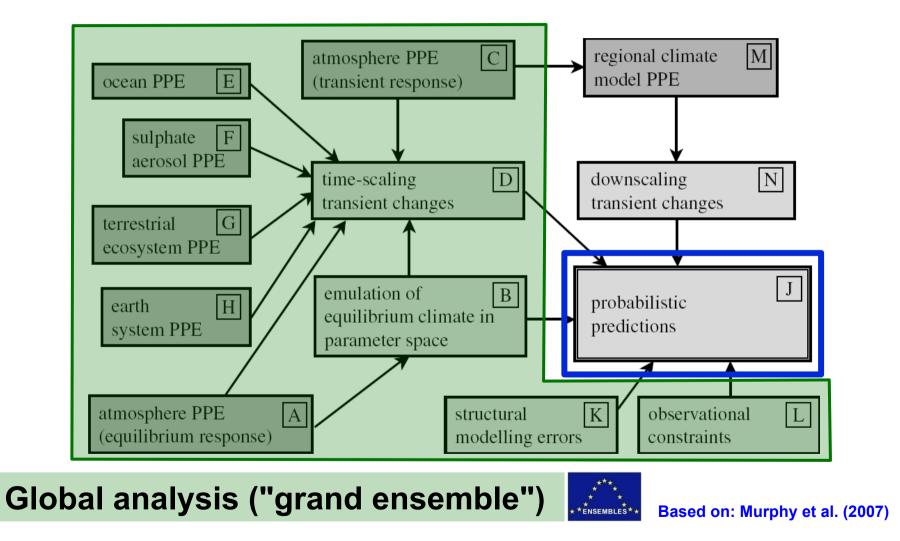
What new long-term climate information does ENSEMBLES offer impact analysts?

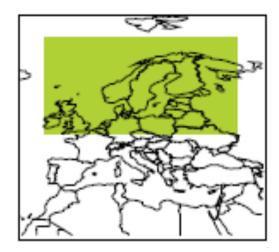
"Grand ensemble" PDFs (sampling multiple uncertainties)

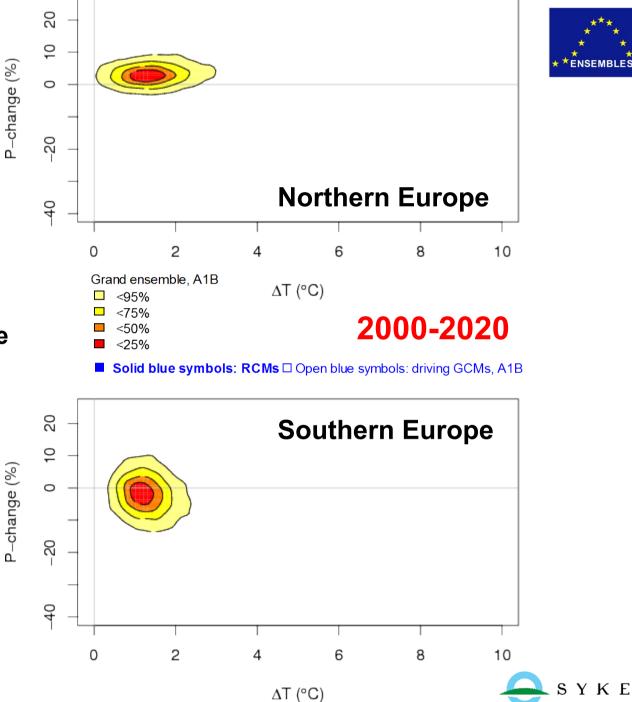
Glen Harris (Met Office), Stefan Fronzek (SYKE)

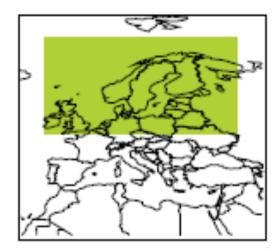


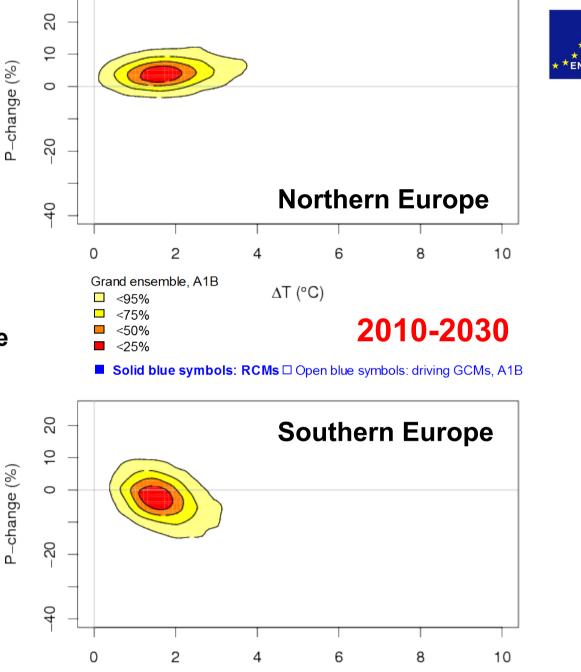
Decomposing the UKCP09 methodology used in creating probabilistic projections for Europe ("grand ensemble")





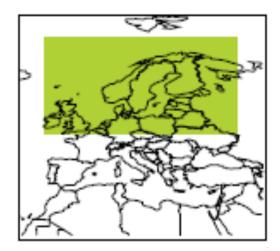




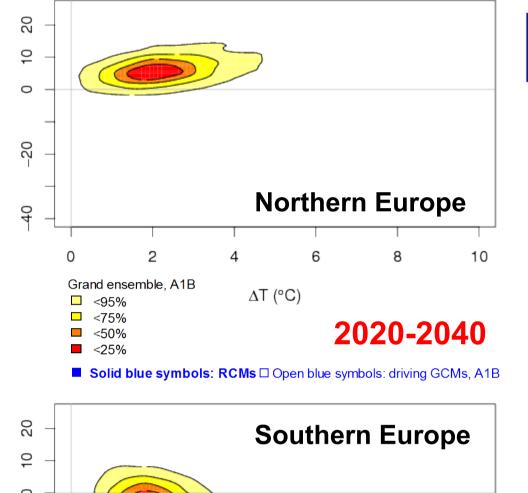


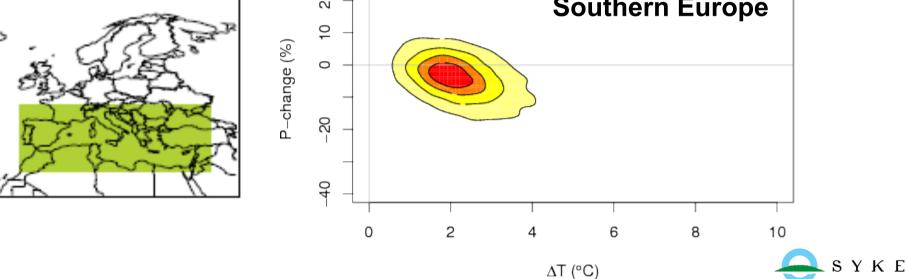
4 ΔT (°C)

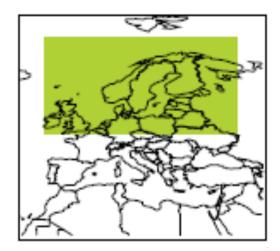


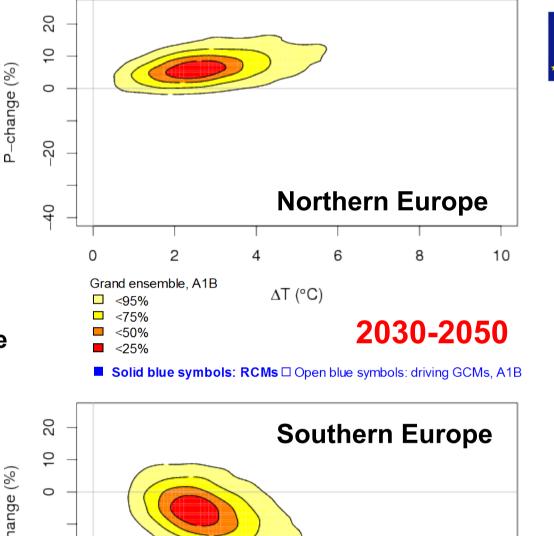


P-change (%)

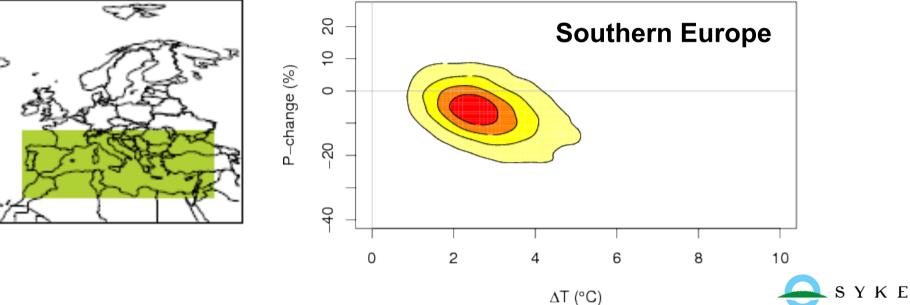


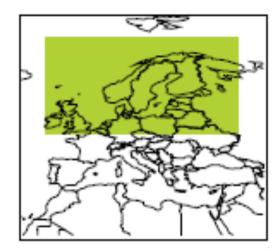


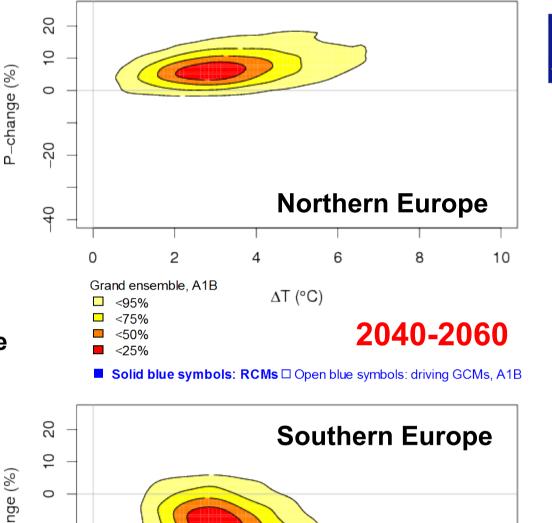


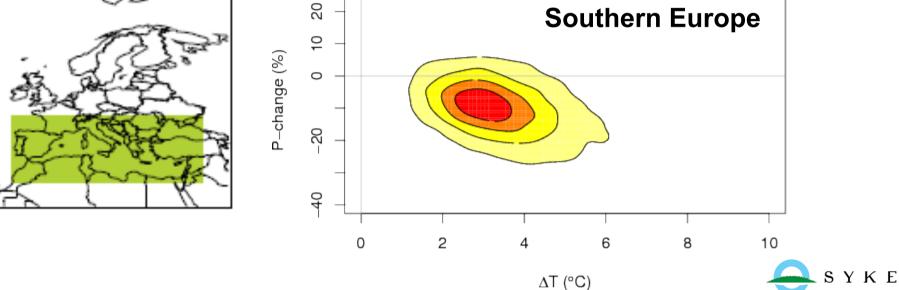


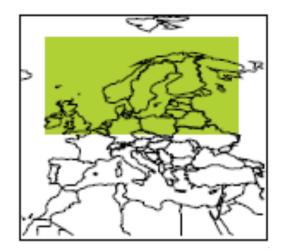


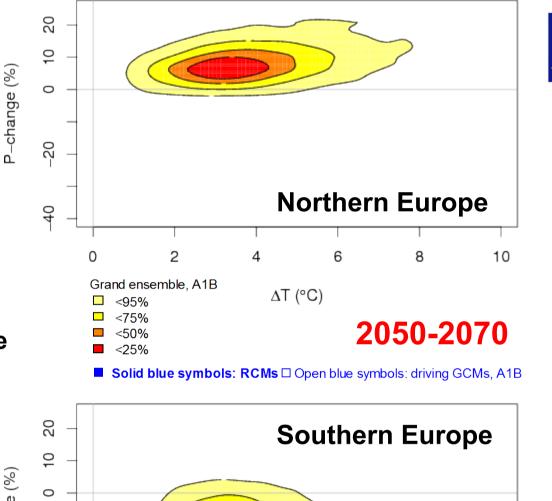


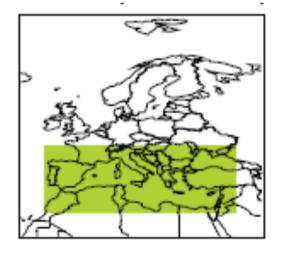


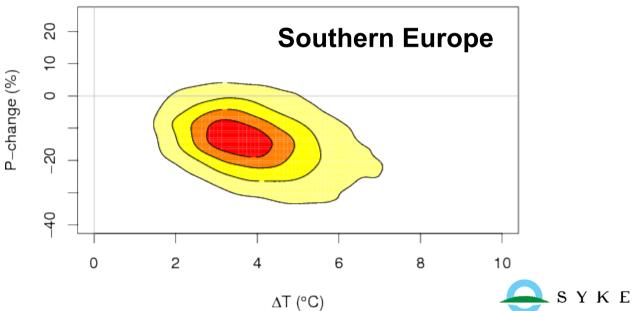


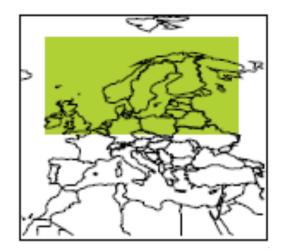




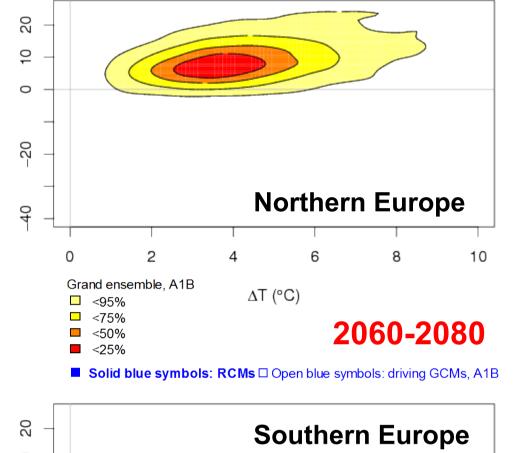


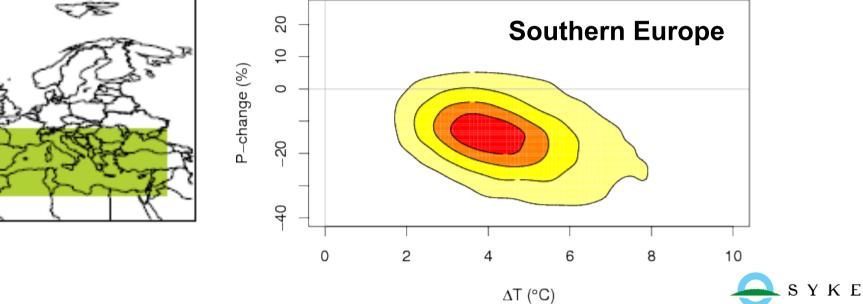


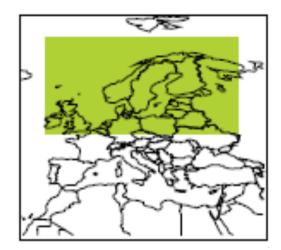


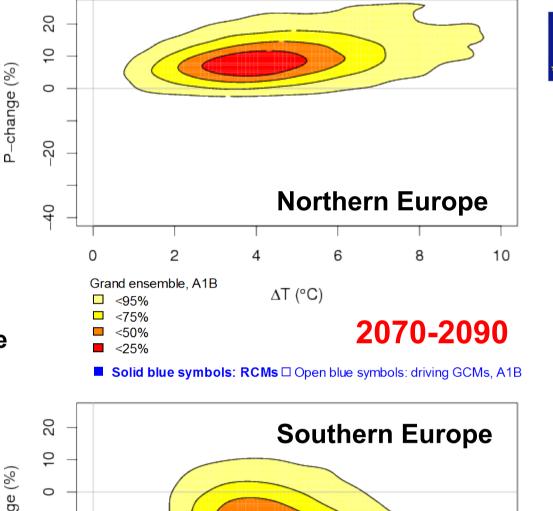


P-change (%)

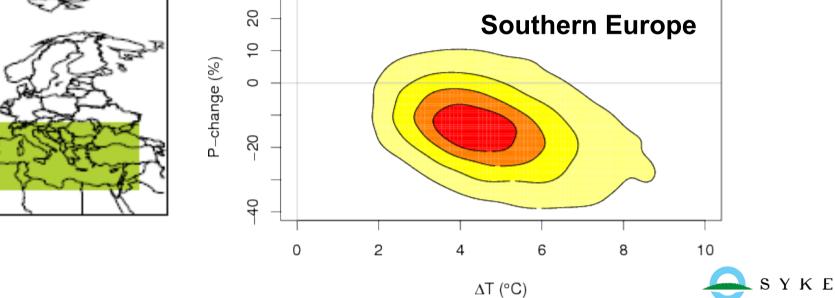


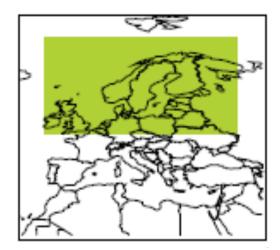


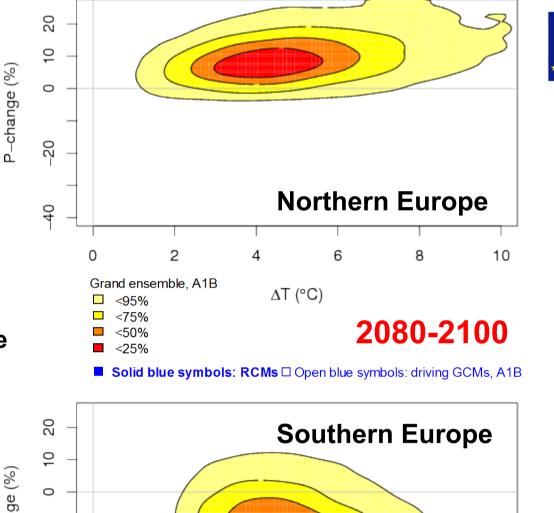


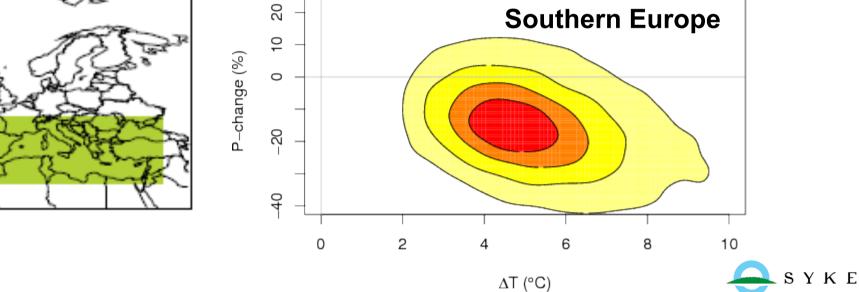


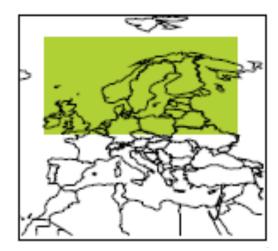
NSEMBLES

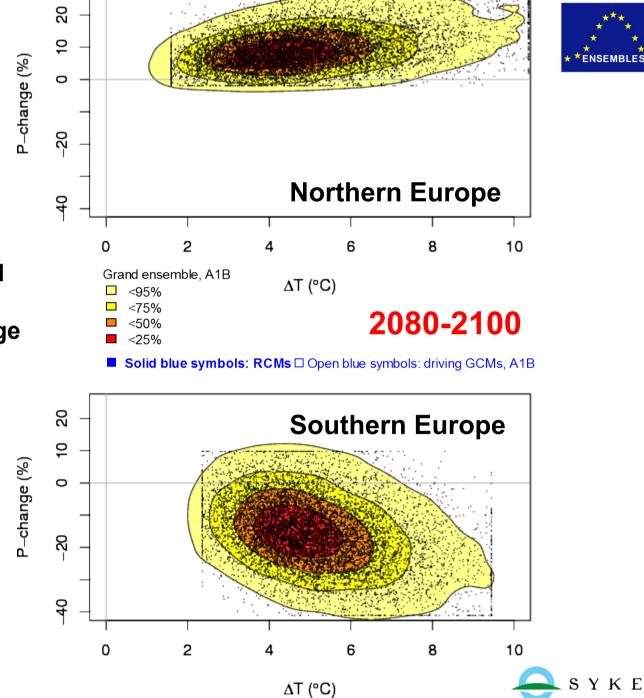










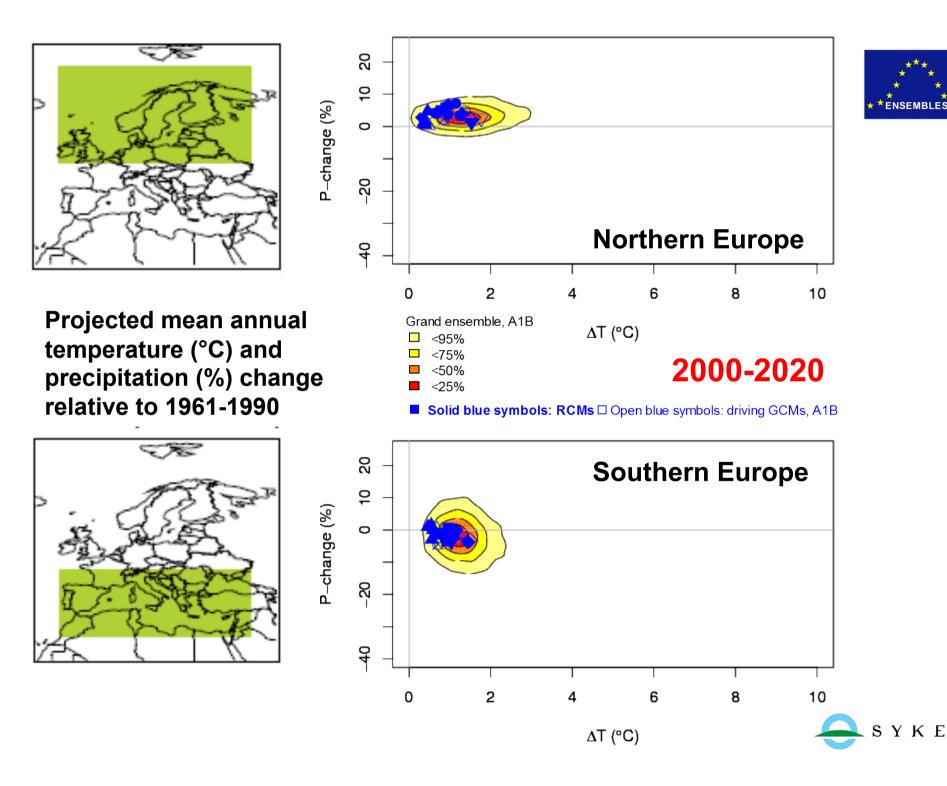


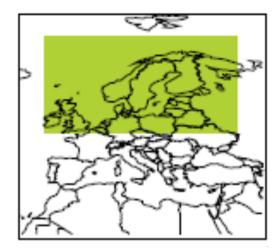


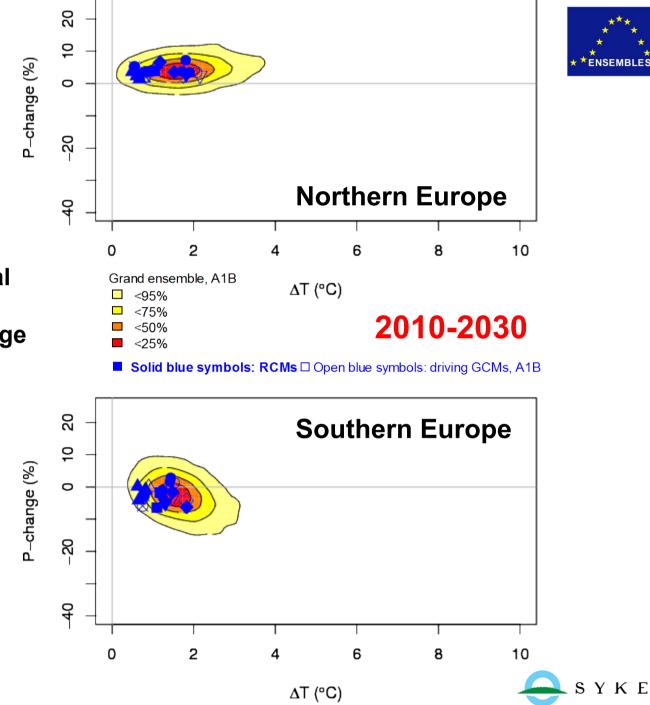
What new long-term climate information does ENSEMBLES offer impact analysts?

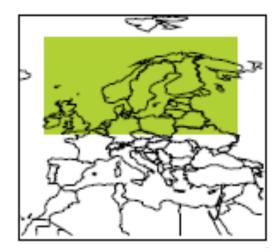
ENSEMBLES multiple projections intercomparison

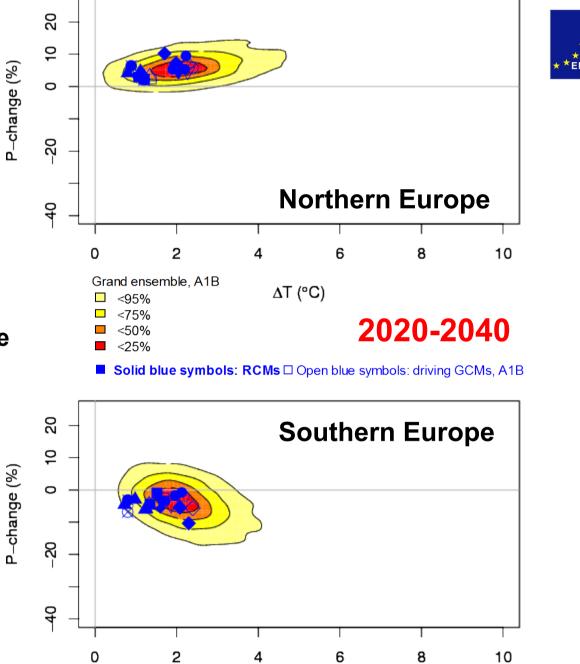






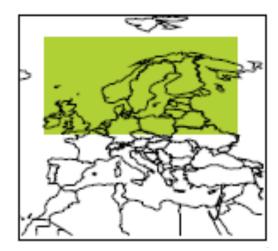


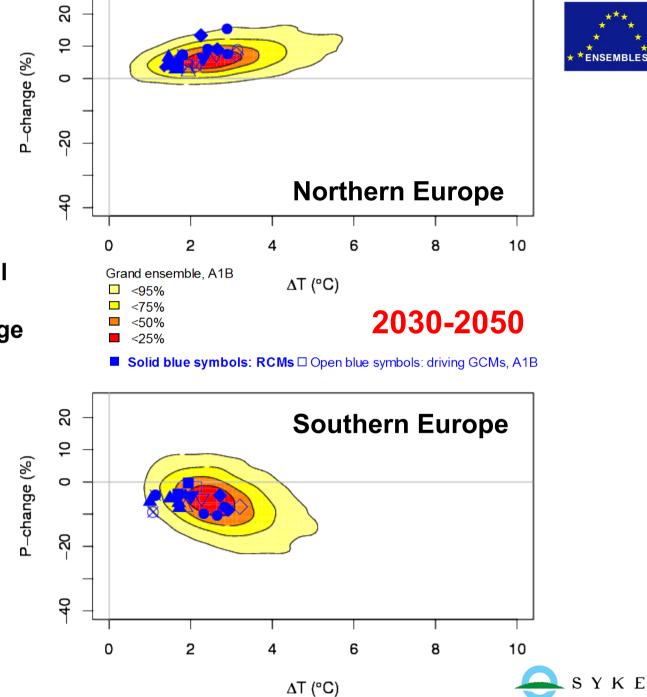


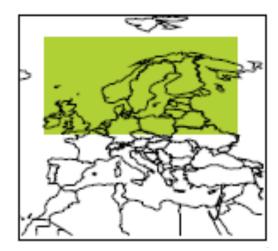


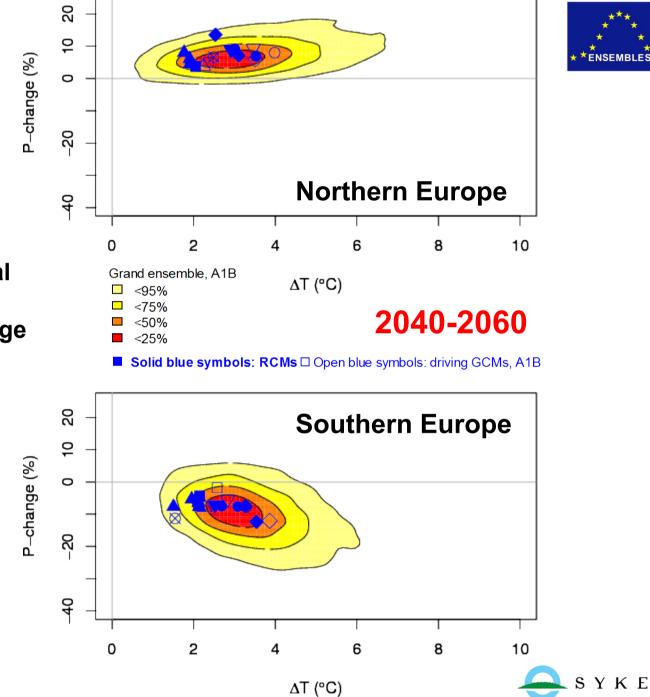
 $\Delta T (°C)$

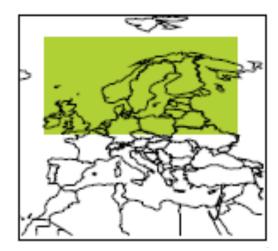
SYKE

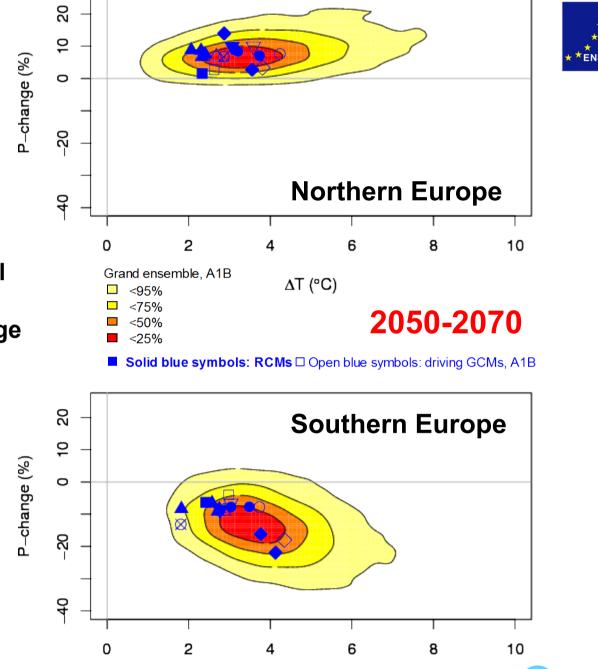






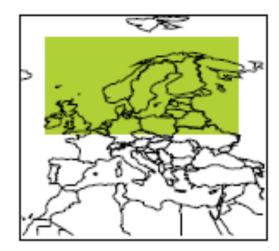












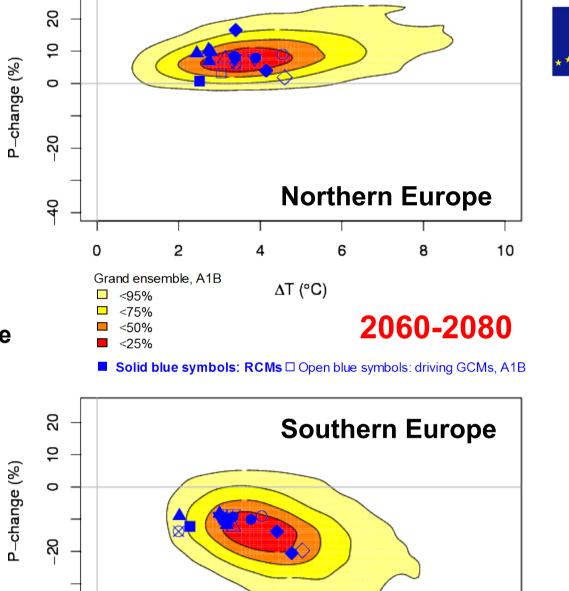
4

0

2

4

 $\Delta T (°C)$

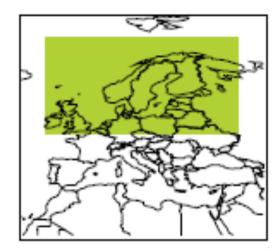


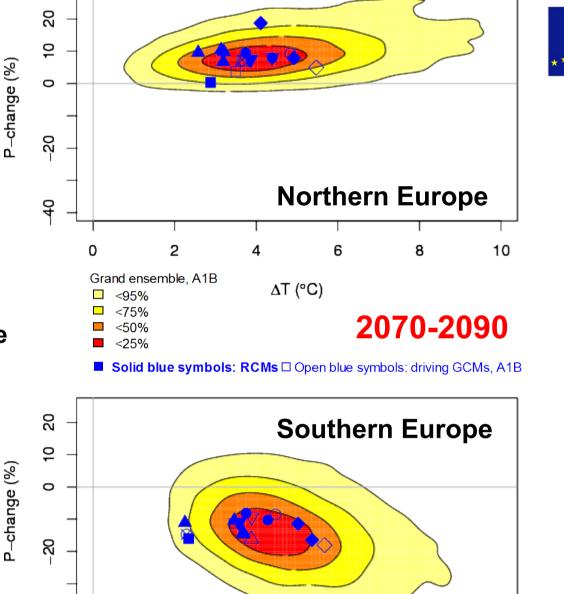
6

8

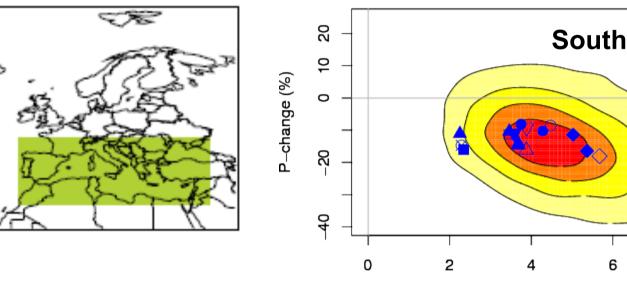
10







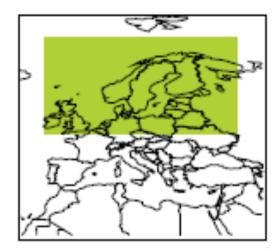


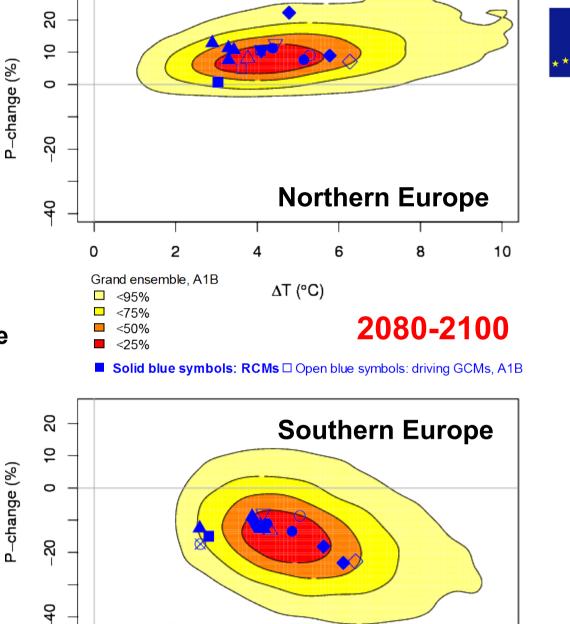


 $\Delta T (°C)$

8







8

6

4

 $\Delta T (°C)$

10

SYKE

0

2

INSEMBLES

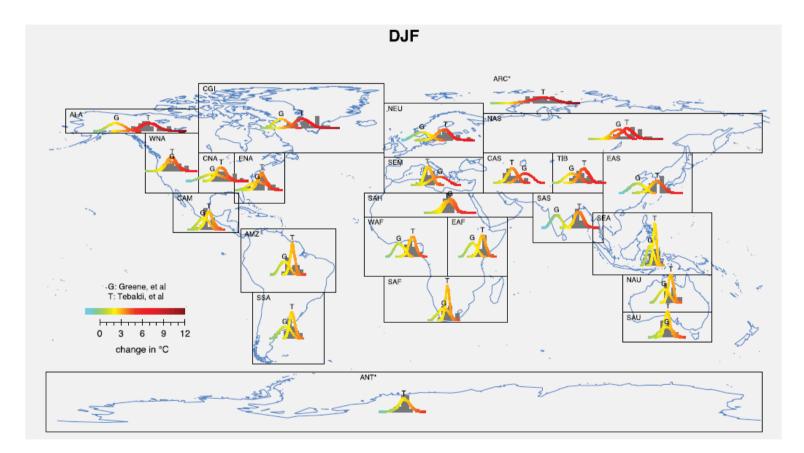




٩

IAEA

24 "Giorgi" regions as presented in Ch 11, WG I AR4



UK Met Office Hadley Centre: paper under revision on estimating "grand ensemble" uncertainties for Giorgi regions (Harris, pers. com.)



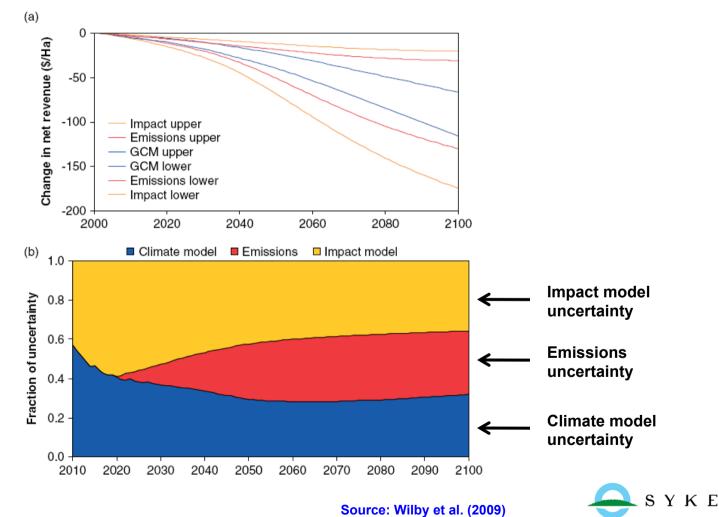




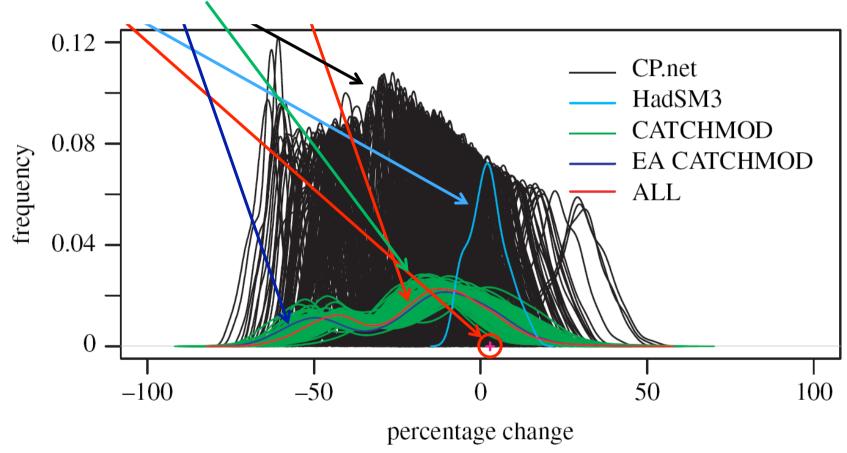
ÎÎÎÎÎÎ

Role of impact model uncertainty

Change in net farm revenues for Sri Lanka (\$/Ha) under a range of climate model projections and emissions scenarios



Changes in median flow simulated with a hydrological model (CATCHMOD) when model parameter uncertainties are combined with the climateprediction.net (CP.net) ensemble of climate model projections



Green curves: each CATCHMOD version; 449 climate projections

Source: New et al. (2007)

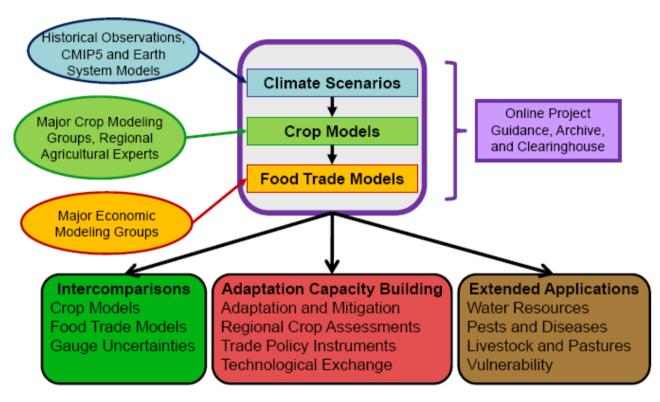




٩

IAEA

The Agricultural Modeling Intercomparison and Improvement Project (AgMIP)



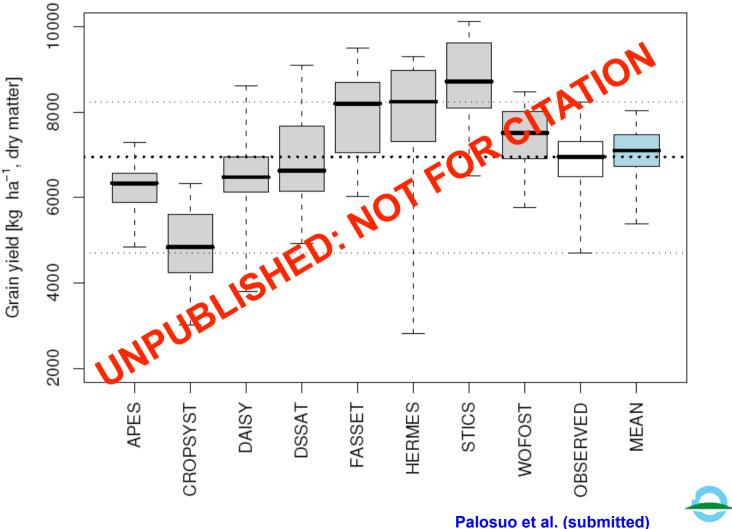
- Provides global context to regional climate change impacts on agricultural systems
- Assesses uncertainties and adaptation strategies







Winter wheat yields simulated (eight models) and observed at a site in the Czech republic, 1995-2006. Mean (blue) is the distribution of the mean predictions from the eight models in different years









International Centre for Theoretical Physics

ÎÎÎÎÎ

()

IAEA

Outline

- Priorities for IAV research
- **Demand for climate information**
- Added value of downscaling
- Framing uncertainties
- Conclusions







International Centre for Theoretical Physics

ÎÎÎÎÎ

()

IAEA

Outline

- Priorities for IAV research
- **Demand for climate information**
- Added value of downscaling
- Framing uncertainties
- Conclusions





()

IAEA

Research imperatives regarding applications of regional climate research (early 2000s)

Applications

- Improve availability and accessibility of regional climate information
- Improve realism of driving factors and representation of processes (e.g. biogeochemistry; lakes)
- Involve stakeholders in determining the required resolution of regional climate information
- Investigate other applications of regional climate information (e.g. storm surges; air quality)

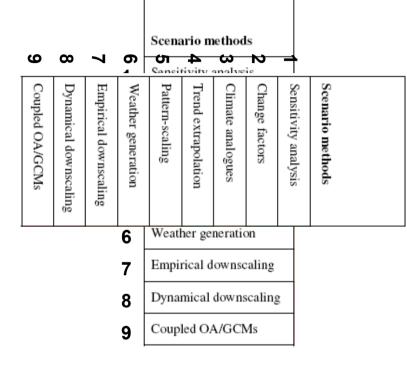
Overall

- Need for co-ordinated "end-to-end" prediction systems for impact assessment
- Seasonal prediction can inform added value of downscaling
- Funding agencies need to recognise importance of model development and evaluation in addition to prediction
- All downscaling techniques produce useful results continue parallel activities







The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics 





-



Appropriateness of different scenario methods for representing climate of the 2020s in light of the varying needs of IAV analysts

Increasing complexity /resource demand

									1	
Coupled OA/GCMs	Dynamical downscaling	Empirical downscaling	Weather generation	Pattern-scaling	Trend extrapolation	Climate analogues	Change factors	Sensitivity analysis	Scenario methods	
	ling	ng							Indicator	Preferred attributes for development and adaptation planning
Ca	Capacity								Capacity	Low personnel, technical and infrastructure requirements
	building								Resources	Low data, time and financial costs
			•						Spatial	High spatial resolution (site or region, not continental or global)
									Temporal	High temporal resolution (hourly or daily, not monthly or annual)
									Outputs	High realism and joint behaviour of weather variables
								Forcing	High ability to represent different external forcing (land cover, aerosols)	
								Uncertainty	High capability for providing probabilistic information	
									Pattern	High ability to produce surfaces or maps of climate change
									Transient	High ability to produce transient (rather than time-slice) scenarios
									Availability	High availability of tools, supporting data and guidance
CORDEX			K	J						Modified from Wilby et al. (2009)





()

IAEA

Making CORDEX results effective

- Information generated in consultation with stakeholders
- Projections available in accessible formats
- Tools offered for extracting data to suit applications
- Regionalisation of information delivery (e.g. through portals)
- Observational climate data available at equivalent resolution to projections (including reanalysis)
- Documentation of the data and projections including quality information (e.g. missing data, errors, etc.)
- Summary information, including graphs, maps, statistics but also clear narratives
- Contextual regional information for framing uncertainty (e.g. from global models)
- Guidance on the use and misuse of downscaled information, including examples







International Centre for Theoretical Physics

Î

()

IAEA

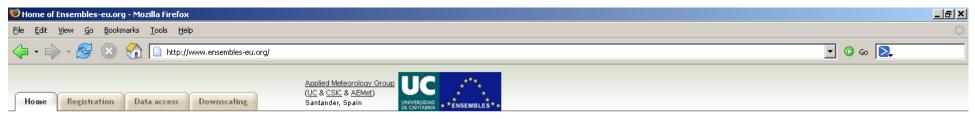
Examples of international climate data and scenario web portals



<u>File E</u> dit <u>Vi</u> ew Hi <u>s</u> tory <u>B</u> ookmarks <u>T</u> ools <u>H</u> elp													
🔇 💽 - C	X 🟠 http://www.ipcc-data.org/	🚖 👻 🔀 🗸 Google	٩										
Welcome to the IPCC Data Distributi													
	INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE												
IPCC		Google" Custom Search DDC	Go										
DDC Home Page	IPCC WG1 WG2 WG3 TGICA		Site Map Help Contact										
About the DDC Climate observations Climate models Socio-economic data Environmental data and Scenarios Supporting material Key Services Data Visualisation Order data on DVD	Welcome to the IPCC Data Distribution Cer Location: DDC Home Welcome to the Data Distribution Centre (DDC) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The DDC provides climate, socio-econ projected into the future. Technical guidelines on the selection and use of different types of data and scenarios in research and assessment a The DDC is designed primarily for climate change researchers, but materials contained on the site may also be of interest to educators, govern The DDC web site has the following areas (all accessible from the menu in the left hand column of most pages): 1. About the DDC: who we are and what we do, 2. Climate observations, as global mean time series and gridded fields, 3. Climate model projections and simulations: Monthly means and climatologies (decadal and 30-year means), 4. Socio-economic data, 5. Environmental data and Scenarios, 6. Guidelines and other supporting material.	nomic and environmental data, both from the past and also in scenarios are also provided.	Latest News TGICA members for the 5th Assessment Round appointed. (08/06/2010) User survey results available. (20/07/2009) Data in spreadsheet format now available: observed and projected climatologies. (15/04/2009)										
	The identification, selection, and application of baseline and scenario data are crucial steps in the assessments of the potential impacts of futu of different scenario elements can pose substantial challenges to researchers. The IPCC DDC seeks to provide access to such a collection of The DDC is overseen by the IPCC Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis (TGICA) and jointly managed by the rmany, and the Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN) at Columbia University, New York, USA. The data are provide is welcome and can be made by completing the feedback form.	data and scenarios and to offer guidance on their application. he British Atmospheric Data Centre (BADC) in the United Kingdom, the											







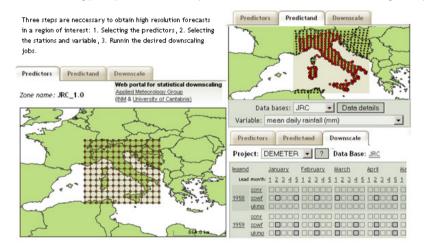
4th ENSEMBLES GA presentation (13/11/2007) 💏

Web portals for Climate Data Access and Statistical Downscaling

One of the ENSEMBLES project's aims is maximizing the exploitation of the results by linking the outputs of the ensemble prediction system to a range of applications, including agriculture, health, food security, energy, water resources, and insurance, which use high resolution climate inputs to feed their models. The **data access portal** allows end-users to interpolate seasonal and climate model simulations to local points of interest, obtaining the requested data in simple formats (e.g., text files). Moreover, the **statistical downscaling portal** allows to callibrate/adapt the coarse model outputs in the region of interest using historical observed records.

The Data Acess portal provides access to observations, reanalysis and seasonal and climate simulations (see the common <u>list of variables</u> available for all models in the portal).

This Statistical Downscaling portal provides user-friendly web access to different statistical downscaling techniques.



References:

🔁 San-Martín, D., Cofiño, A.S., Herrera, S., and Gutiérrez, J.M. (2008) The ENSEMBLES Statistical Downscaling Portal. An End-to-End Tool for Regional Impact Studies. Submitted to *Environmental Modelling and Software*.

🔁 Cofiño, A.S., San-Martín, and Gutiérrez, J.M. (2007) A web portal for regional projection of weather forecast using GRID middleware. Lecture Notes in Computer Science, 4489, 82-89.

<u>File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help</u>

http://www.ensembles-eu.org/

 $-\frac{1}{2} e^{-\frac{1}{2}}$

Research Theme (RT) webpages: RT1 | RT2A | RT2B | RT3 | RT4 | RT5 | RT6 | RT7 | RT8

RT3 Home

Π_

- C ×

Project Home | RT3 Home | Meetings | Documents | Members' Site | Participants | Links to other projects |



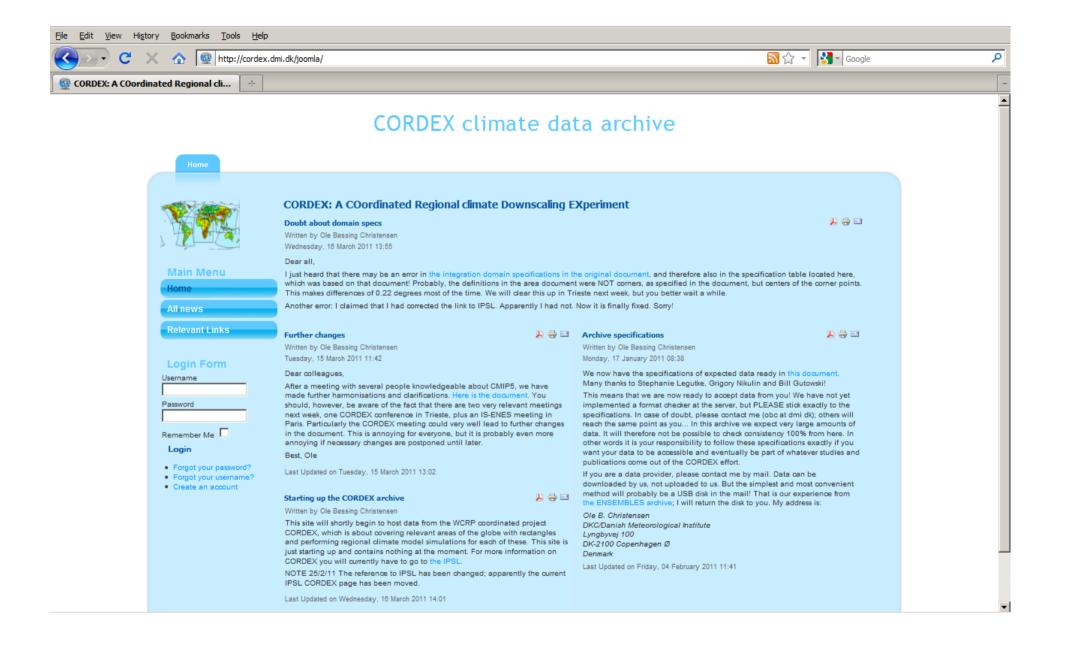
previous page

Public part RT2B: Transient experiments 1951-2050 or 1951-2100 driven by global experiments according to this plan RCM data portal Institute/ DODS/OpenDAP Direct Scenario Driving GCM Model Resolution Acronym Contact download access C4I RT3 participant list A2 ECHAM5 RCA3 25km C4IRCA3 Online Online Older news Ray McGrath List of output variables A1B ARPEGE 25km CNRM-RM4.5 Aladin Online Online CNRM ARPEGE_RM5.1 New ens.mb. to The GCM/RCM combination matrix A1B 25km CNRM-RM5.1 Michel Déqué Aladin Online <u>Online</u> 2100 The AMMA-region matrix A1B ECHAM5-r3 RACMO 25km KNMI-RACMO2 Online <u>Online</u> Fields in the ERA40 archive ECHAM5-r1 RACMO 50km KNMI-RACMO2 A1B Online Online KNMI The integration area common to most ECHAM5-r2 A1B RACMO 50km KNMI-RACMO2 Online <u>Online</u> simulations Erik van Meijgaard A1B ECHAM5-r3 RACMO 50km Plots from the guick-look analysis KNMI-RACMO2 Online Online A1B MIROC The PRUDENCE project (our predecessor) RACMO 50km KNMI-RACMO2 Online Online 0 OURANOS The CORDEX project (our successor) A1B CGCM3 CRCM 25km OURANOSMRCC4.2.1 Online <u>Online</u> Dominique Paquin Members' part ECHAM5-r3 RCA SMHIRCA A1B 50km Online Online BCM RCA SMHIRCA SMHI A1B 25km Online Online Ensembles RT3 mailing list A1B ECHAM5-r3 RCA 25km SMHIRCA Online <u>Online</u> Plots from C4I's validation against HOAPS Erik Kjellström A1B HadCM3Q3 RCA 25km **SMHIRCA** Online Online MPI A1B ECHAM5-r3 REMO 25km MPI-M-REMO Online Online Daniela Jacob METNO A1B BCM HIRHAM 25km METNOHIRHAM Online Online A1B HadCM3Q0 HIRHAM 25km **Online** Jan Erik Haugen METNOHIRHAM Online C4I A1B HadCM3Q16 RCA3 25km C4IRCA3 Online <u>Online</u> Ray McGrath UCLM A1B HadCM3Q0 PROMES 25km UCLM-PROMES Online Online



🚖 👻 🚼 - Google

ρ









(�)

IAFA

Take home messages

Use of downscaled projections in IAV assessment

Don't:

- Use single projections to inform decisions
- Overlook impact uncertainties
- Expect multiple projections to represent all uncertainties
- Assume that finer resolution = more accurate projections

Do:

- Consult stakeholders to prioritise projection needs
- Explore impacts of extreme weather
- Examine impacts of climate variability at different scales
- Compare impacts with those for bounding GCM(s)
- Where possible, apply a range of downscaling methods







International Centre for Theoretical Physics

(�)

IAEA

Notice

Colleagues are welcome to incorporate these slides into their own presentations, assuming they are correctly acknowledged. However, the author would also appreciate being informed prior to the extensive use of this material in public meetings.

