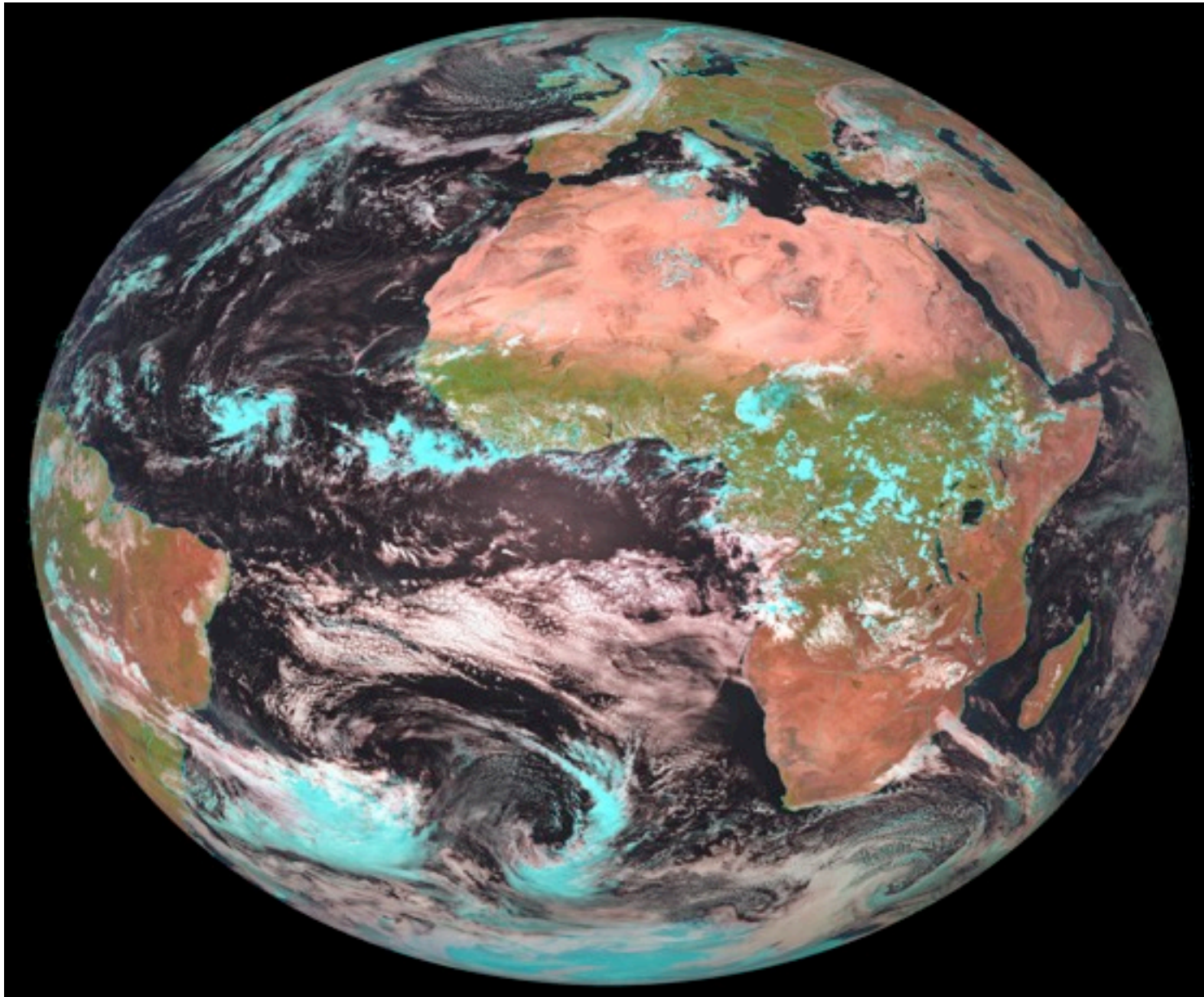


# Co-Ordinated Regional Downscaling Experiment

## C O R D E X



Thanks to:



Chris  
Lennard

# General aims of CORDEX

# General aims of CORDEX

Provide a set of regional climate scenarios covering the period 1950-2100, for the majority of the populated land-regions of the globe.

# General aims of CORDEX

Provide a set of regional climate scenarios covering the period 1950-2100, for the majority of the populated land-regions of the globe.

Downscaled Scenarios will derive boundary conditions from the new CMIP5 GCM scenario and decadal prediction runs (*and reanalysis*).



# General aims of CORDEX

Provide a set of regional climate scenarios covering the period 1950-2100, for the majority of the populated land-regions of the globe.

Downscaled Scenarios will derive boundary conditions from the new CMIP5 GCM scenario and decadal prediction runs (*and reanalysis*).

Make these data sets readily available and useable to the impact and adaptation communities.

# General aims of CORDEX

Provide a set of regional climate scenarios covering the period 1950-2100, for the majority of the populated land-regions of the globe.

Downscaled Scenarios will derive boundary conditions from the new CMIP5 GCM scenario and decadal prediction runs (*and reanalysis*).

Make these data sets readily available and useable to the impact and adaptation communities.

Provide a generalized framework for testing and applying regional climate models and downscaling techniques for both the recent past and future scenarios.

# General aims of CORDEX

Provide a set of regional climate scenarios covering the period 1950-2100, for the majority of the populated land-regions of the globe.

Downscaled Scenarios will derive boundary conditions from the new CMIP5 GCM scenario and decadal prediction runs (*and reanalysis*).

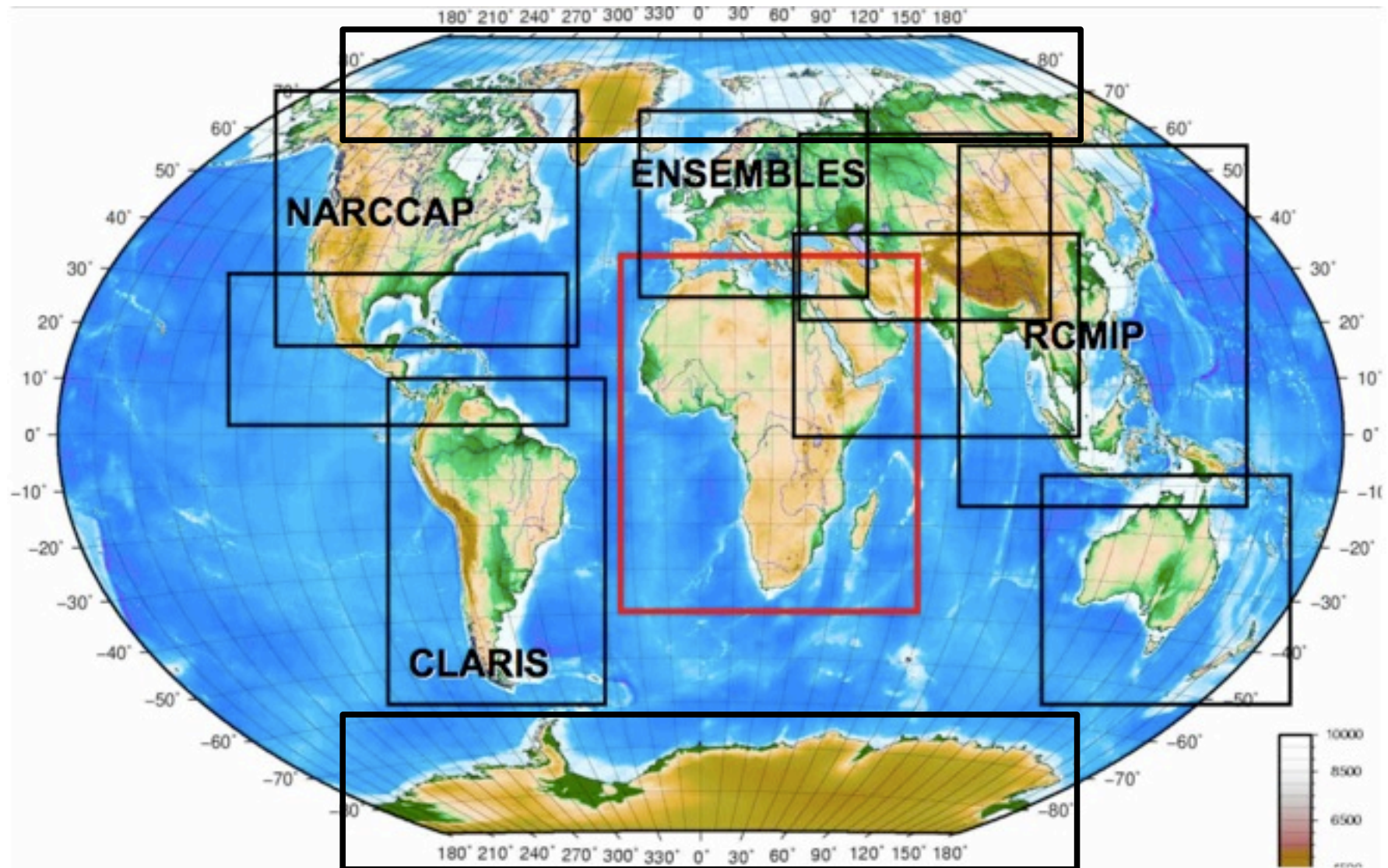
Make these data sets readily available and useable to the impact and adaptation communities.

Provide a generalized framework for testing and applying regional climate models and downscaling techniques for both the recent past and future scenarios.

Foster coordination between regional downscaling efforts around the world and encourage participation in the downscaling process of local scientists/organizations.



# Cordex regions





# CORDEX Phase I experiment design

Model Evaluation  
Framework

Multiple regions (Initial focus on Africa)  
50 km grid spacing

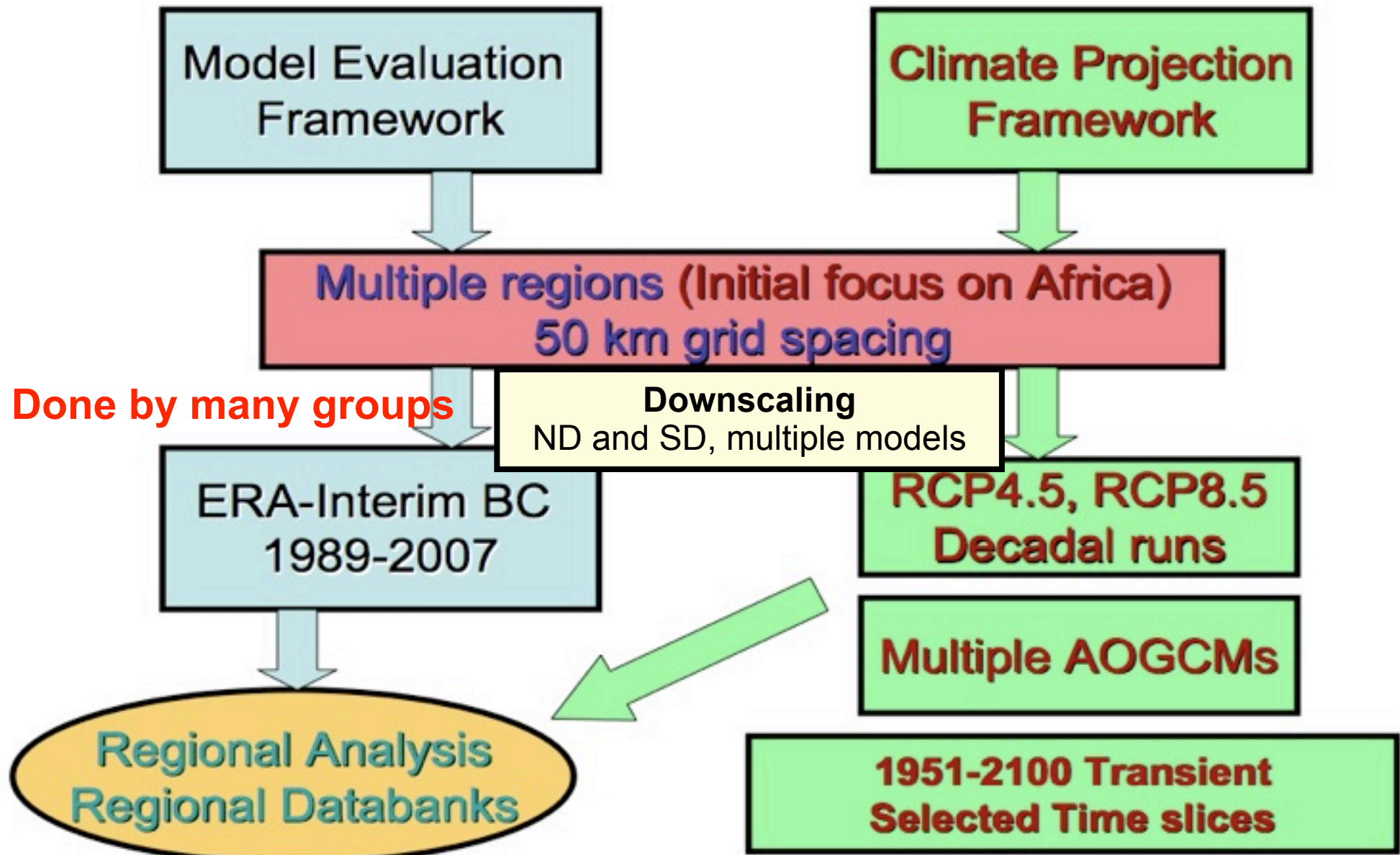
Done by many groups

Downscaling  
ND and SD, multiple models

ERA-Interim BC  
1989-2007

Regional Analysis  
Regional Databanks

# CORDEX Phase I experiment design



# Cordex Data Archive

# Cordex Data Archive

Data produced by downscaling centers is divided into 3 tiers:



# Cordex Data Archive

Data produced by downscaling centers is divided into 3 tiers:

- **Core Tier**

# Cordex Data Archive

Data produced by downscaling centers is divided into 3 tiers:

- **Core Tier**

relevant to all communities such as monthly and seasonal means

# Cordex Data Archive

Data produced by downscaling centers is divided into 3 tiers:

- **Core Tier**

relevant to all communities such as monthly and seasonal means

- **Tier One**

# Cordex Data Archive

Data produced by downscaling centers is divided into 3 tiers:

- Core Tier**

relevant to all communities such as monthly and seasonal means

- Tier One**

relevant to most communities such as daily surface/selected upper air data



# Cordex Data Archive

Data produced by downscaling centers is divided into 3 tiers:

- Core Tier**

relevant to all communities such as monthly and seasonal means

- Tier One**

relevant to most communities such as daily surface/selected upper air data

- Tier Two**

# Cordex Data Archive

Data produced by downscaling centers is divided into 3 tiers:

- Core Tier**

relevant to all communities such as monthly and seasonal means

- Tier One**

relevant to most communities such as daily surface/selected upper air data

- Tier Two**

higher frequency and more complete atmospheric/surface variables, relevant largely to research institutes

# Cordex Data Archive

Data produced by downscaling centers is divided into 3 tiers:

- Core Tier**

relevant to all communities such as monthly and seasonal means

- Tier One**

relevant to most communities such as daily surface/selected upper air data

- Tier Two**

higher frequency and more complete atmospheric/surface variables, relevant largely to research institutes

Core and Tier One data hosted at the DMI as an ESG node

# Cordex Data Archive

Data produced by downscaling centers is divided into 3 tiers:

- **Core Tier**

relevant to all communities such as monthly and seasonal means

- **Tier One**

relevant to most communities such as daily surface/selected upper air data

- **Tier Two**

higher frequency and more complete atmospheric/surface variables, relevant largely to research institutes

Core and Tier One data hosted at the DMI as an ESG node

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



# Cordex Data Archive

Data produced by downscaling centers is divided into 3 tiers:

- Core Tier**

relevant to all communities such as monthly and seasonal means

- Tier One**

relevant to most communities such as daily surface/selected upper air data

- Tier Two**

higher frequency and more complete atmospheric/surface variables, relevant largely to research institutes

Core and Tier One data hosted at the DMI as an ESG node

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

Tier Two data hosted at the downscaling centers and will be provided on a more informal basis

# Cordex Data Archive

The data follows strict formatting criteria before it is accepted:

# Cordex Data Archive

The data follows strict formatting criteria before it is accepted:

## 2. Time coordinate

All files

would be

and ann

factions

All vari

use the

have a t

(cell\_m

that are

cell\_me

corresp

Please t

...

## 4. File naming conventions

File names should follow

*VariableName\_Domain*

*Member\_RCMMModelName*

All units of the file name

See an example filename

NetCDF files should be

classic data model (which

calls as for ease of handling

compressed afterwards,

can be converted to Net

nccopy -k 4 -d 1

*VariableName* is the CF

appear on that list, please

*Domain* is a standard name

table and includes a flag

**Table 1** These areas are defined

North Pole in the indicated

through the regular North

## 5. NetCDF with CF conventions

The CF1.4 convention is followed

<http://cf-pcmdi.llnl.gov/documents/cf-conventions/latest-cf-conventions-document>

It is the aim to follow PCMDI and CMIP5 as much as possible, including metadata with

the starting point being the NARCCAP output formatting requirements (including

metadata)

[http://rcmlab.agron.iastate.edu/narccap/output\\_requirements.html](http://rcmlab.agron.iastate.edu/narccap/output_requirements.html)

as well as the ENSEMBLES requirements as described at

<http://ensemblesrt3.dmi.dk>.

All field values should be of type “float”, i.e., 4 bytes. Coordinates (time and space) are

of type “double” (8 bytes) according to CMIP5 specifications. In files with some missing

values, e.g., interpolated files, the out-of-range value is 1e20f and is specified

(redundantly) with the variable attributes *\_FillValue* and *missing\_value*.

# Cordex – Africa Analysis



# Cordex - Africa





# Cordex - Africa

## *Downscaling Groups*

- SMHI
- ICTP
- UKMO
- DMI
- Univ. Cantabria (Spain)
- EU Joint Research Centre
- ISU
- IPSL
- KNMI
- CNRM
- MPI
- UQAM
- CSAG** – Univ. Cape Town
  - Precis model
  - WRF model (3 yrs to go)
  - Statistical downscaling  
(end 2012)
- CSIR** – Pretoria
  - CCAM global model





# Cordex – Africa Analysis

# Cordex – Africa Analysis

Ethos:

# Cordex – Africa Analysis

Ethos:

**A – Analysis; Developing methods and tools to analyze atmospheric processes over Africa and how these may change into the future**

# Cordex – Africa Analysis

Ethos:

**A – Analysis; Developing methods and tools to analyze atmospheric processes over Africa and how these may change into the future**

**F – Foci; Addressing key meteorological and impacts knowledge gaps**

# Cordex – Africa Analysis

Ethos:

**A – Analysis; Developing methods and tools to analyze atmospheric processes over Africa and how these may change into the future**

**F – Foci; Addressing key meteorological and impacts knowledge gaps**

**R – Regional messages; Presenting information for key regions of the continent**



# Cordex – Africa Analysis

Ethos:

**A – Analysis; Developing methods and tools to analyze atmospheric processes over Africa and how these may change into the future**

**F – Foci; Addressing key meteorological and impacts knowledge gaps**

**R – Regional messages; Presenting information for key regions of the continent**

**I – Integrated approach; Bringing together climate and vulnerability-impact-adaptation scientists to identify and address key climate vulnerabilities**

# Cordex – Africa Analysis

Ethos:

**A – Analysis; Developing methods and tools to analyze atmospheric processes over Africa and how these may change into the future**

**F – Foci; Addressing key meteorological and impacts knowledge gaps**

**R – Regional messages; Presenting information for key regions of the continent**

**I – Integrated approach; Bringing together climate and vulnerability-impact-adaptation scientists to identify and address key climate vulnerabilities**

**C – Capacity development; Long-term collaboration between African scientists and key global institutions for career development**

# Cordex – Africa Analysis

Ethos:

**A – Analysis; Developing methods and tools to analyze atmospheric processes over Africa and how these may change into the future**

**F – Foci; Addressing key meteorological and impacts knowledge gaps**

**R – Regional messages; Presenting information for key regions of the continent**

**I – Integrated approach; Bringing together climate and vulnerability-impact-adaptation scientists to identify and address key climate vulnerabilities**

**C – Capacity development; Long-term collaboration between African scientists and key global institutions for career development**

**A – Application and Adaptation; Bridging the science-society divide through transforming climate data into actionable information**

# Cordex - Africa

Putting the 'CO' in CORDEX - Series of 4(5) Workshops

# Cordex - Africa

Putting the 'CO' in CORDEX - Series of 4(5) Workshops

April 2010

March 2011

July 2011

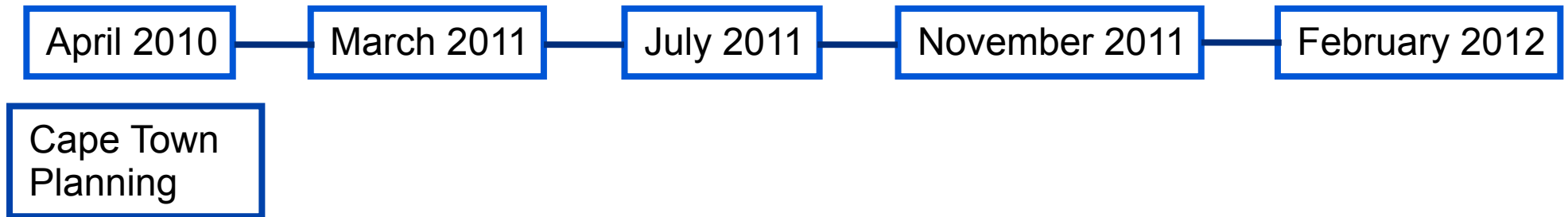
November 2011

February 2012



# Cordex - Africa

Putting the 'CO' in CORDEX - Series of 4(5) Workshops



# Cordex - Africa

## Putting the 'CO' in CORDEX - Series of 4(5) Workshops



Cape Town  
Planning

- Discussed ERA-Interim runs
- Developed metrics
- Set regions
- Discussed observation data
- Discussed goals for first workshop
- Discussed data dissemination

# Cordex - Africa

## Putting the 'CO' in CORDEX - Series of 4(5) Workshops



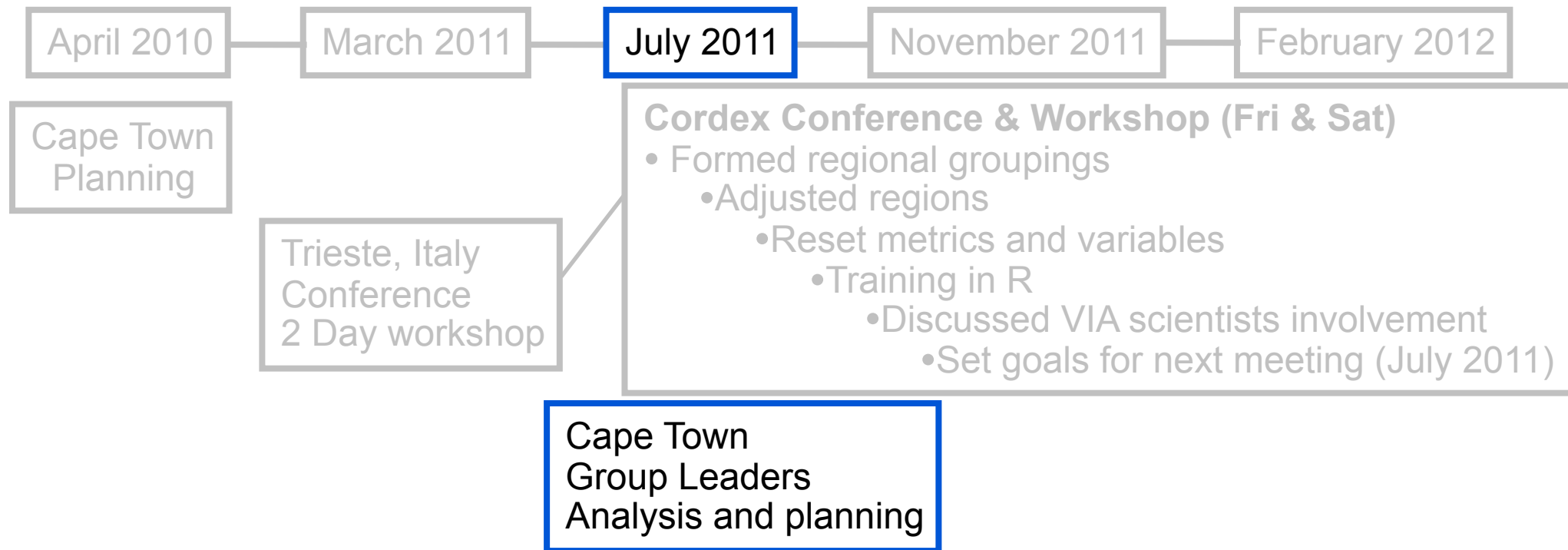
# Cordex - Africa

## Putting the 'CO' in CORDEX - Series of 4(5) Workshops



# Cordex - Africa

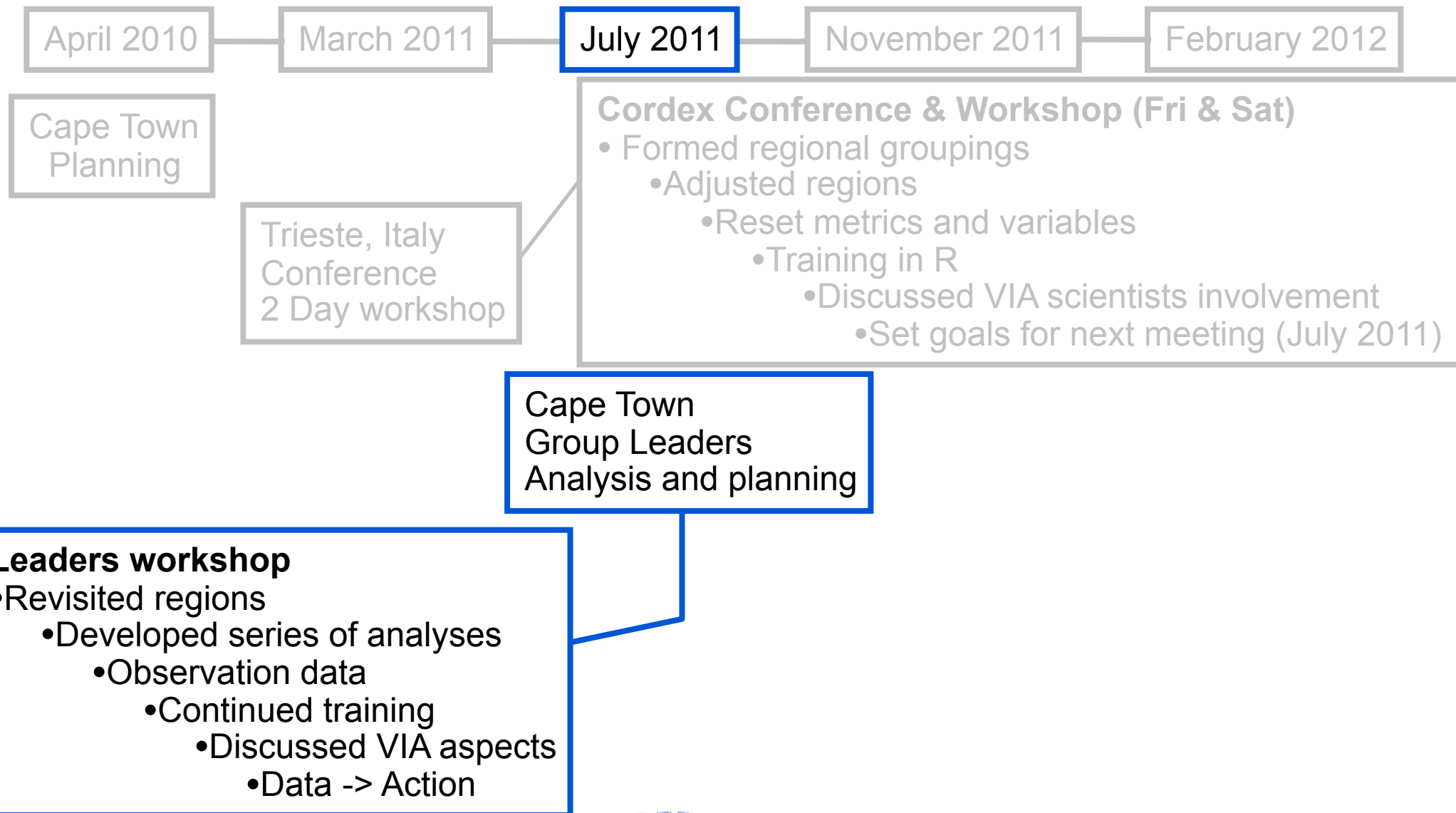
## Putting the 'CO' in CORDEX - Series of 4(5) Workshops





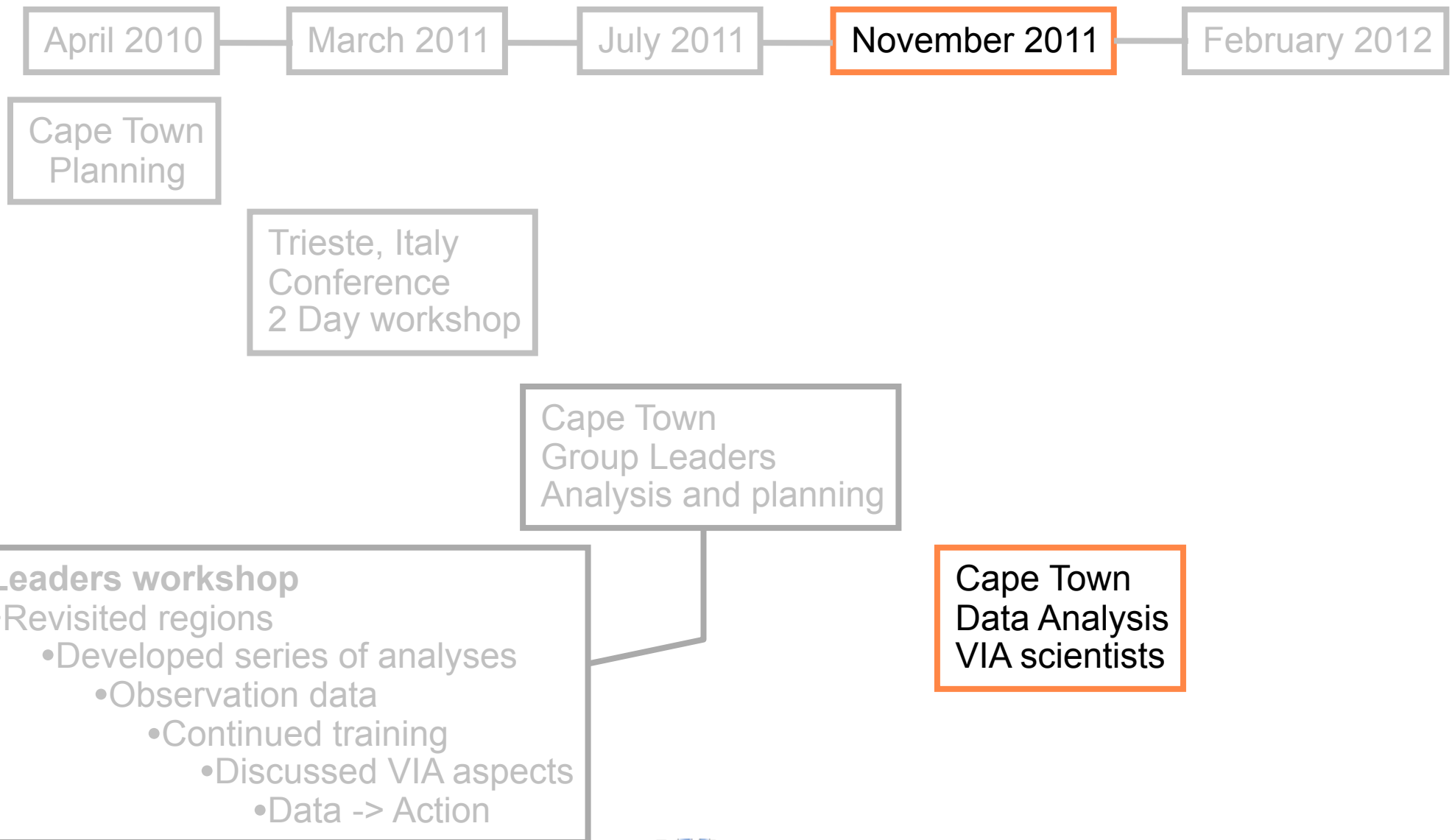
# Cordex - Africa

## Putting the 'CO' in CORDEX - Series of 4(5) Workshops



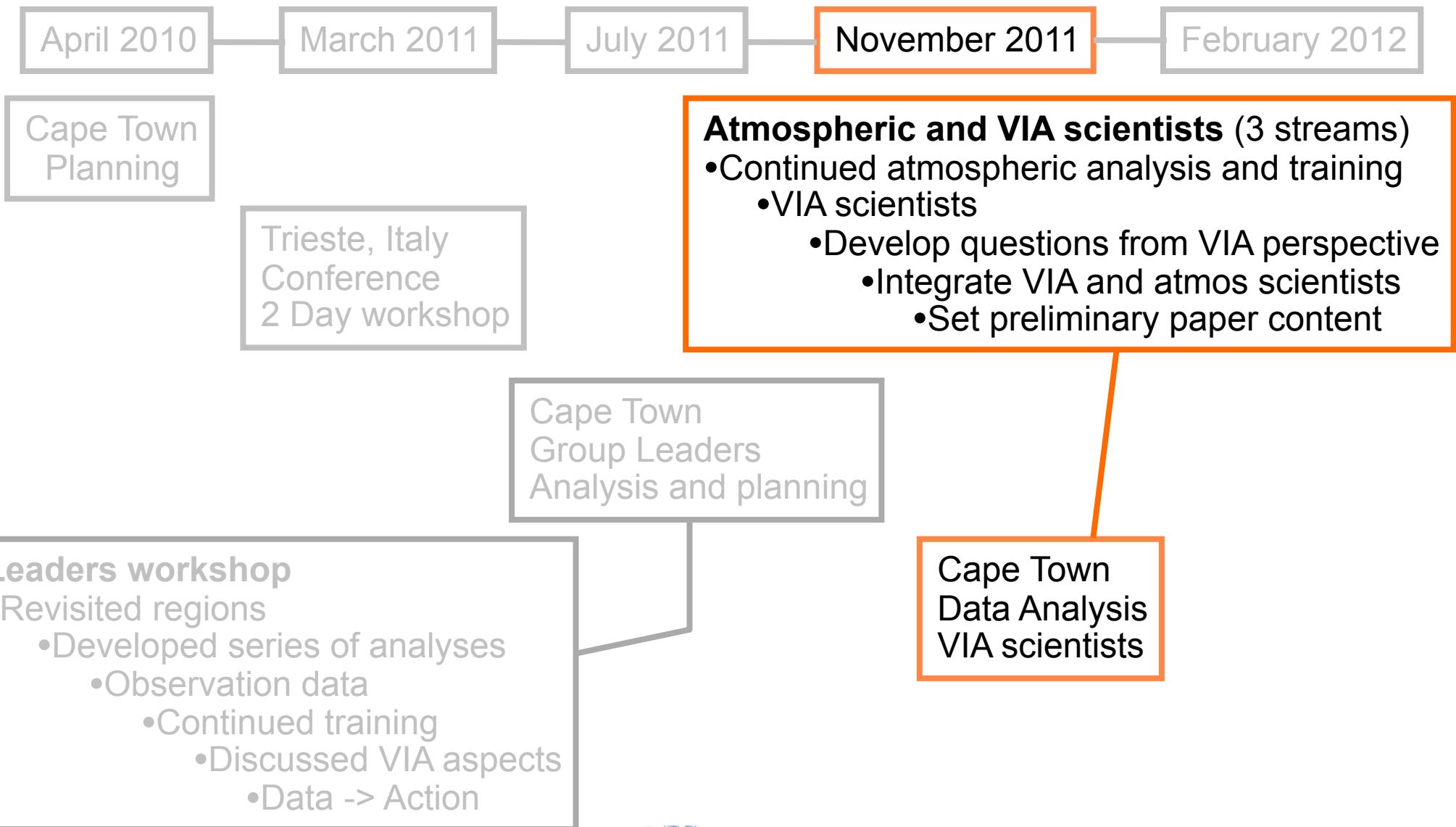
# Cordex - Africa

## Putting the 'CO' in CORDEX - Series of 4(5) Workshops



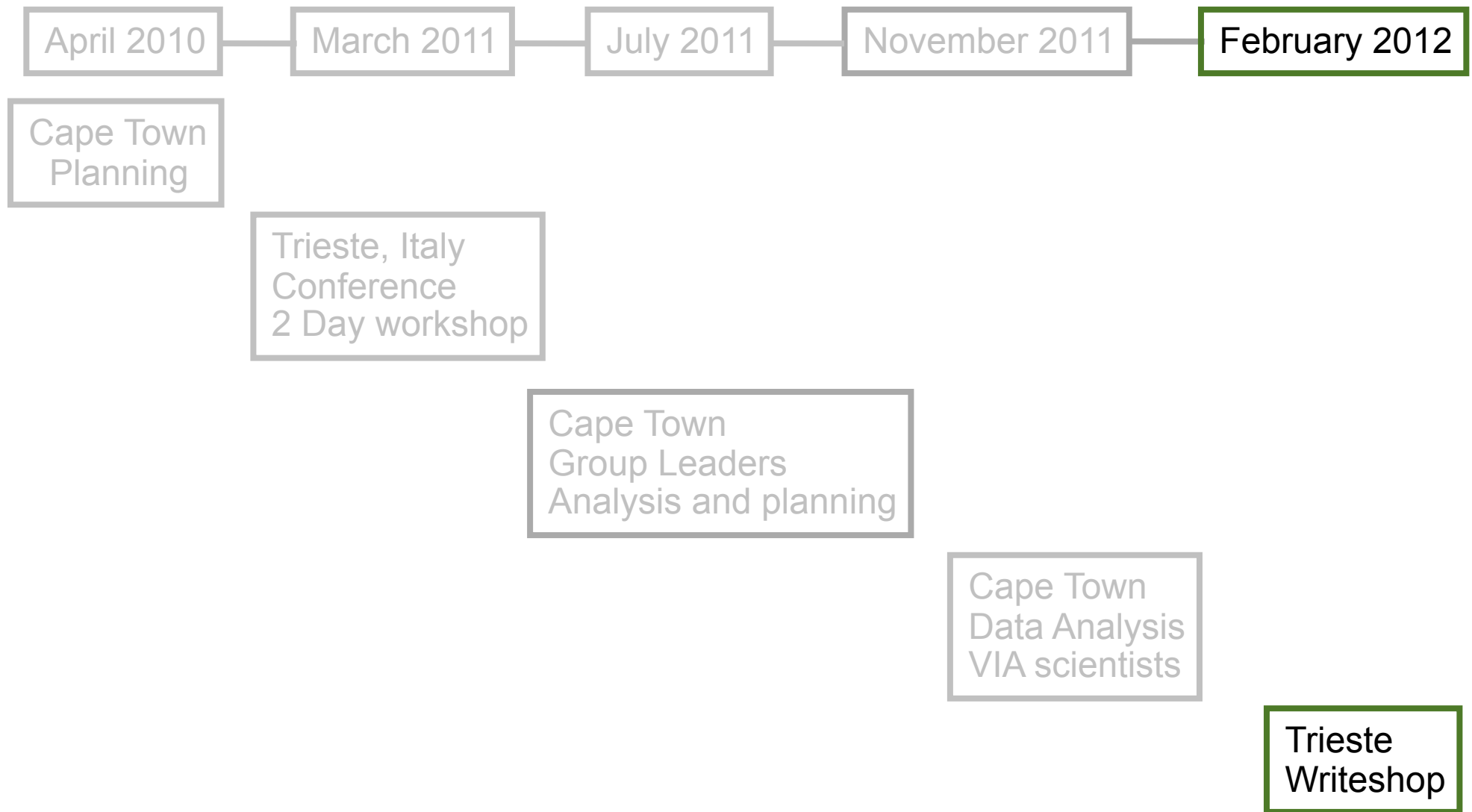
# Cordex - Africa

## Putting the 'CO' in CORDEX - Series of 4(5) Workshops



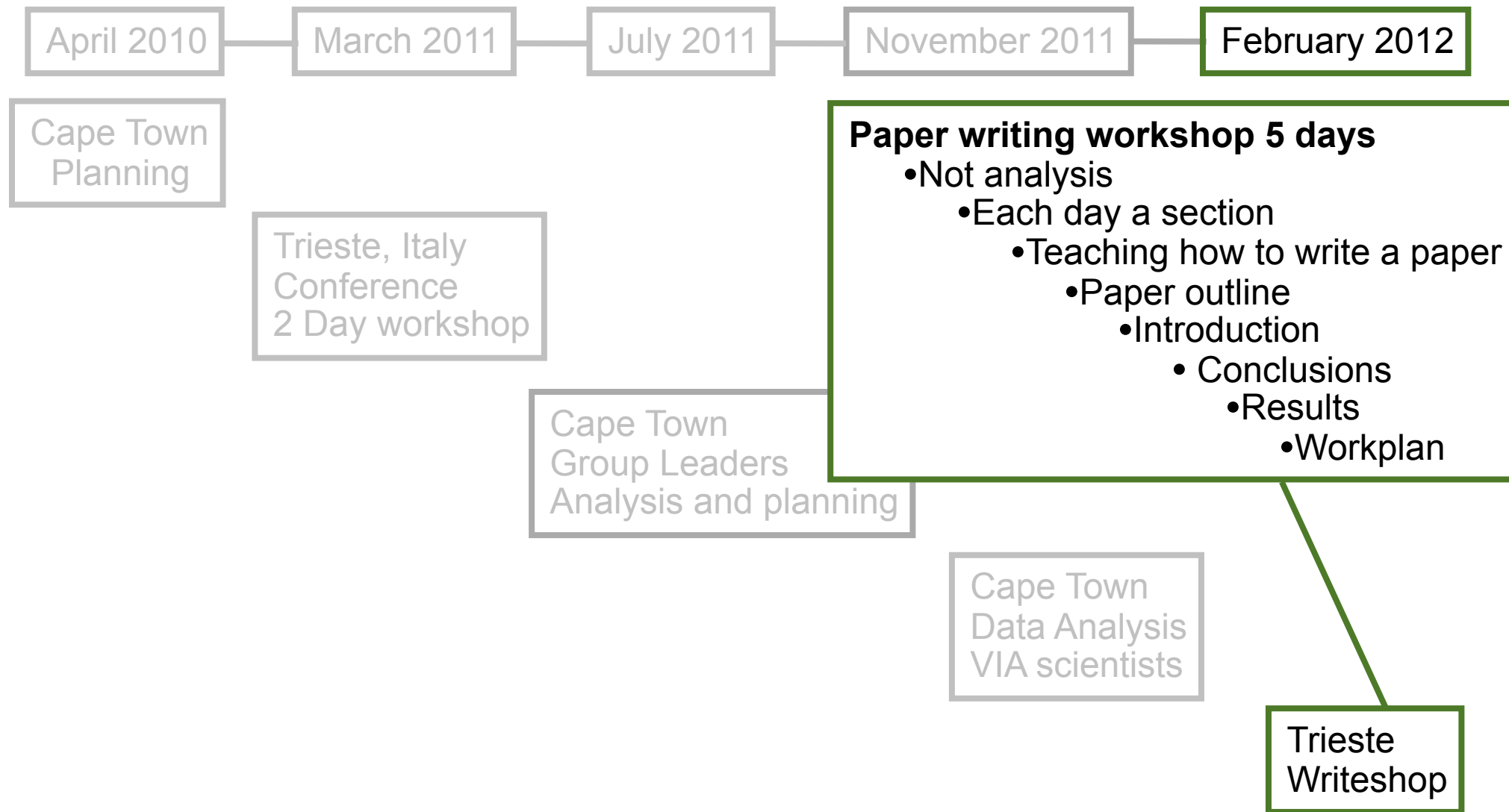
# Cordex - Africa

## Putting the 'CO' in CORDEX - Series of 4(5) Workshops



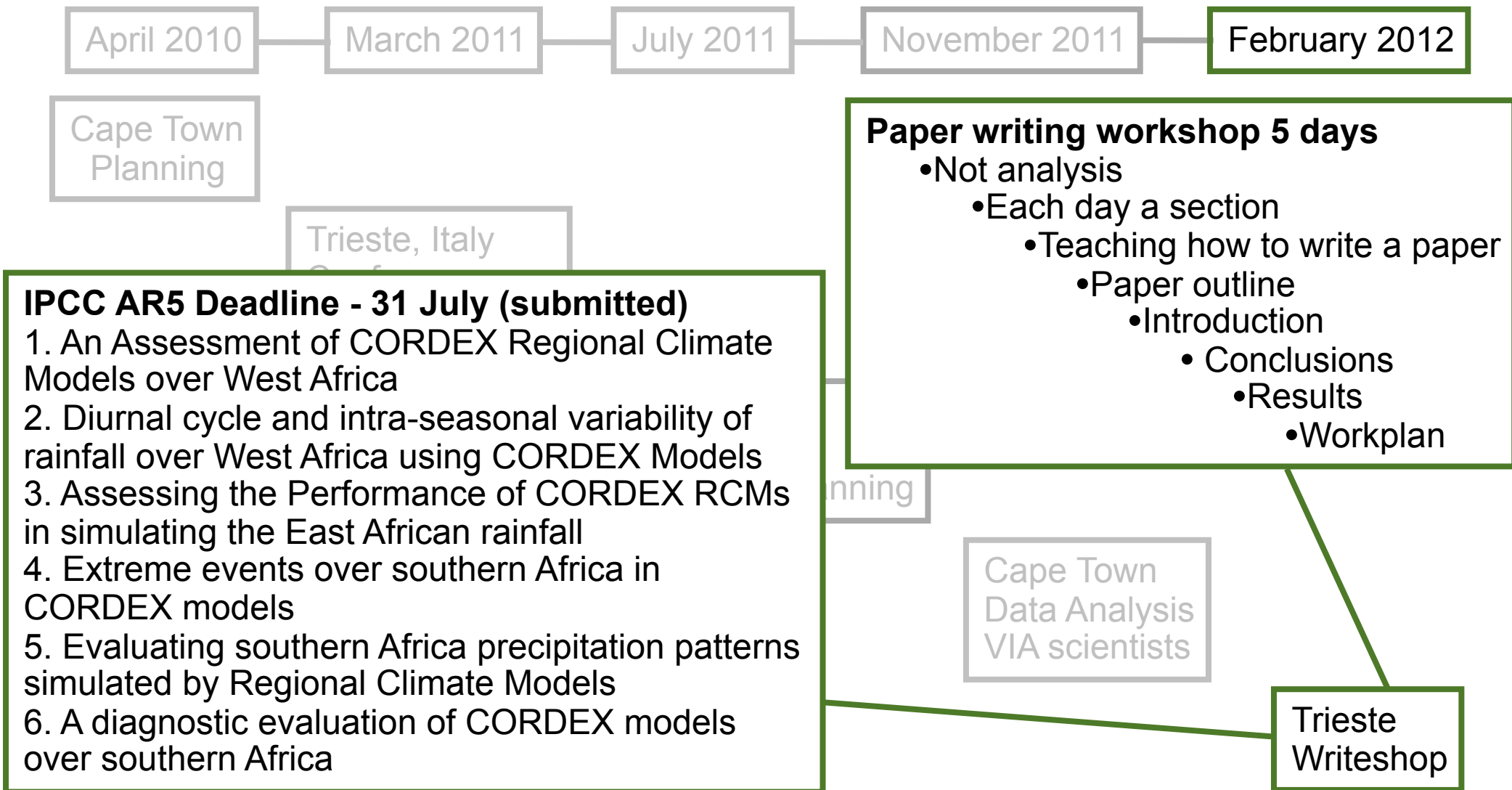
# Cordex - Africa

## Putting the 'CO' in CORDEX - Series of 4(5) Workshops



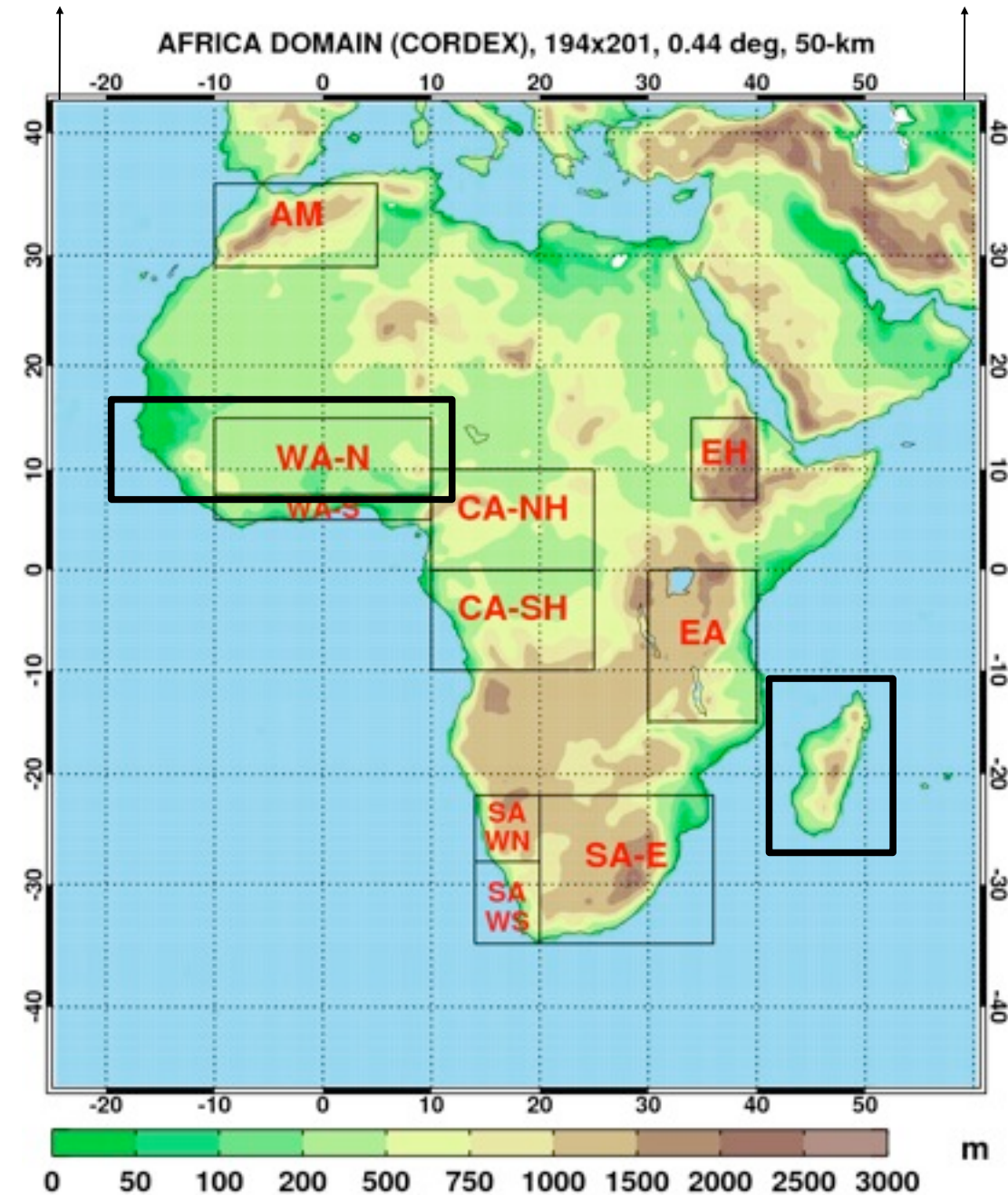
# Cordex - Africa

## Putting the 'CO' in CORDEX - Series of 4(5) Workshops



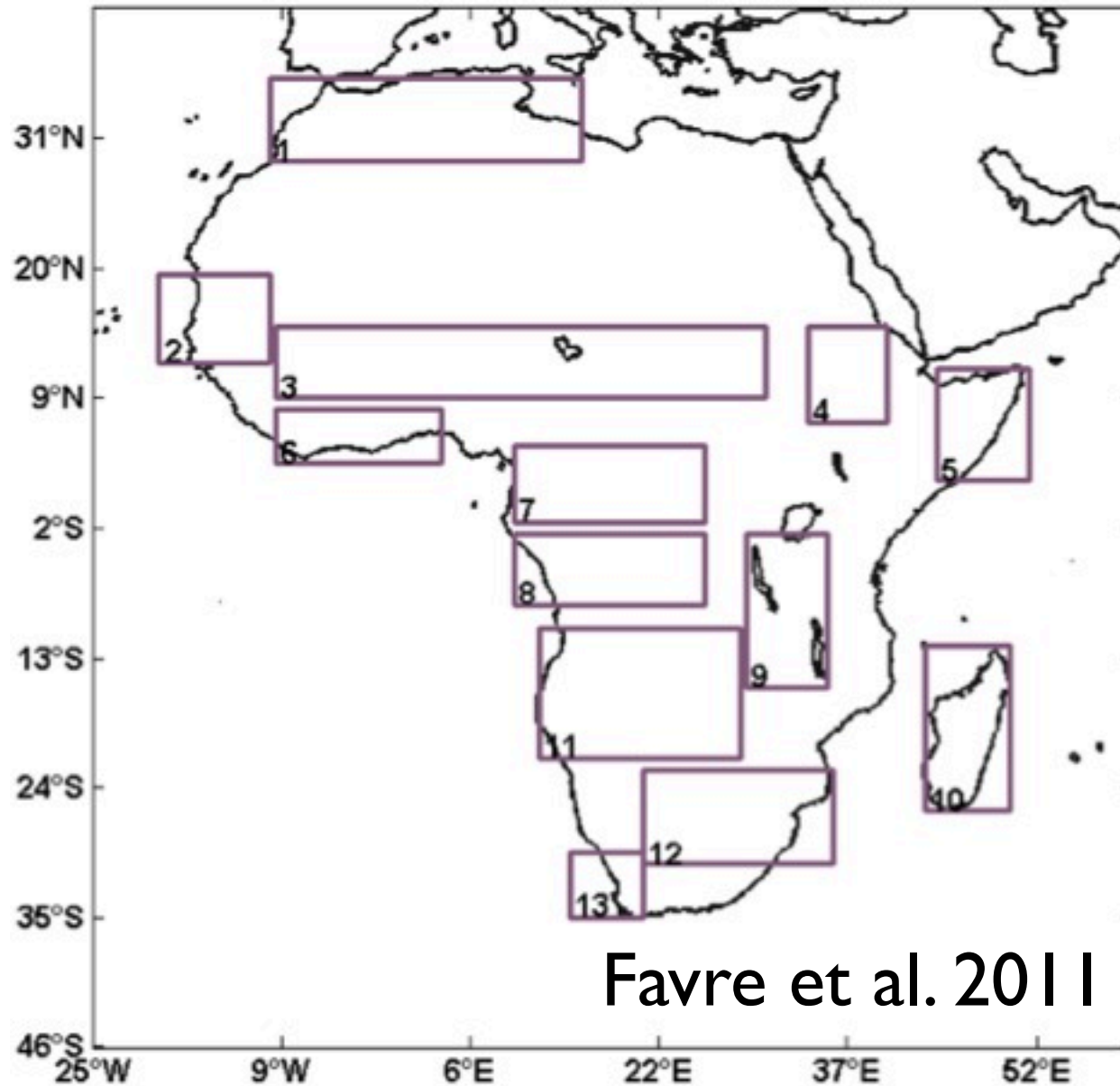


# Cordex - Africa



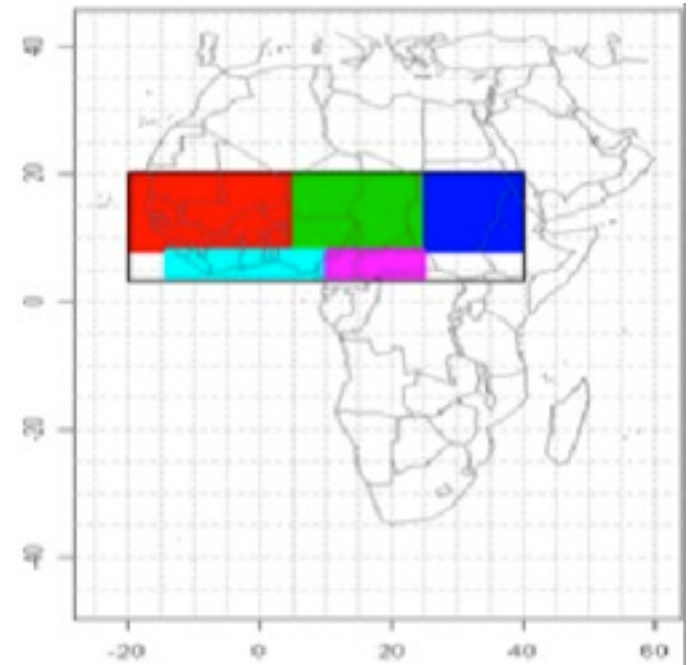
AM	Atlas Mountains
WA-N	West Africa - North
WA-S	West Africa - South
CA-N	Central Africa - North
CA-S	Central Africa-South
EH	Ethiopian Highlands
EA	East Africa
SA-E	South Africa East
SA-WN	South Africa West-North
SA-WE	South Africa West- South
MAD	Madagascar

# Cordex - Africa

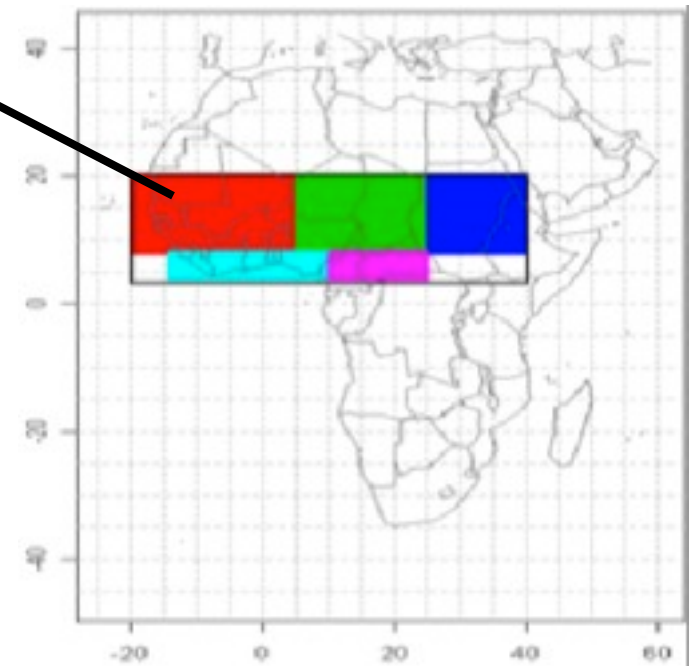
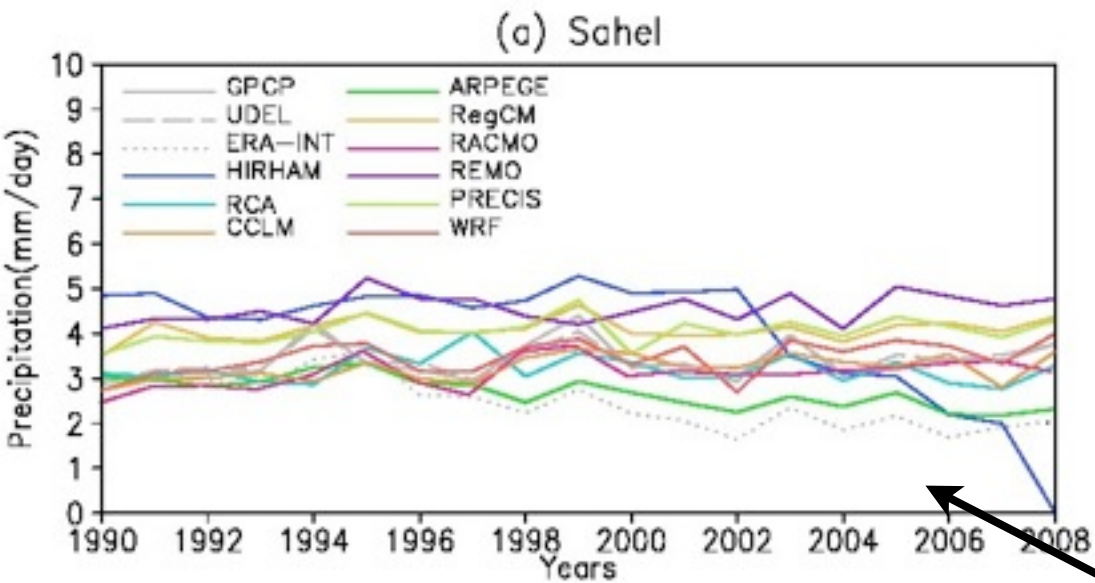


Favre et al. 2011

# Cordex Africa

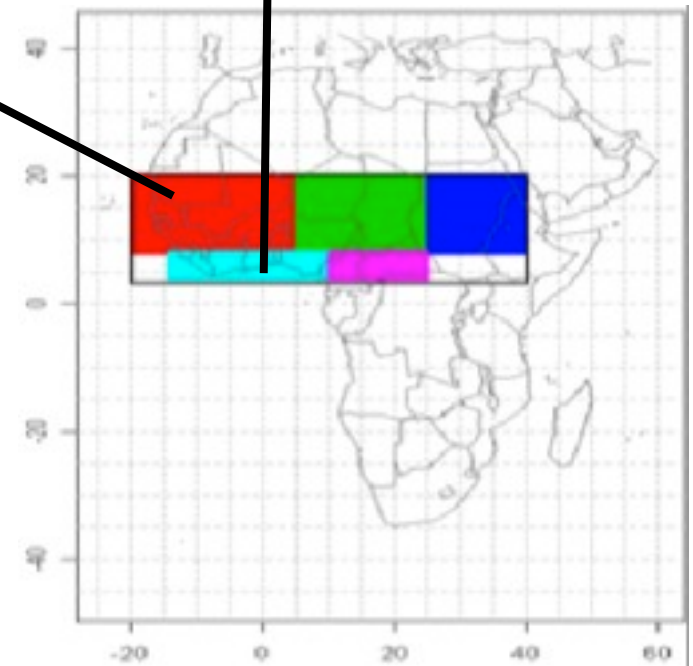
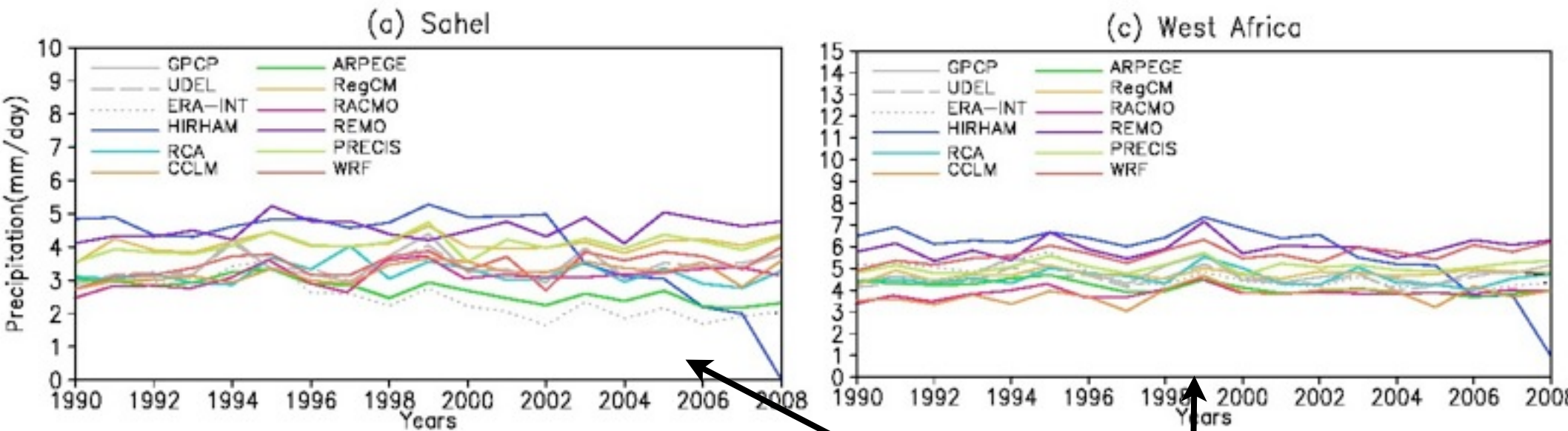


# Cordex Africa

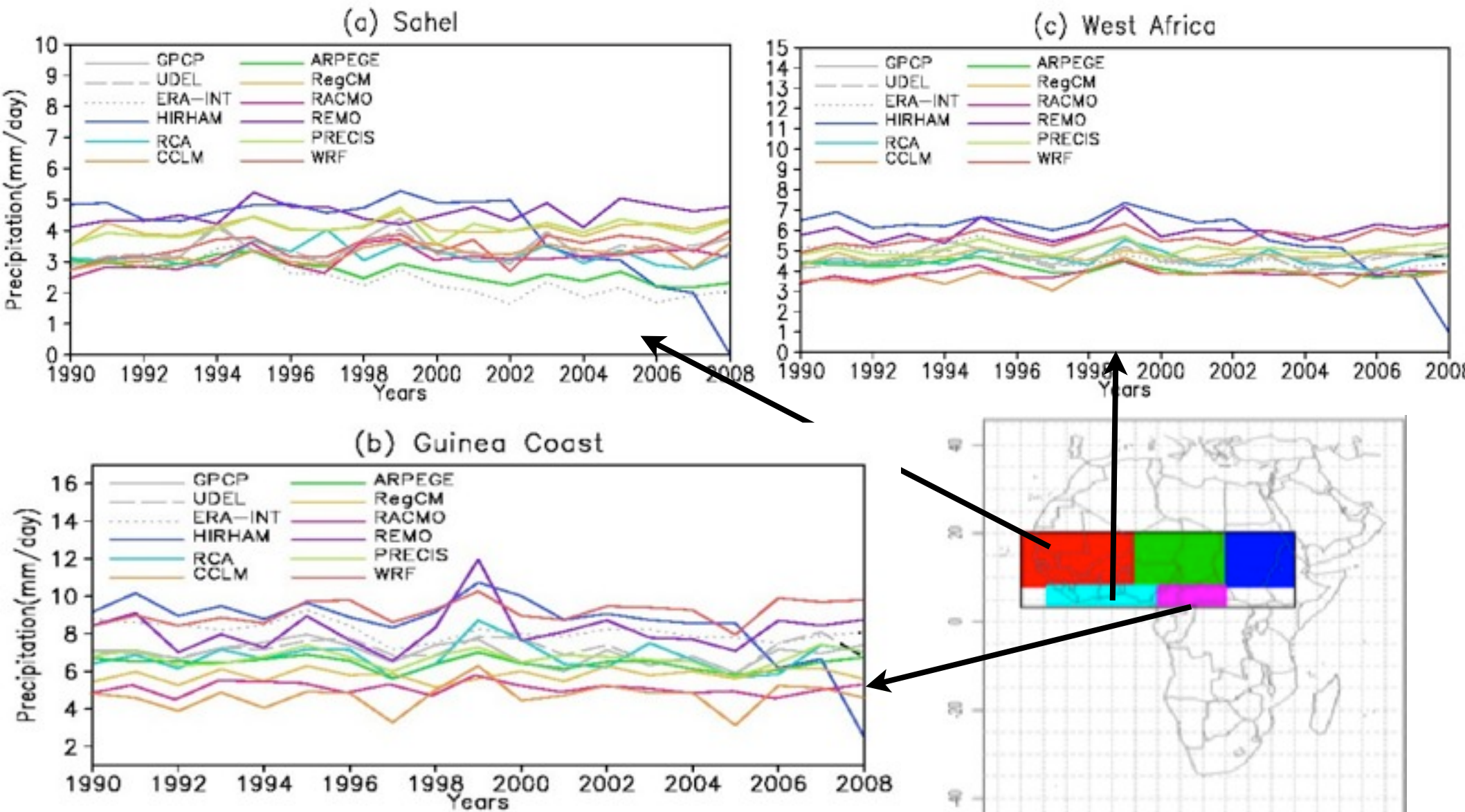




# Cordex Africa

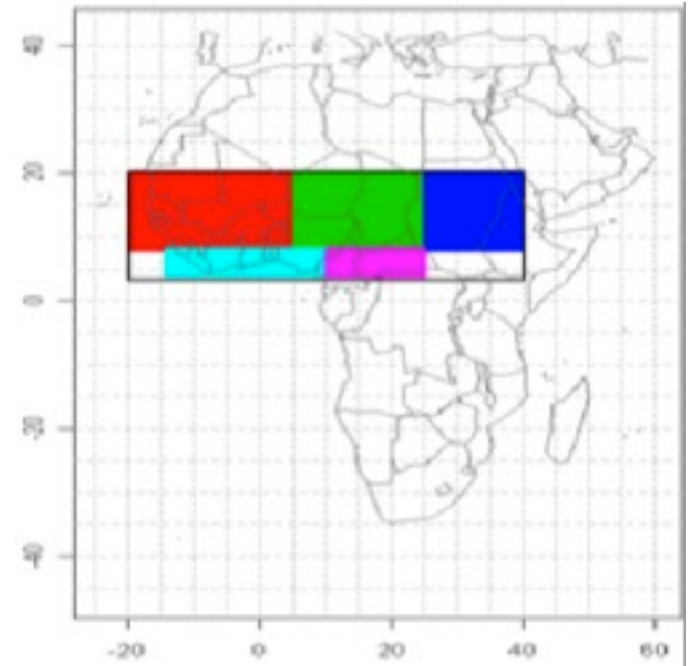


# Cordex Africa

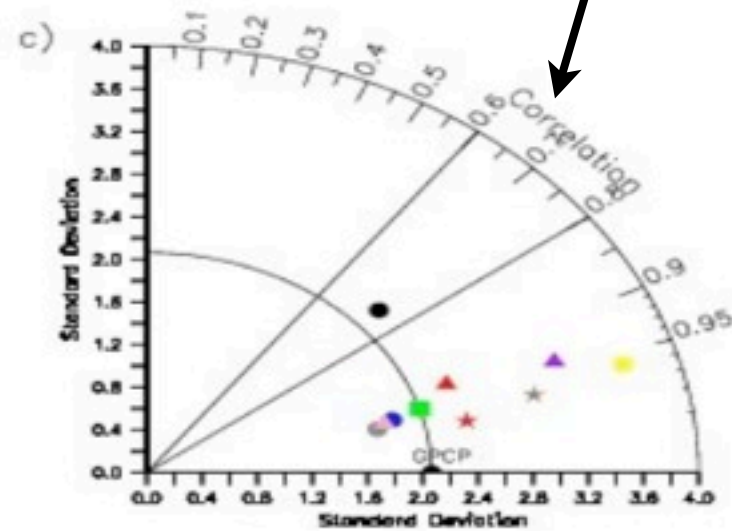
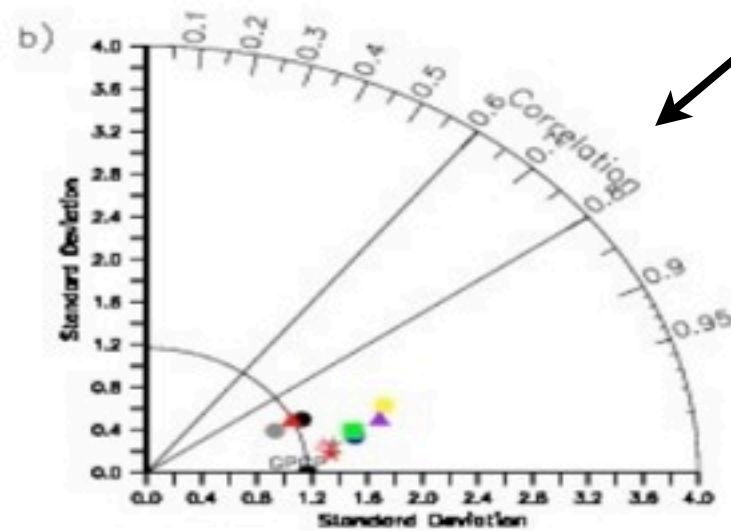
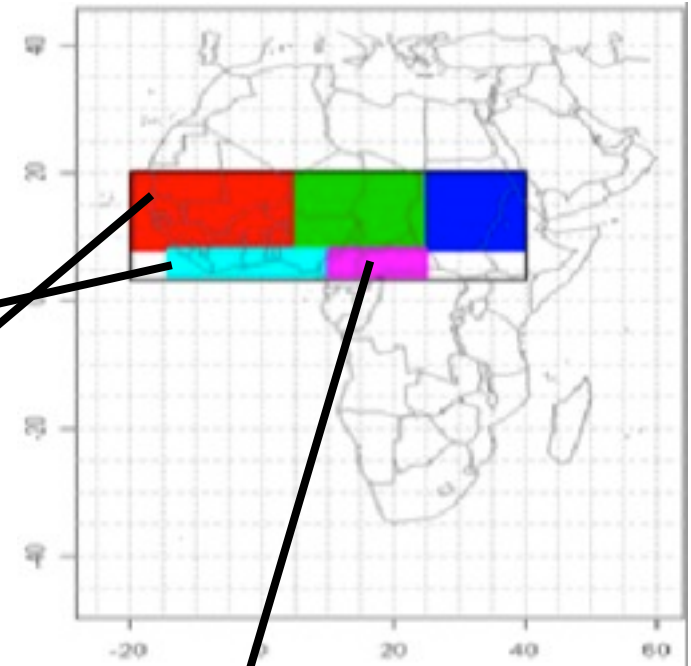
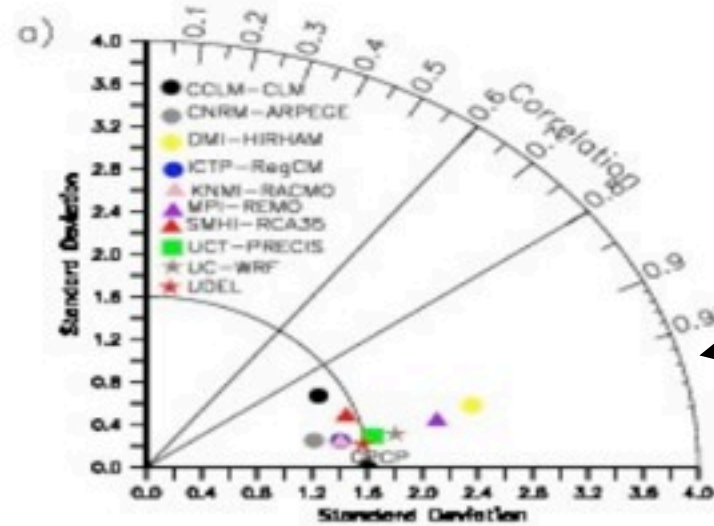




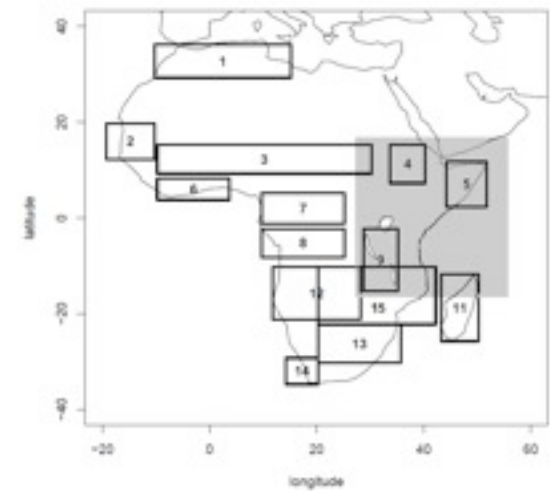
# Cordex Africa



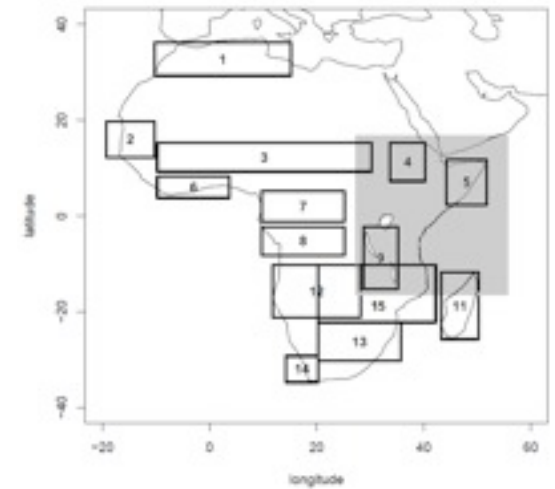
# Cordex Africa



# Cordex Africa

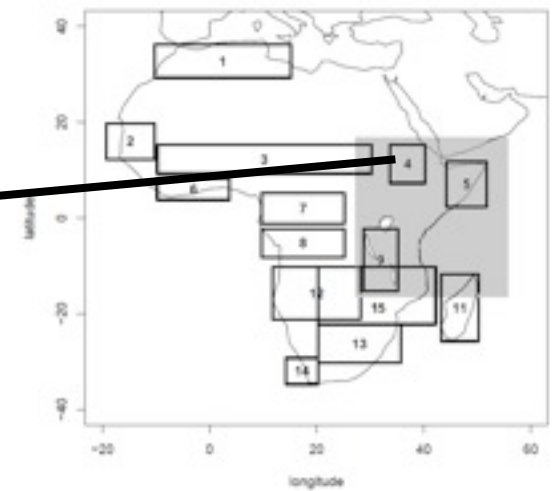
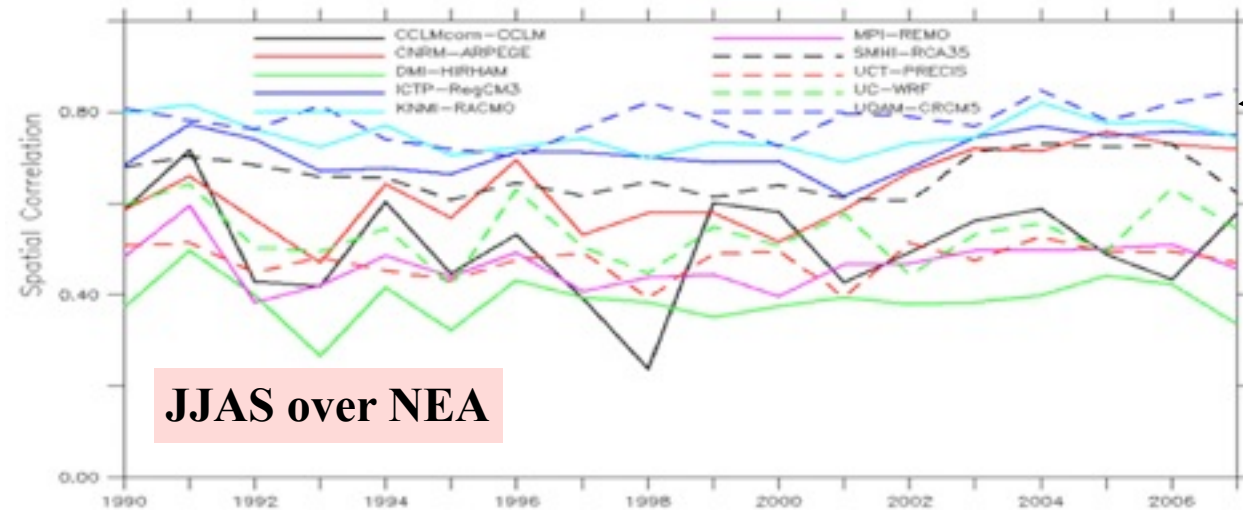


# Cordex Africa



**Spatial Correlations  
between GPCC and the  
CORDEX RCMs over  
the study areas**

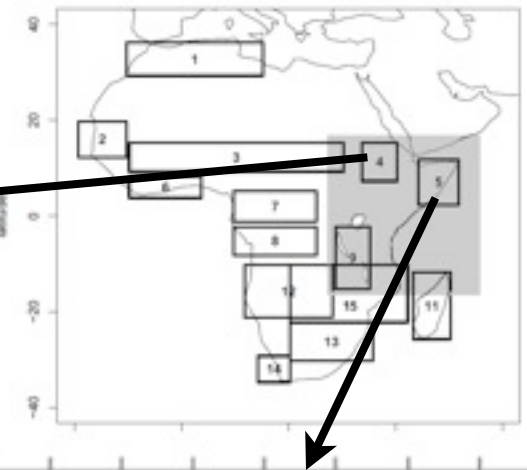
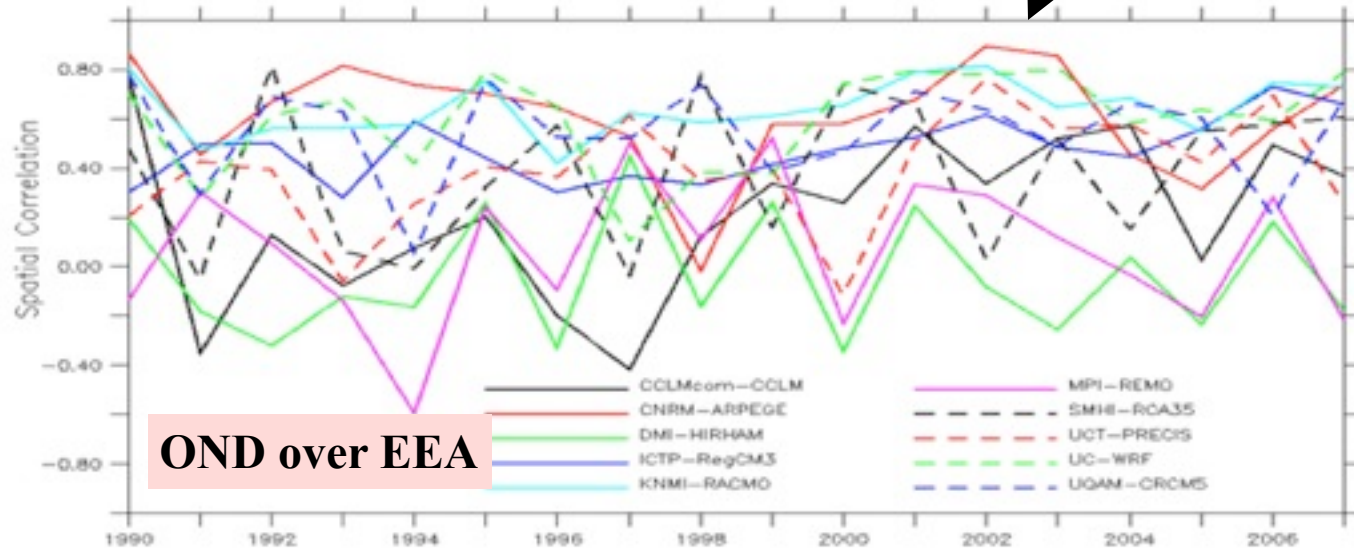
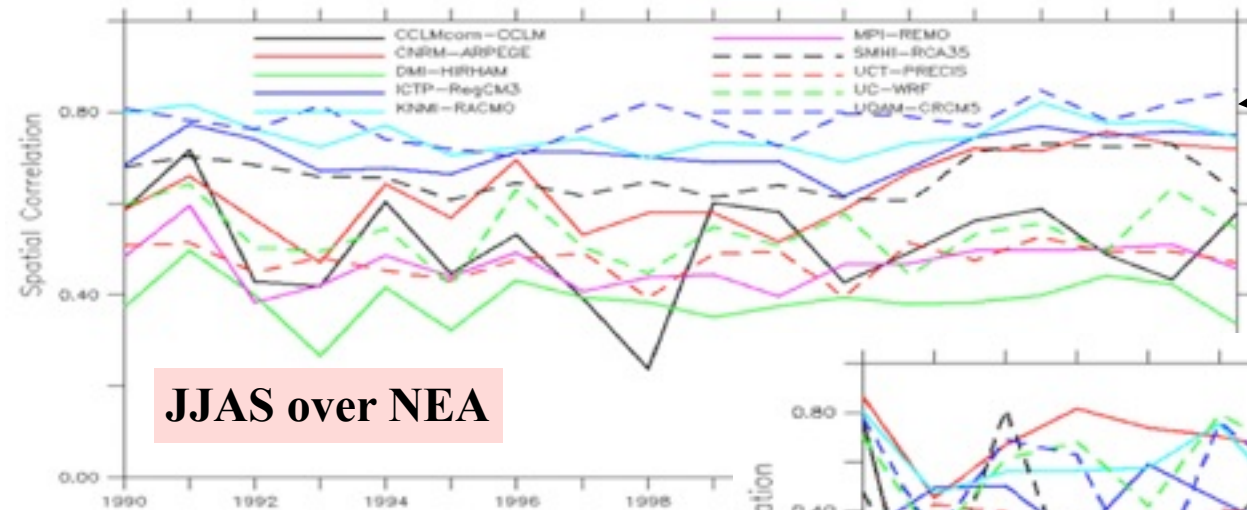
# Cordex Africa



**Spatial Correlations  
between GPCC and the  
CORDEX RCMs over  
the study areas**



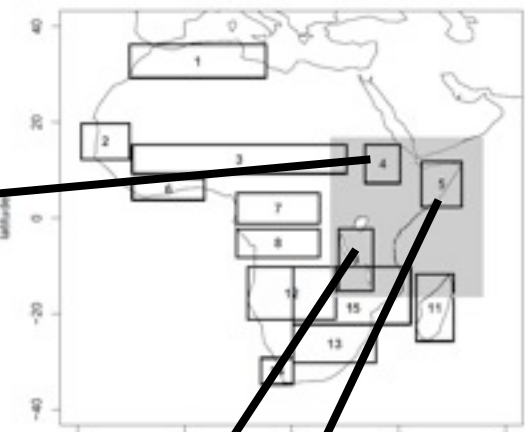
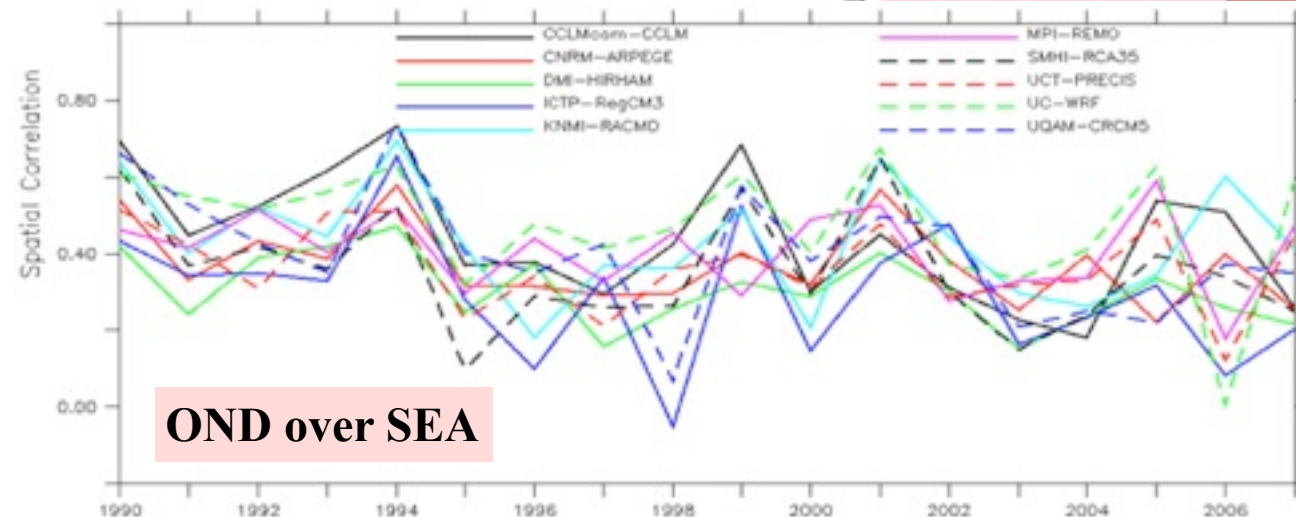
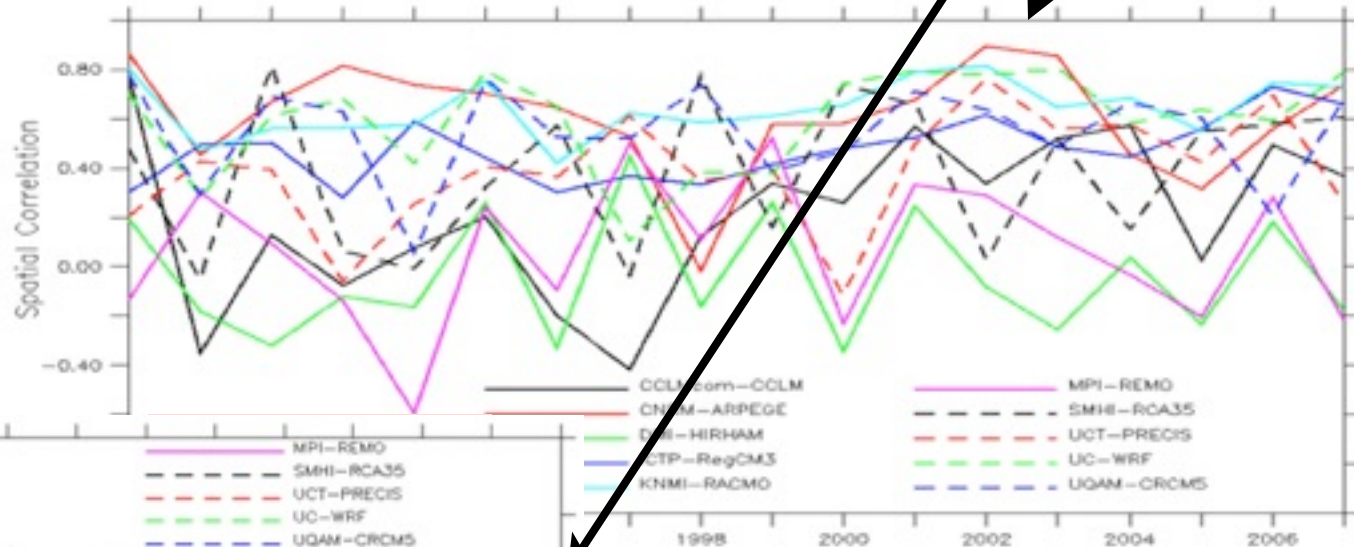
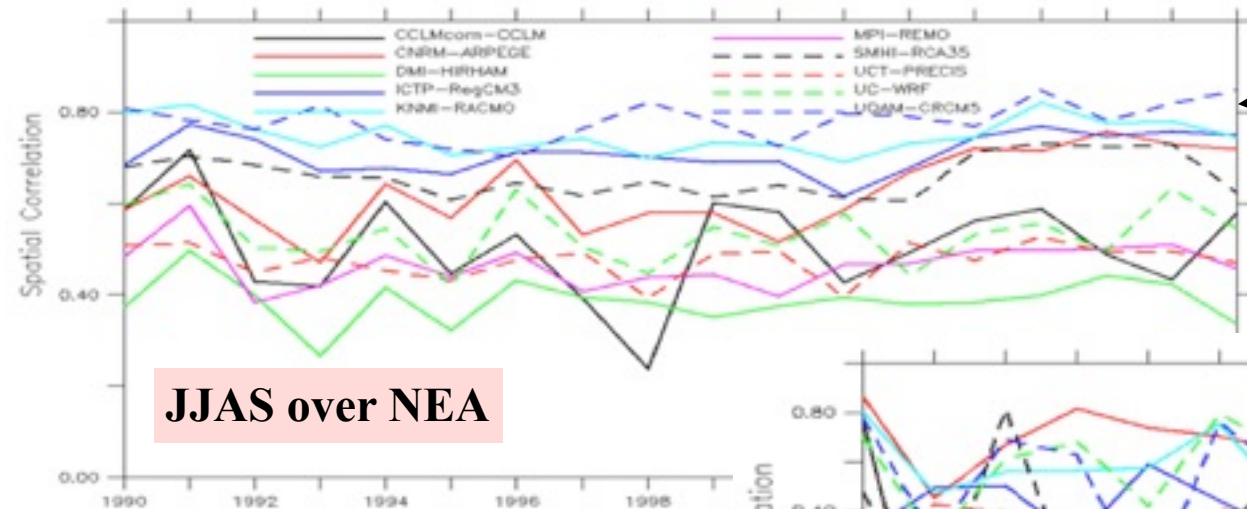
# Cordex Africa



**Spatial Correlations  
between GPCC and the  
CORDEX RCMs over  
the study areas**

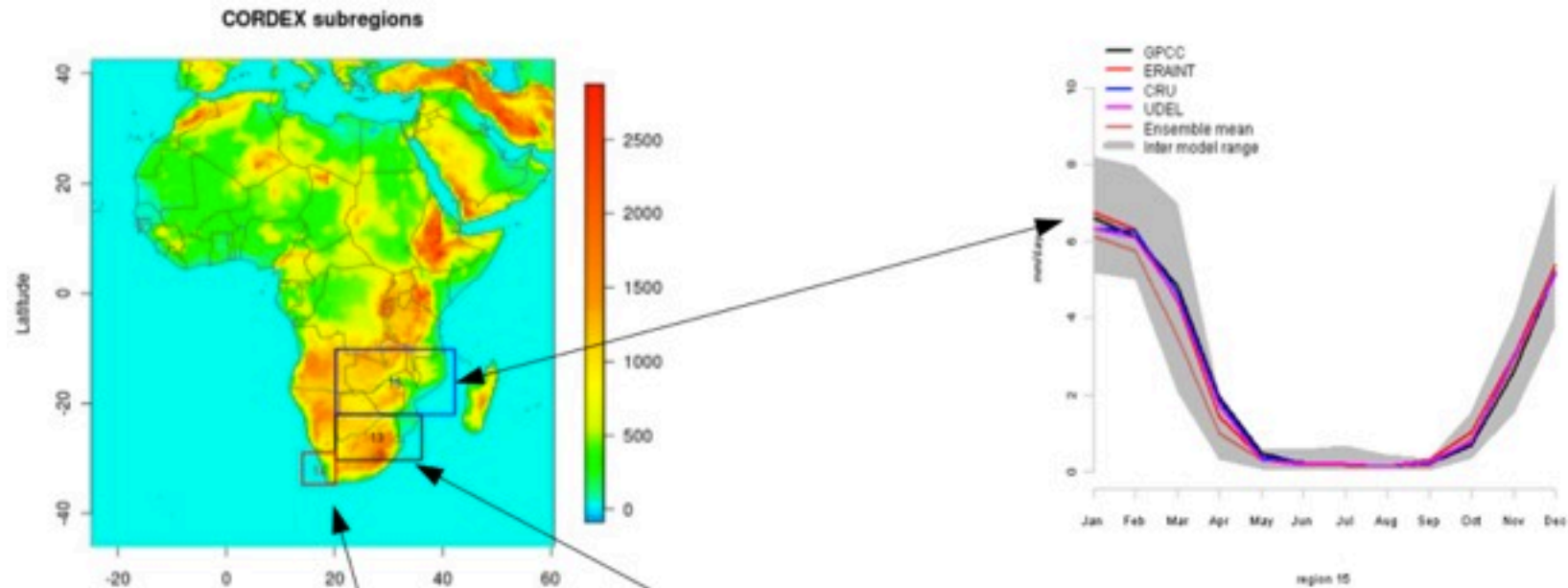


# Cordex Africa



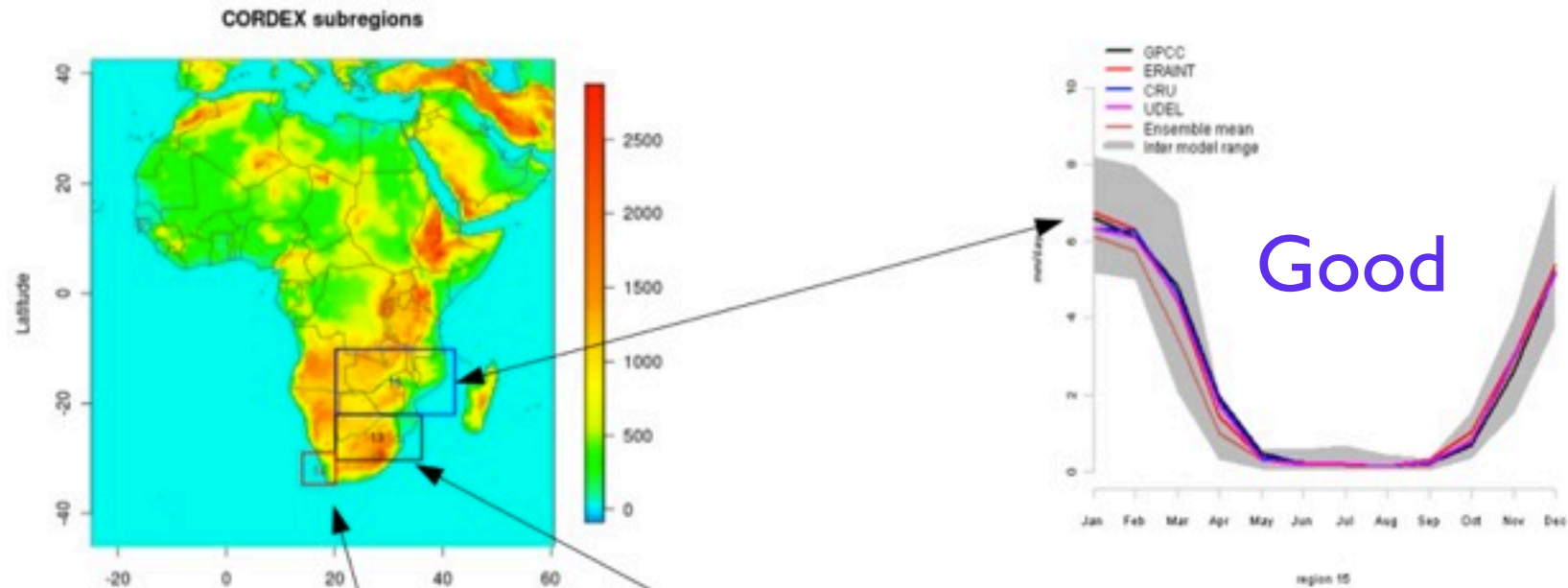
**Spatial Correlations  
between GPCP and the  
CORDEX RCMs over  
the study areas**

# Cordex Africa

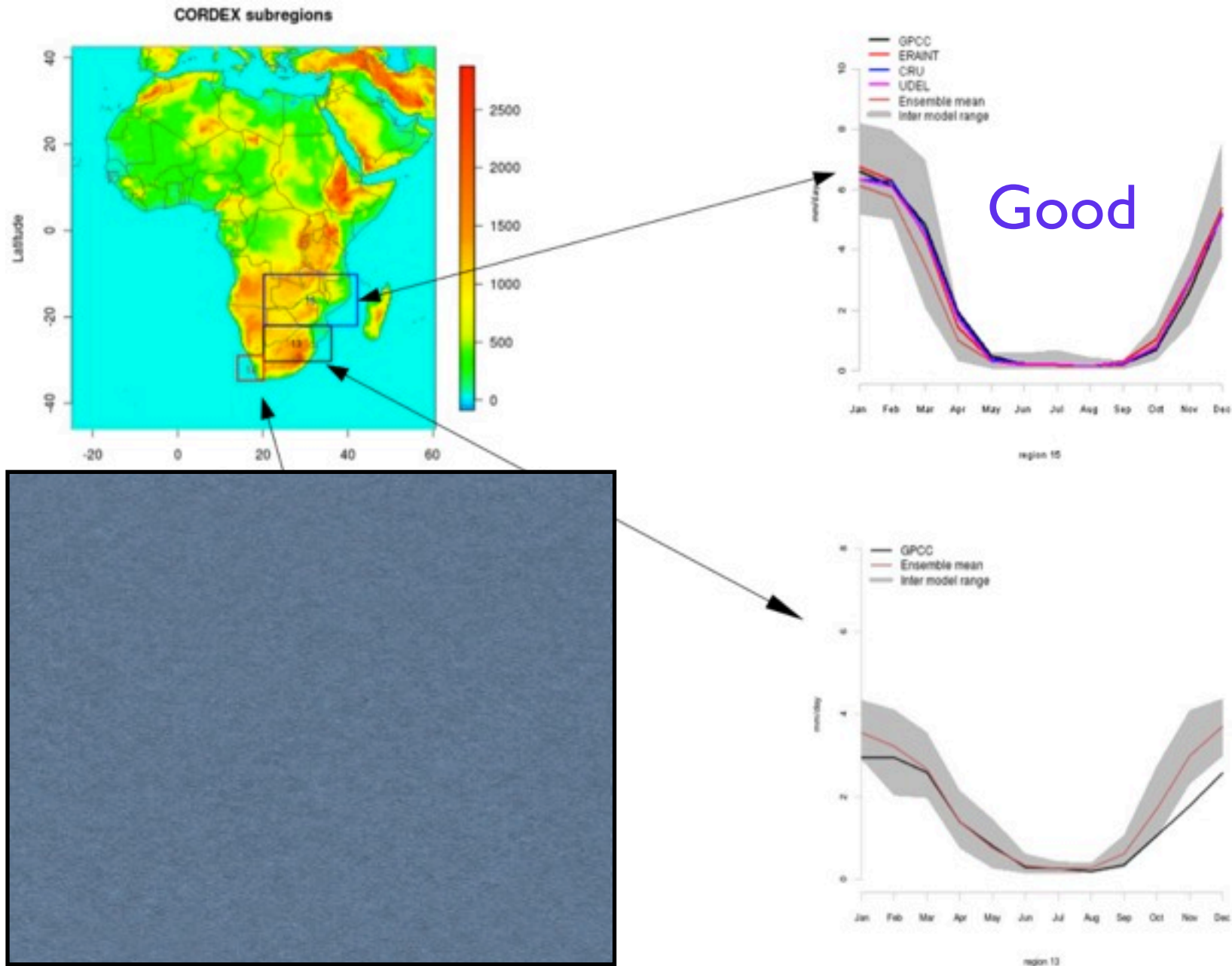




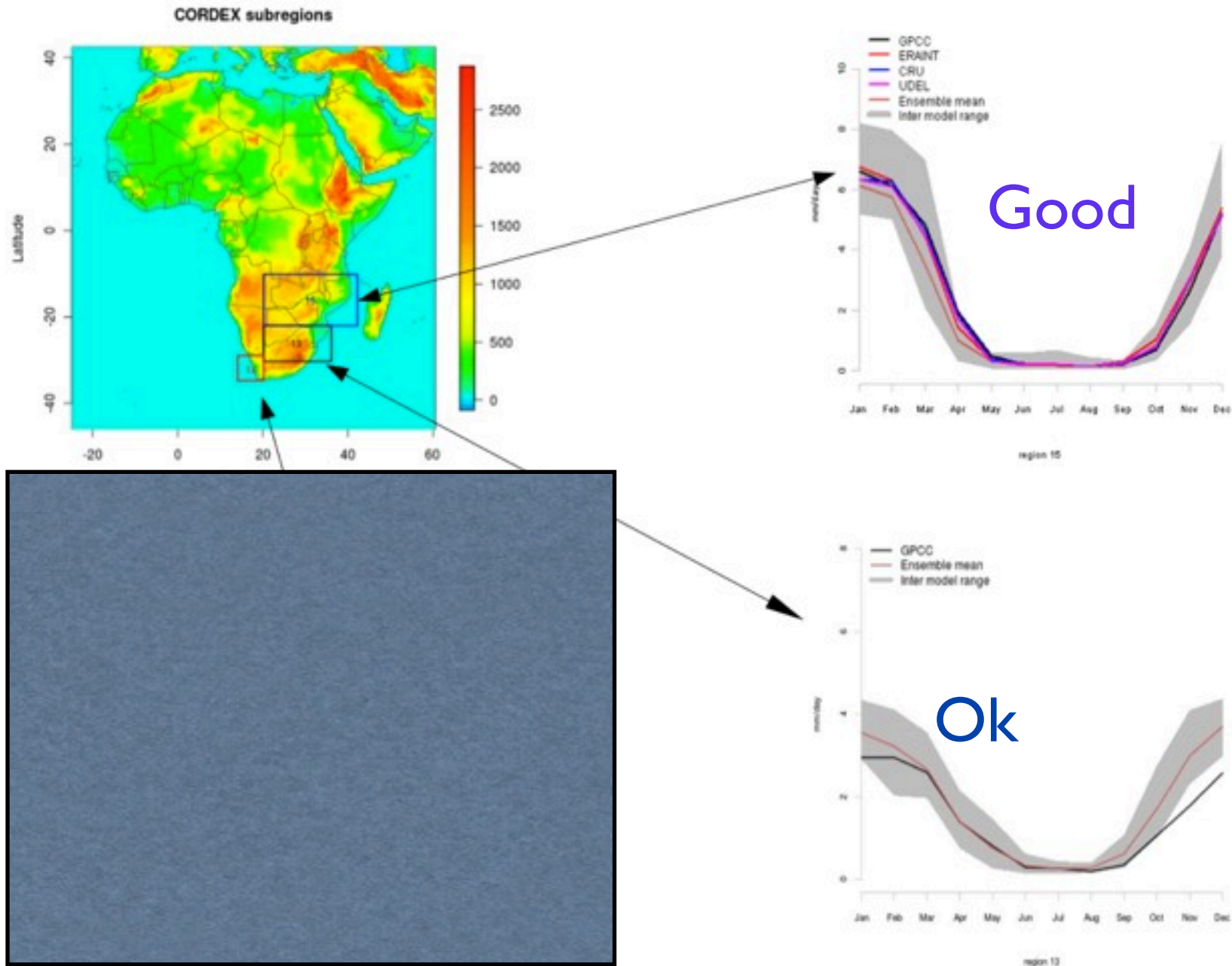
# Cordex Africa



# Cordex Africa

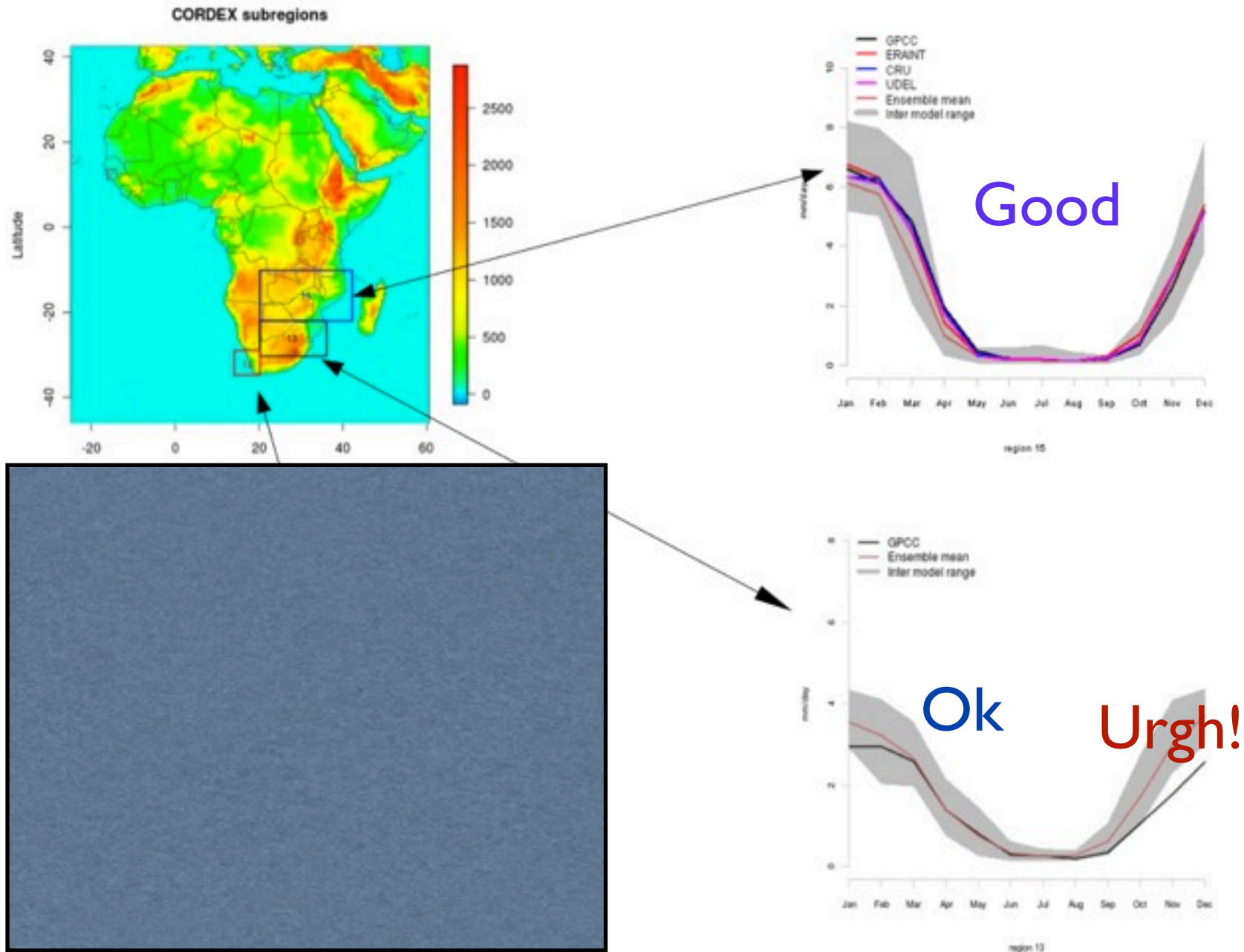


# Cordex Africa

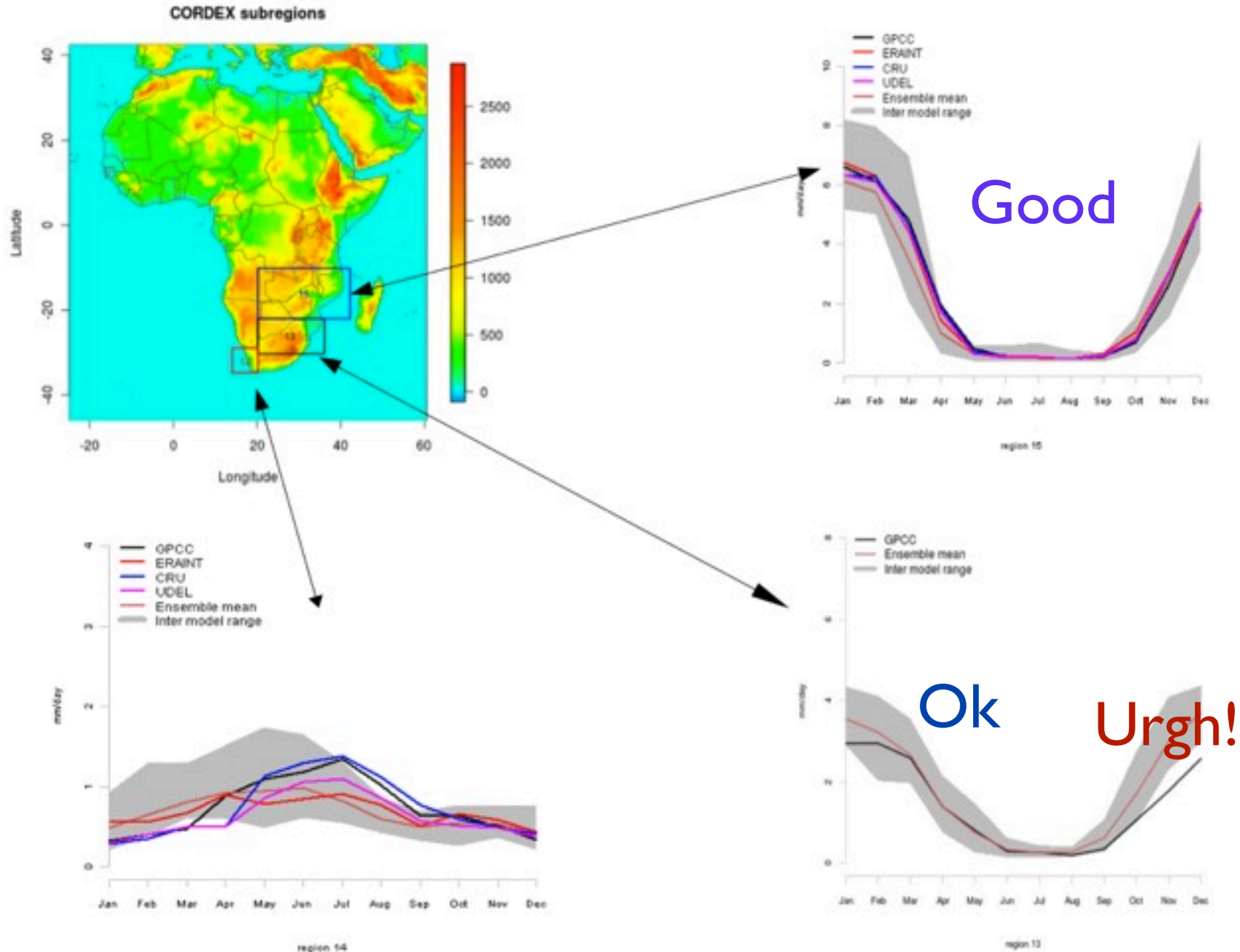




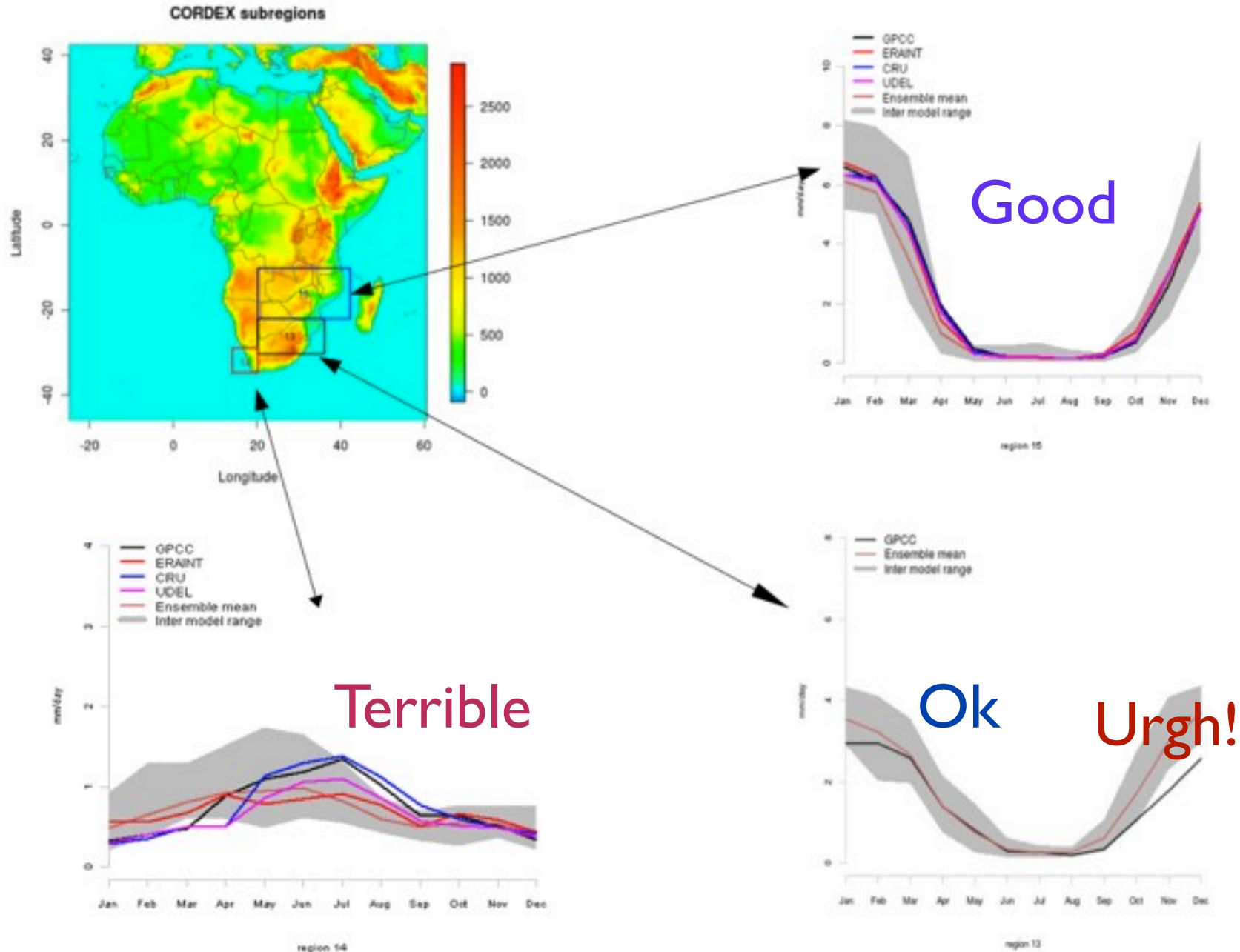
# Cordex Africa



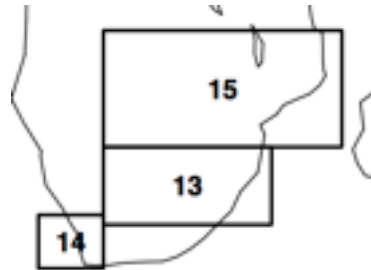
# Cordex Africa



# Cordex Africa

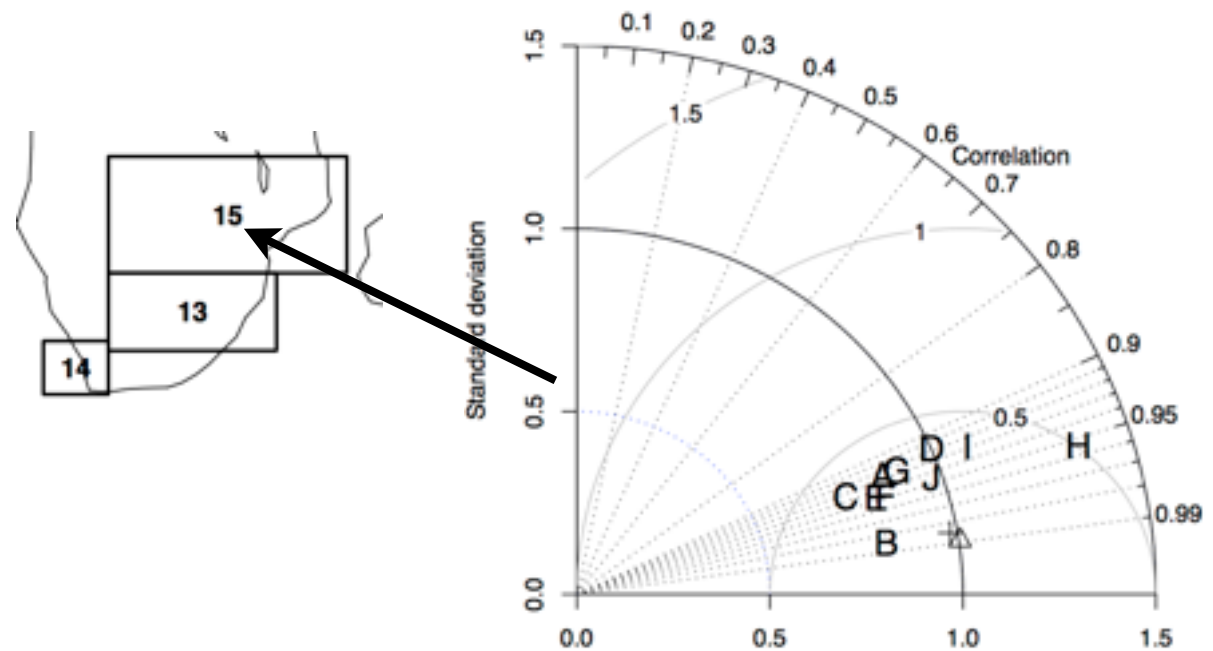


# Cordex Africa



# Cordex Africa

REG15\_MM\_1990\_2006\_INTER\_ANNUAL\_pr\_NORMALISED

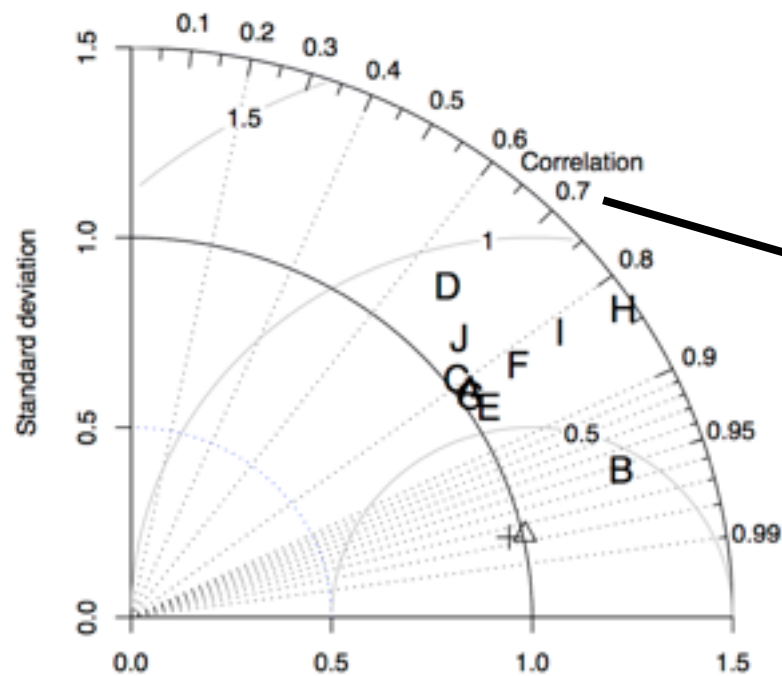


GPCC
WILLMOTT
△ ECMWF
+ CRU
A CCLMcom-CCLM
B CNRM-ARPEGE51
C DMI-HIRHAM
D ICTP-REGCM3
E KNMI-RACMO2.2b
F MPI-REMO
G SMHI-RCA35
H UC-WRF311
I UCT-PRECIS
J UQAM-CRCM5

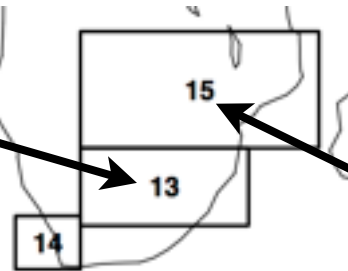
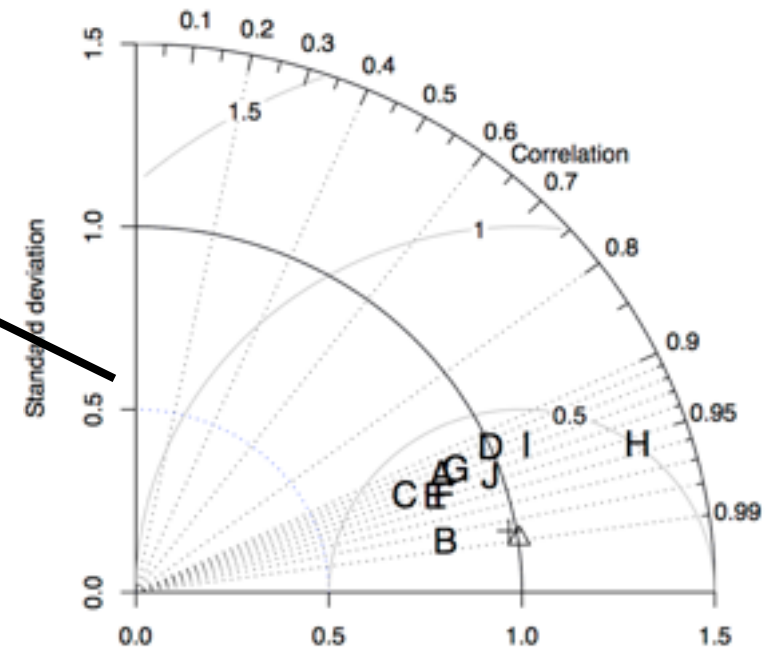


# Cordex Africa

REG13\_MM\_1990\_2006\_INTER\_ANNUAL\_pr\_NORMALISED



REG15\_MM\_1990\_2006\_INTER\_ANNUAL\_pr\_NORMALISED

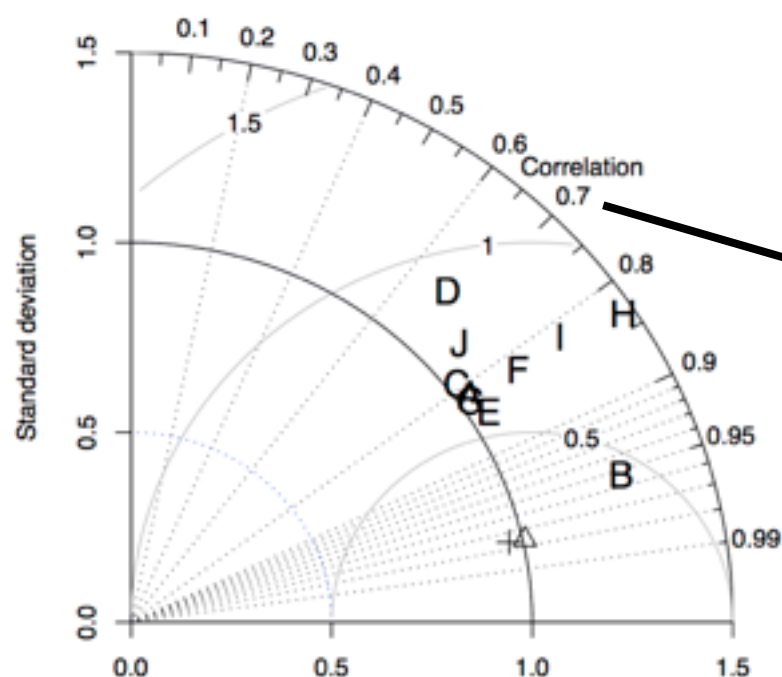


- GPCC
- WILLMOTT
- △ ECMWF
- + CRU
- A CCLMcom-CCLM
- B CNRM-ARPEGE51
- C DMI-HIRHAM
- D ICTP-REGCM3
- E KNMI-RACMO2.2b
- F MPI-REMO
- G SMHI-RCA35
- H UC-WRF311
- I UCT-PRECIS
- J UQAM-CRCM5

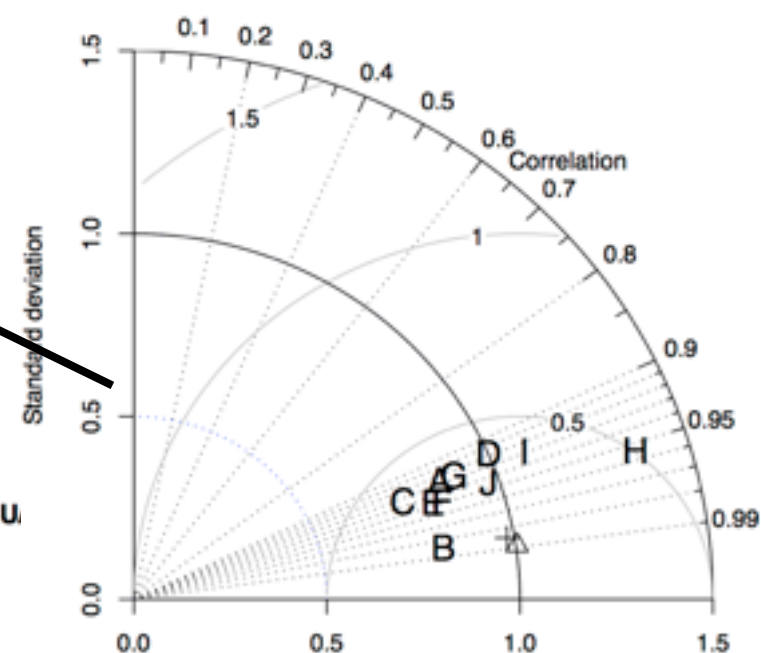


# Cordex Africa

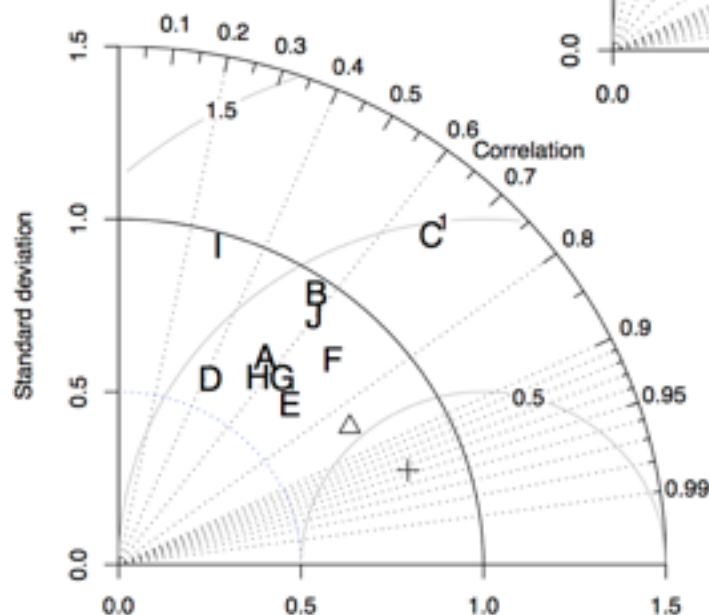
REG13\_MM\_1990\_2006\_INTER\_ANNUAL\_pr\_NORMALISED



REG15\_MM\_1990\_2006\_INTER\_ANNUAL\_pr\_NORMALISED



REG14\_MM\_1990\_2006\_INTER\_ANNUAL\_pr\_NORMALISED



- GPCC
- WILLMOTT
- △ ECMWF
- + CRU
- A CCLMcom-CCLM
- B CNRM-ARPEGE51
- C DMI-HIRHAM
- D ICTP-REGCM3
- E KNMI-RACMO2.2b
- F MPI-REMO
- G SMHI-RCA35
- H UC-WRF311
- I UCT-PRECIS
- J UQAM-CRCMS



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN  
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

Climate Systems Analysis Group

START/PACOM Centre of Excellence  
Regional node for climate modeling

# Data

Climate models, historical observations, trends, downscaling, projections, event frequency, ...





## Data

Climate models, historical observations, trends, downscaling, projections, event frequency, ...

**Generated by models, analyses, downscaling... but observations?**



## Data

Climate models, historical observations, trends, downscaling, projections, event frequency, ...



## Information

Measures of vulnerability and risk, threshold exceedence, combinatory impacts, uncertainty and confidence, regional scale variations, ...

**Generated by models, analyses, downscaling... but observations?**

**We are not always sure when we have “information”**



## Data

Climate models, historical observations, trends, downscaling, projections, event frequency, ...



## Information

Measures of vulnerability and risk, threshold exceedence, combinatory impacts, uncertainty and confidence, regional scale variations, ...



## Knowledge

Assessing options, understanding consequences, evaluating responses, informing decision making, ...

**Generated by models, analyses, downscaling... but observations?**

**We are not always sure when we have "information"**

**Comes with close coupling between science and society - relationship based!**



## Data

Climate models, historical observations, trends, downscaling, projections, event frequency, ...



## Information

Measures of vulnerability and risk, threshold exceedence, combinatory impacts, uncertainty and confidence, regional scale variations, ...



## Knowledge

Assessing options, understanding consequences, evaluating responses, informing decision making, ...



## A basis for action

Balance competing priorities, strategic investments in adaptation and mitigation, new research avenues, coordination of response frameworks, ...

**Generated by models, analyses, downscaling... but observations?**

**We are not always sure when we have "information"**

**Comes with close coupling between science and society - relationship based!**

**Actions are risky, and takes place within a multi-stressor context**

# Needed by society

## Data

Climate models, historical observations, trends, downscaling, projections, event frequency, ...



## Information

Measures of vulnerability and risk, threshold exceedence, combinatory impacts, uncertainty and confidence, regional scale variations, ...



## Knowledge

Assessing options, understanding consequences, evaluating responses, informing decision making, ...



## A basis for action

Balance competing priorities, strategic investments in adaptation and mitigation, new research avenues, coordination of response frameworks, ...

**Generated by models, analyses, downscaling... but observations?**

**We are not always sure when we have "information"**

**Comes with close coupling between science and society - relationship based!**

**Actions are risky, and takes place within a multi-stressor context**



**Delivered  
by science**

## **Data**

Climate models, historical observations, trends, downscaling, projections, event frequency, ...



## **Information**

Measures of vulnerability and risk, threshold exceedence, combinatory impacts, uncertainty and confidence, regional scale variations, ...



## **Knowledge**

Assessing options, understanding consequences, evaluating responses, informing decision making, ...



## **A basis for action**

Balance competing priorities, strategic investments in adaptation and mitigation, new research avenues, coordination of response frameworks, ...

**Generated by models, analyses, downscaling... but observations?**

**We are not always sure when we have "information"**

**Comes with close coupling between science and society - relationship based!**

**Actions are risky, and takes place within a multi-stressor context**

**Needed  
by society**

**Delivered  
by science**

**Bridge  
THE  
GAP**

**Needed  
by society**

## Data

Climate models, historical observations, trends, downscaling, projections, event frequency, ...



## Information

Measures of vulnerability and risk, threshold exceedence, combinatory impacts, uncertainty and confidence, regional scale variations, ...



## Knowledge

Assessing options, understanding consequences, evaluating responses, informing decision making, ...



## A basis for action

Balance competing priorities, strategic investments in adaptation and mitigation, new research avenues, coordination of response frameworks, ...

**Generated by models, analyses, downscaling... but observations?**

**We are not always sure when we have "information"**

**Comes with close coupling between science and society - relationship based!**

**Actions are risky, and takes place within a multi-stressor context**

# Cordex - Africa

**Mixing climate and VIA communities....it's complicated!**





# Cordex - Africa

**Mixing climate and VIA communities....it's complicated!**



**Burkina Faso: 28-30 May 2012**

# Cordex - Africa

**Mixing climate and VIA communities....it's complicated!**



**Burkina Faso: 28-30 May 2012**

Health, media and climate  
specialists

# Cordex - Africa

**Mixing climate and VIA communities....it's complicated!**



**Burkina Faso: 28-30 May 2012**

Health, media and climate  
specialists

Many lessons learned by all  
delegates

# Cordex - Africa

**Mixing climate and VIA communities....it's complicated!**

April 2010

March 2011

July 2011

November 2011

February 2012

**Burkina Faso: 28-30 May 2012**

Health, media and climate  
specialists

Many lessons learned by all  
delegates

Even more lessons learned by  
organizers!

# Cordex – Africa Analysis

## Vulnerability, Impacts, Adaptation Sector

### *Agriculture*

Rain season characteristics including spatial variability, temperature thresholds, growing season length, scale (space and time - daily at a point?)

### *Ecology*

Thresholds, effects on ecosystem services and productivity

### *Water resource management*

Extreme rainfall and early warning; wind and humidity

### *Health*

Space and time scales; communication

### *Policy makers*

What information is need for decision making? How to package it?

*Linking with other projects - maximize efficiencies through collaboration*

ClimAfrica - Climate Change Prediction in sub-Saharan Africa

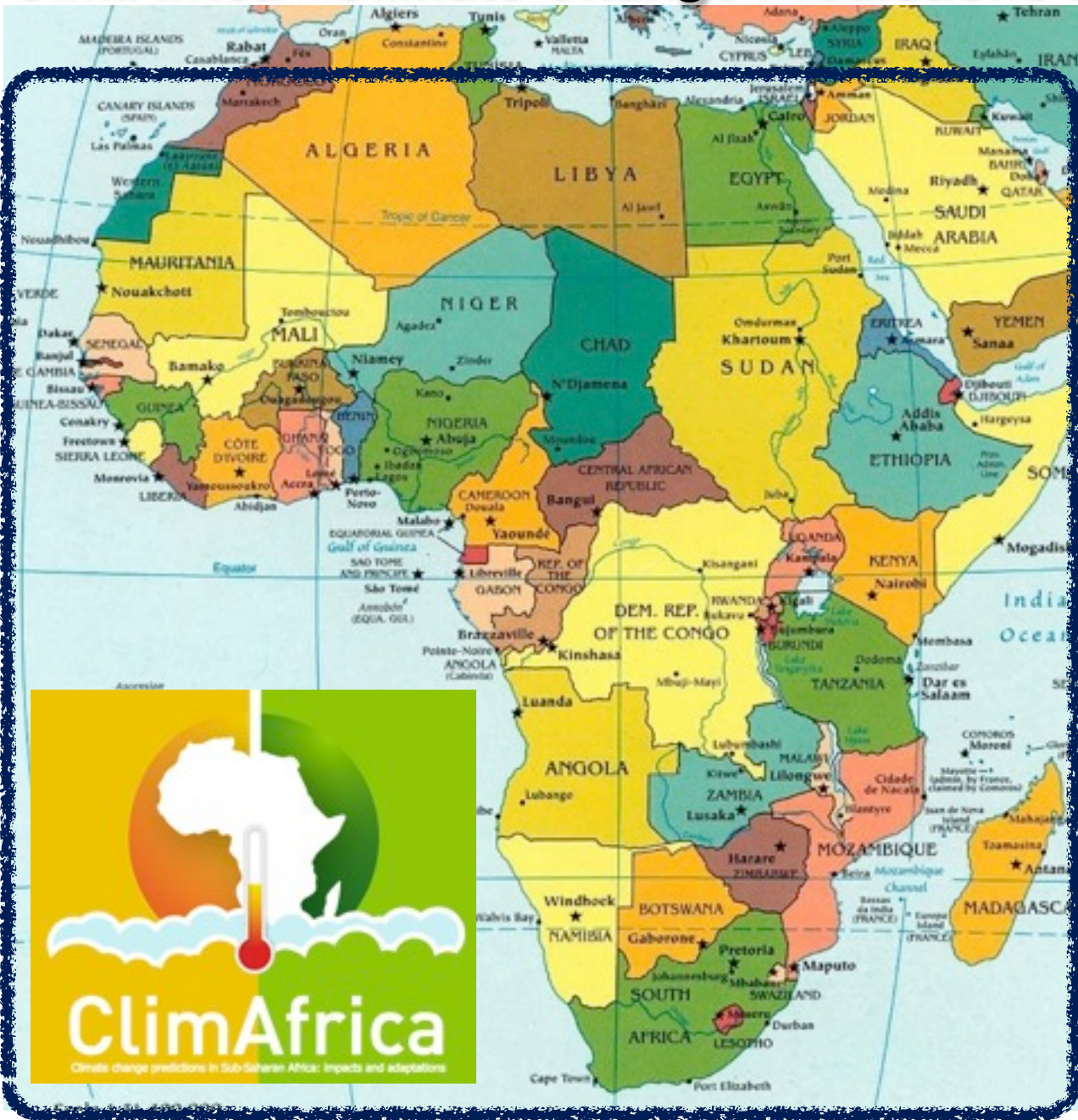


**ClimAfrica**  
Climate change predictions in Sub-Saharan Africa: Impacts and Adaptations



# ClimAfrica - Climate Change Predictions in SSA

- All sub-Saharan Africa at 0.5 degrees 2010-2030 (SD and ND - UCT)





# ClimAfrica - Climate Change Predictions in SSA

- All sub-Saharan Africa at 0.5 degrees 2010-2030 (SD and ND - UCT)
- Case study regions at the point scale (SD)
- Three selected countries at higher resolution (0.22 degrees)





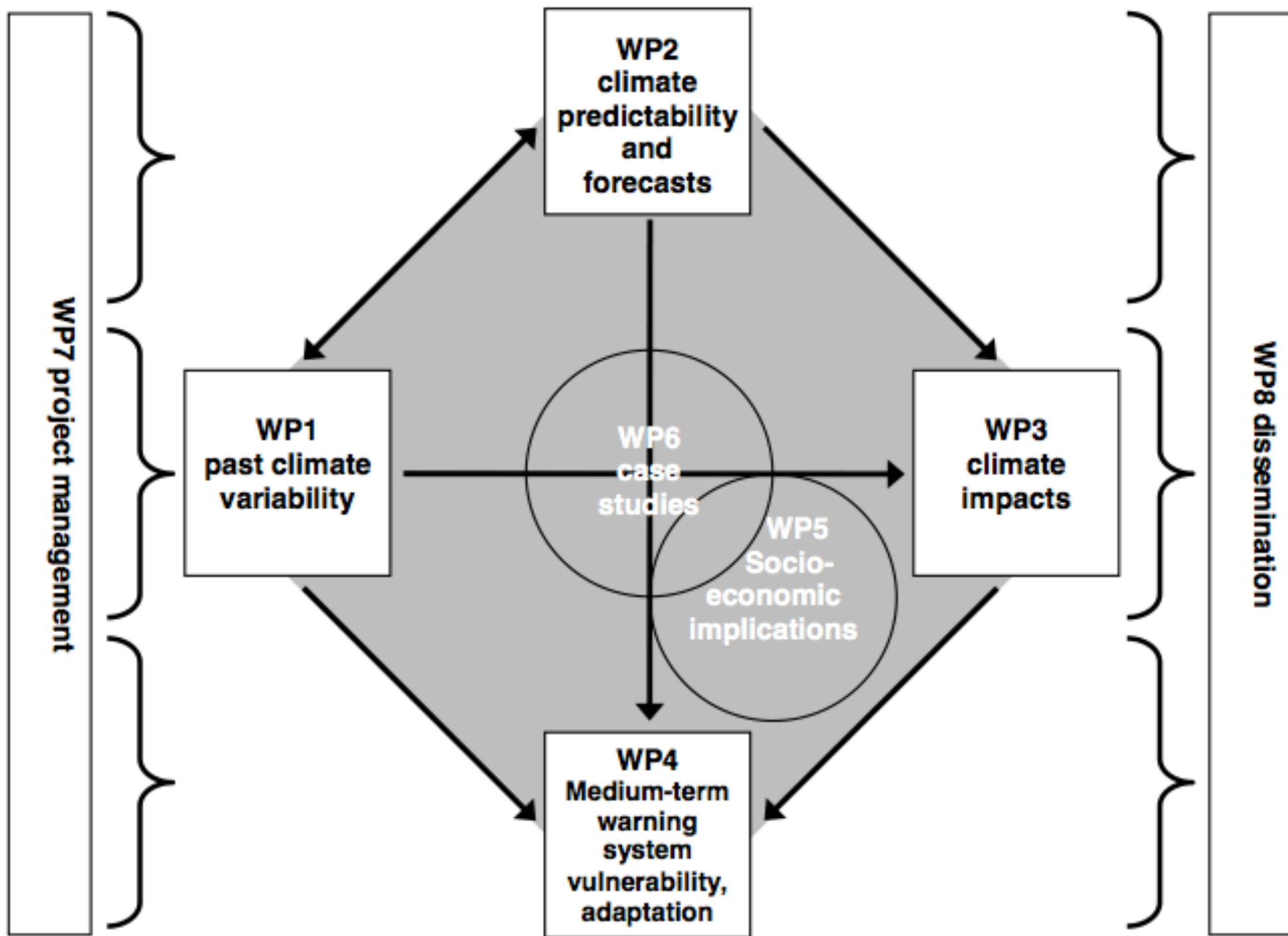
# ClimAfrica - Climate Change Predictions in SSA

- All sub-Saharan Africa at 0.5 degrees 2010-2030 (SD and ND - UCT)
- Case study regions at the point scale (SD)
- Three selected countries at higher resolution (0.22 degrees)
- 3 modelling groups:  
UCT (SA)  
ICPAC (Kenya)  
VUA (Holland)

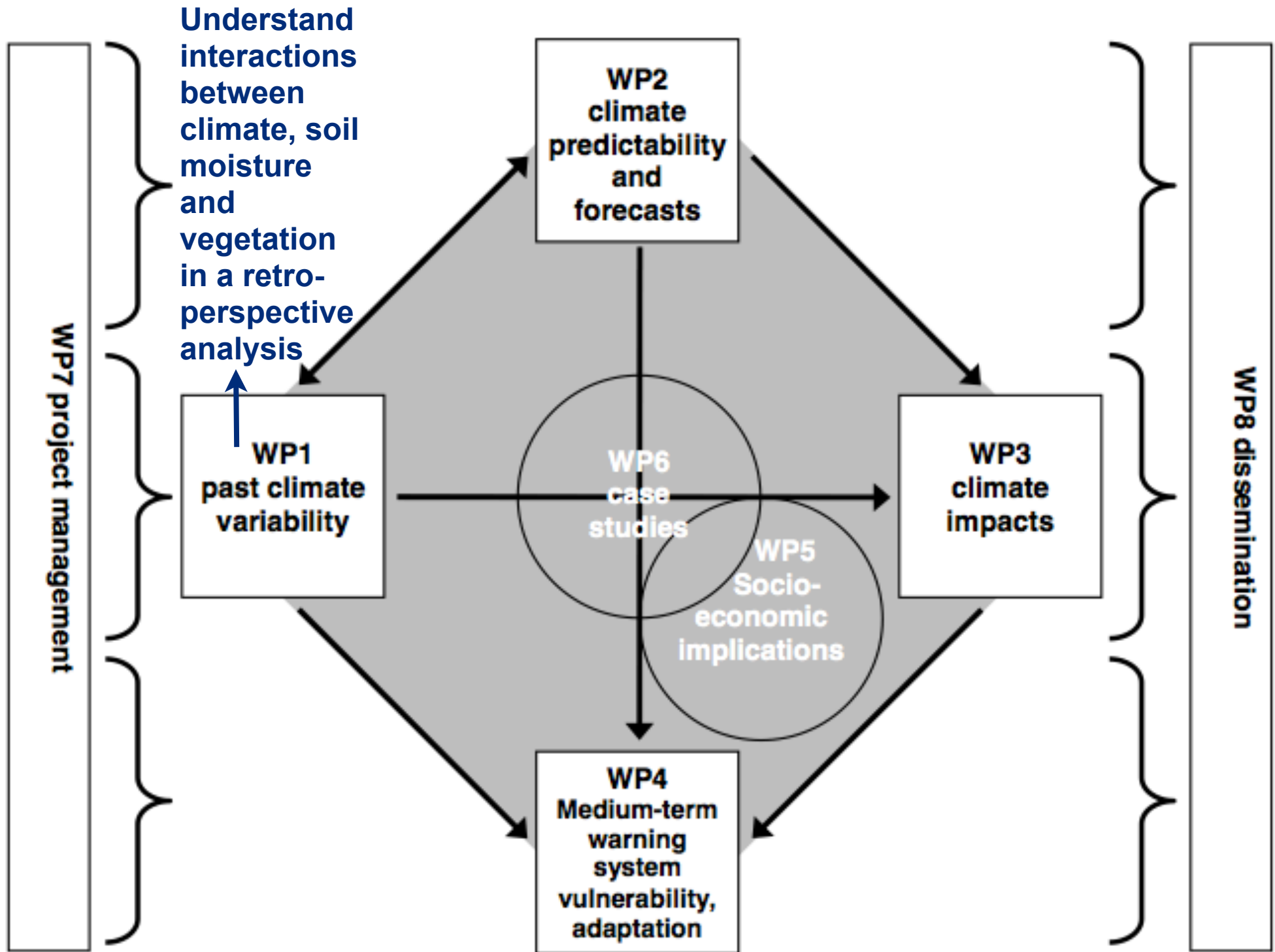




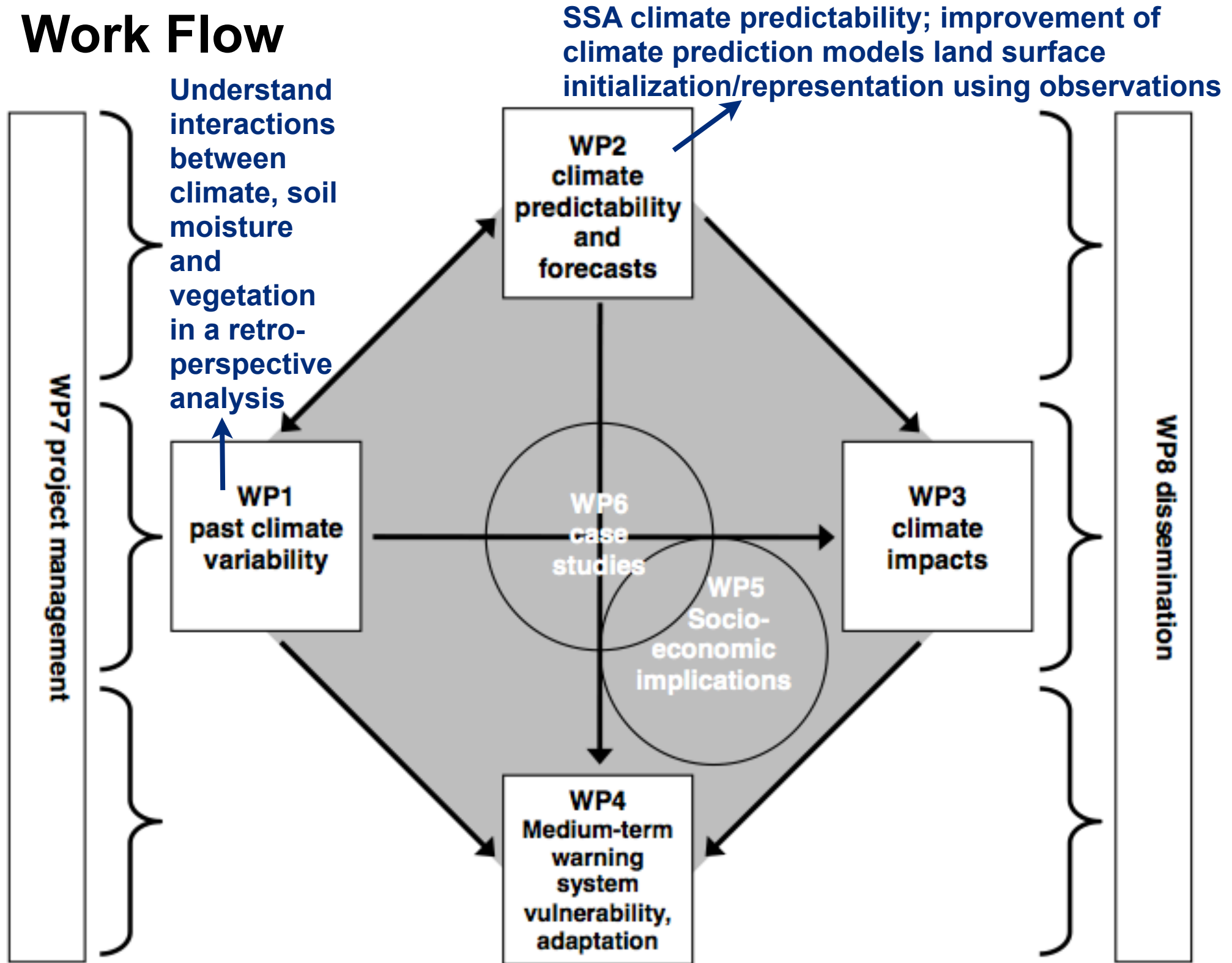
# Work Flow



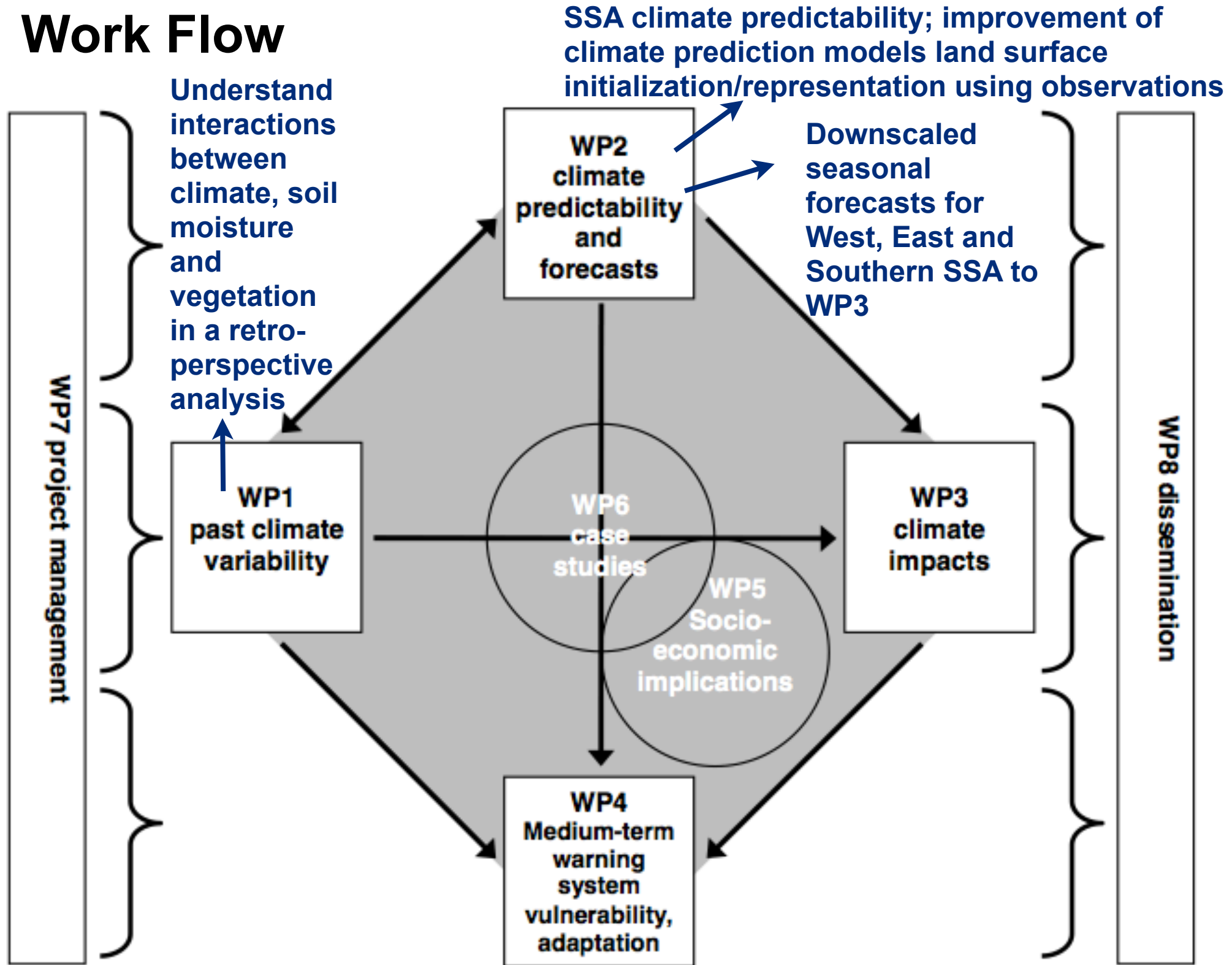
# Work Flow



# Work Flow

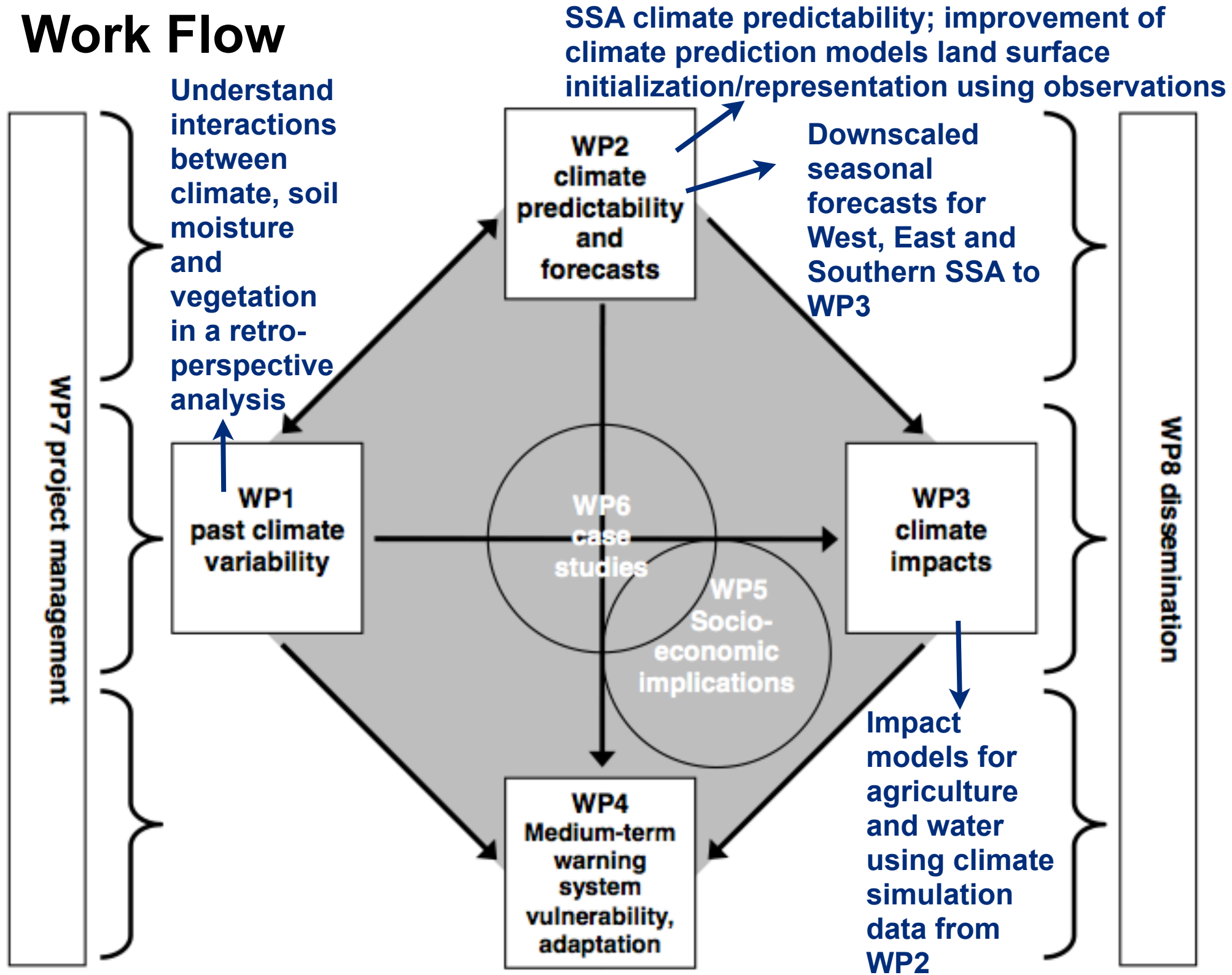


# Work Flow

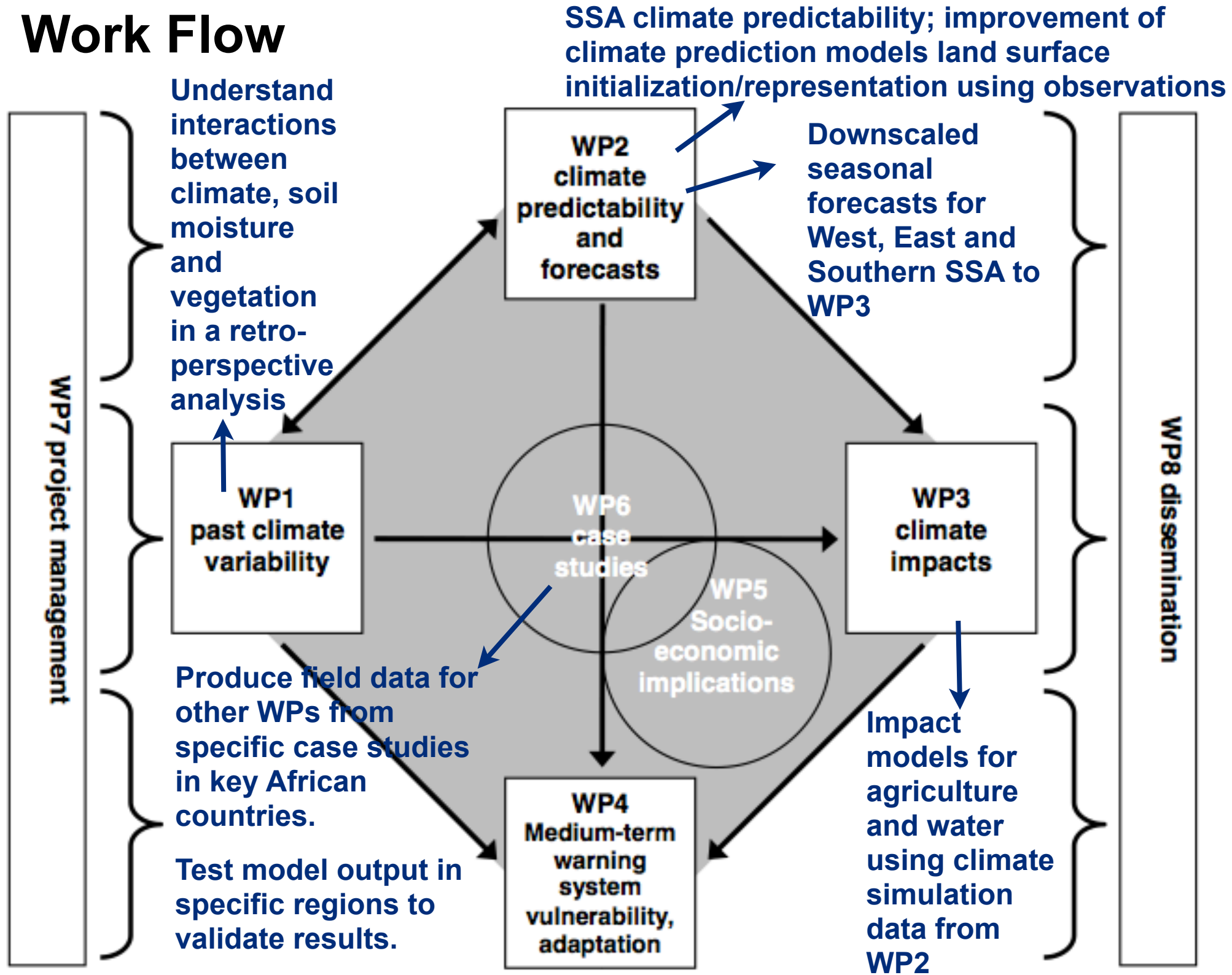




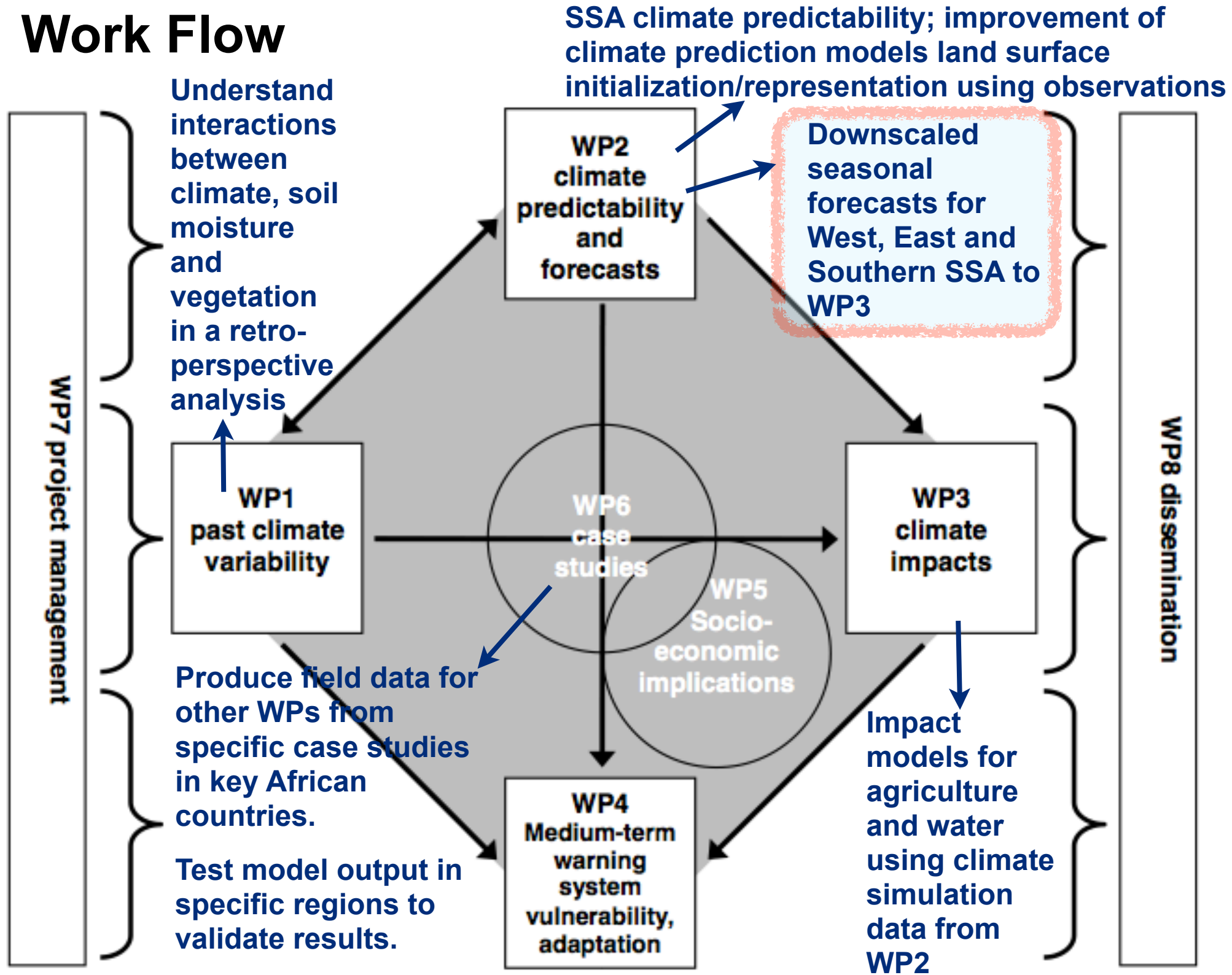
# Work Flow



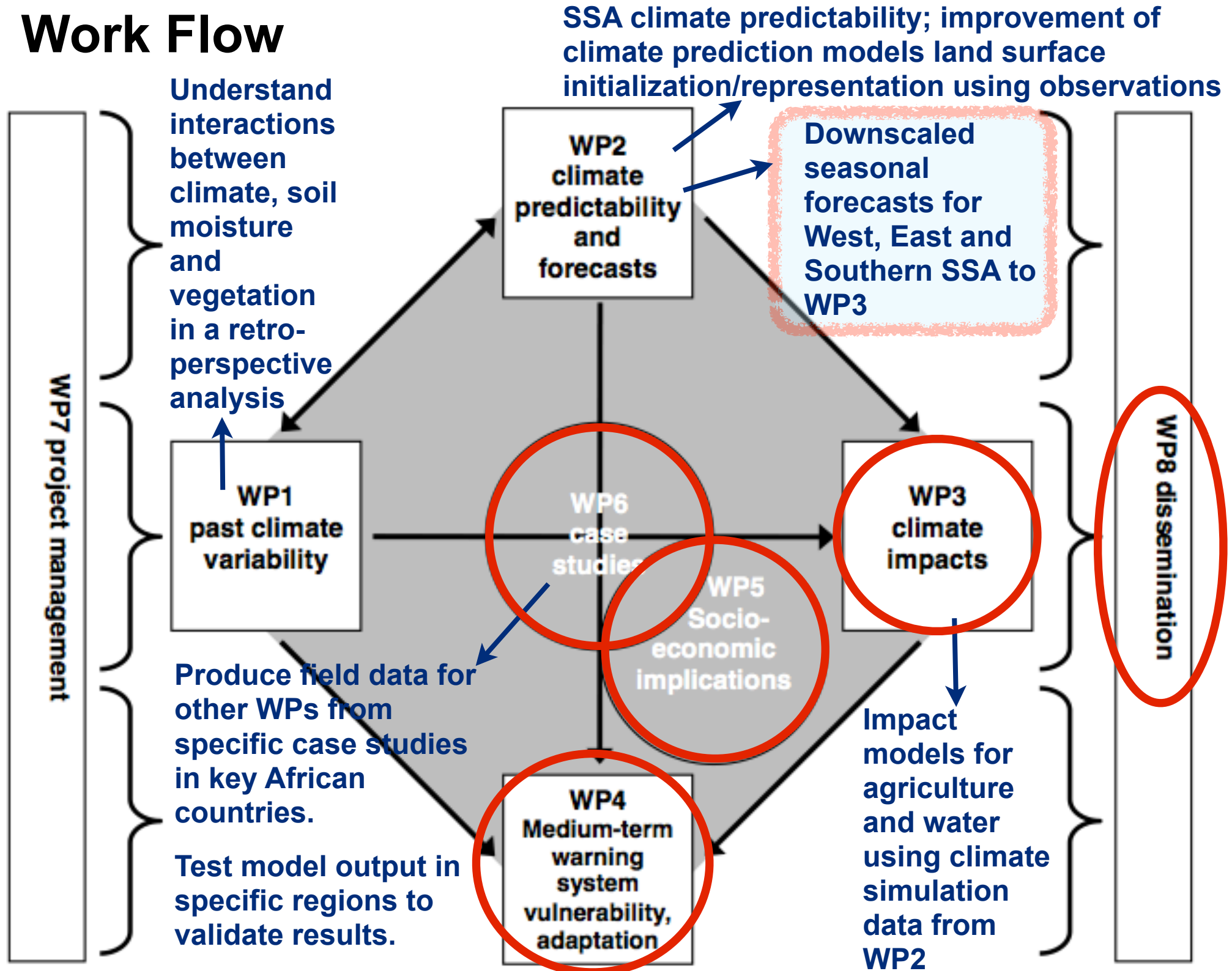
# Work Flow



# Work Flow



# Work Flow





# Cordex - Africa

What is next.....



# Cordex - Africa

What is next.....



## CMIP 5 downscalings

12 Africa CORDEX projections  
6 historical + 6 future (2 RCPs  
per GCM

2 more workshops planned:  
1 analysis

1 writeshop

# Cordex - Africa

What is next.....



## CMIP 5 downscalings

12 Africa CORDEX projections  
6 historical + 6 future (2 RCPs  
per GCM

2 more workshops planned:  
1 analysis

1 writeshop



# Cordex - Africa

What is next.....



## CMIP 5 downscalings

12 Africa CORDEX projections  
6 historical + 6 future (2 RCPs  
per GCM

2 more workshops planned:  
1 analysis

1 writeshop



<http://www.climafrica.net/>

**Putting the 'CO' in  
CORDEX.....**

**..... A LOT OF WORK!**



# Cordex Web Presence

The official WCRP CORDEX page

[http://wcrp.ipsl.jussieu.fr/SF\\_RCD\\_CORDEX.html](http://wcrp.ipsl.jussieu.fr/SF_RCD_CORDEX.html)

CORDEX Africa

<http://www.csag.uct.ac.za/cordex>

CORDEX Europe

<http://www.eurocordex.com>

DMI Archive

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

ClimAfrica

<http://www.climafrika.net/>

