

Regional Initiative for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources & Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region

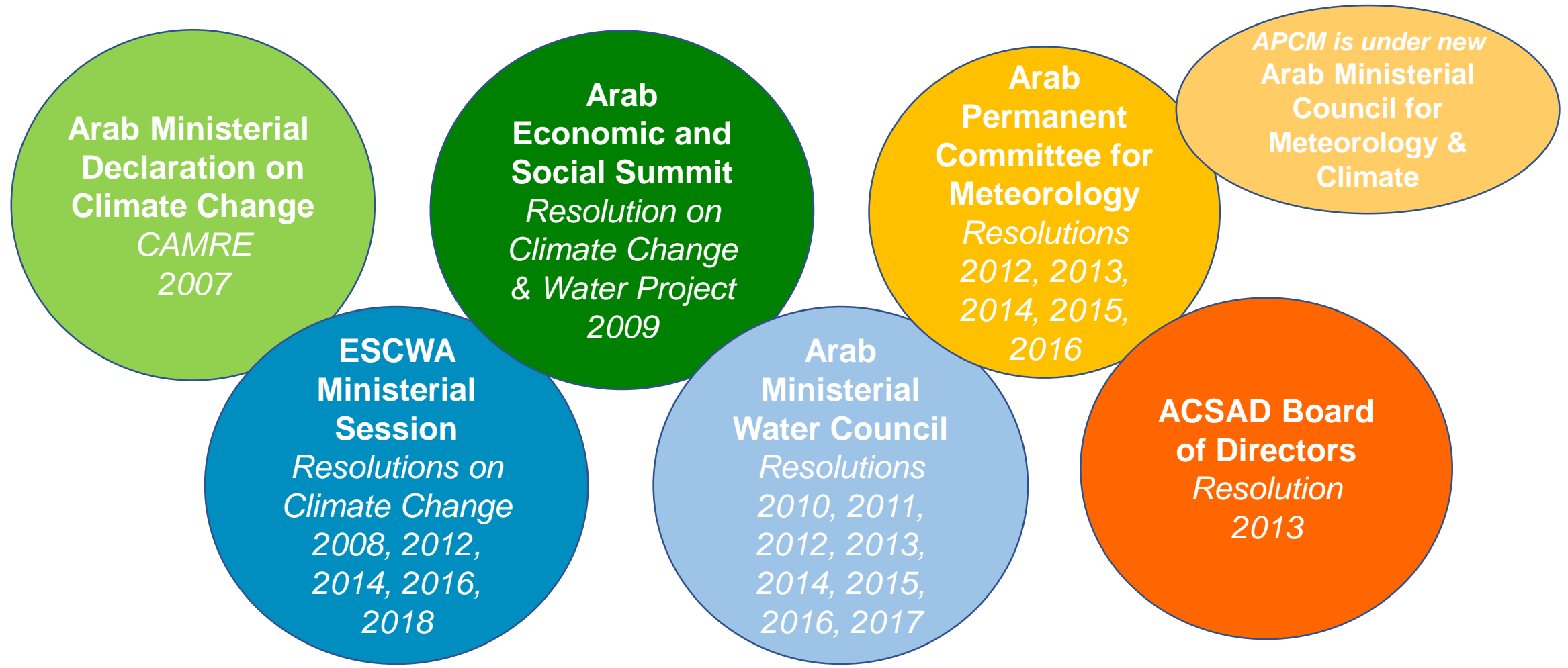
Integrated Assessment



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Sustainable Development Policies Division
UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Building Capacity for Accessing Disruptive Technologies for Improved Water Resources Management under Climate Change
Beirut, 14-15 January 2020

Intergovernmental Mandates calling for & supporting Climate Change Assessment in the Arab Region



Environment

Foreign Affairs & Planning

Water

Meteorology

Agriculture

RICCAR

Objective: To assess the impact of climate change on freshwater resources in the Arab Region through a consultative regional initiative that scientifically identifies the socio-economic and environmental vulnerability caused by climate change impacts on water resources based on regional specificities.

Purpose: To provide a common platform for assessing, addressing and informing response to climate change impacts on freshwater resources in the Arab region by serving as the basis for dialogue, priority setting and policy formulation on climate change at the regional level.

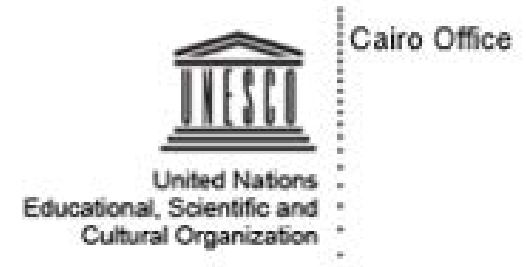
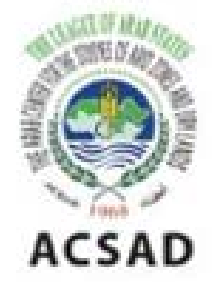
Assessment

Adaptation

Mitigation

Negotiations

RICCAR Partnerships

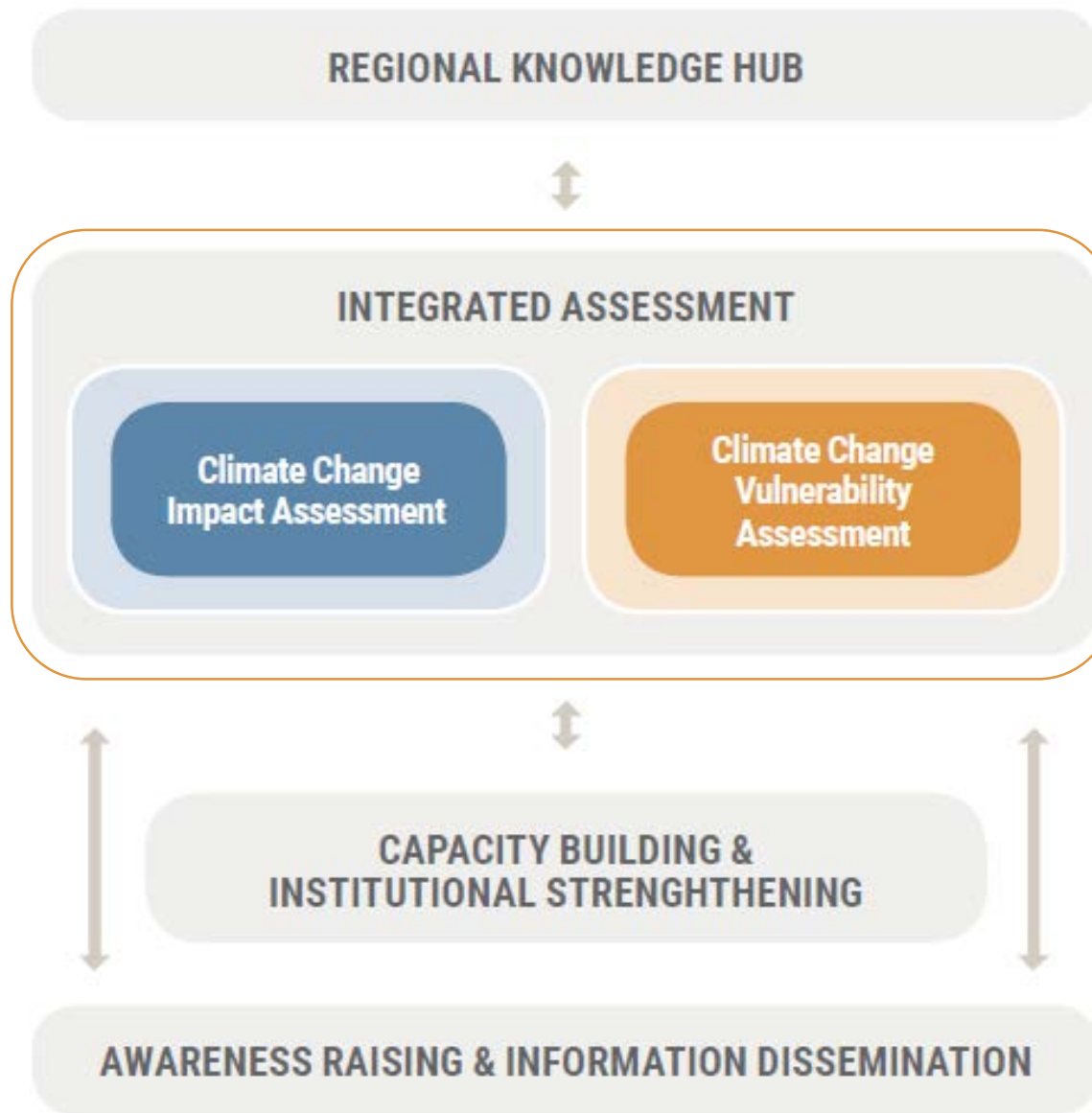


SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION AGENCY

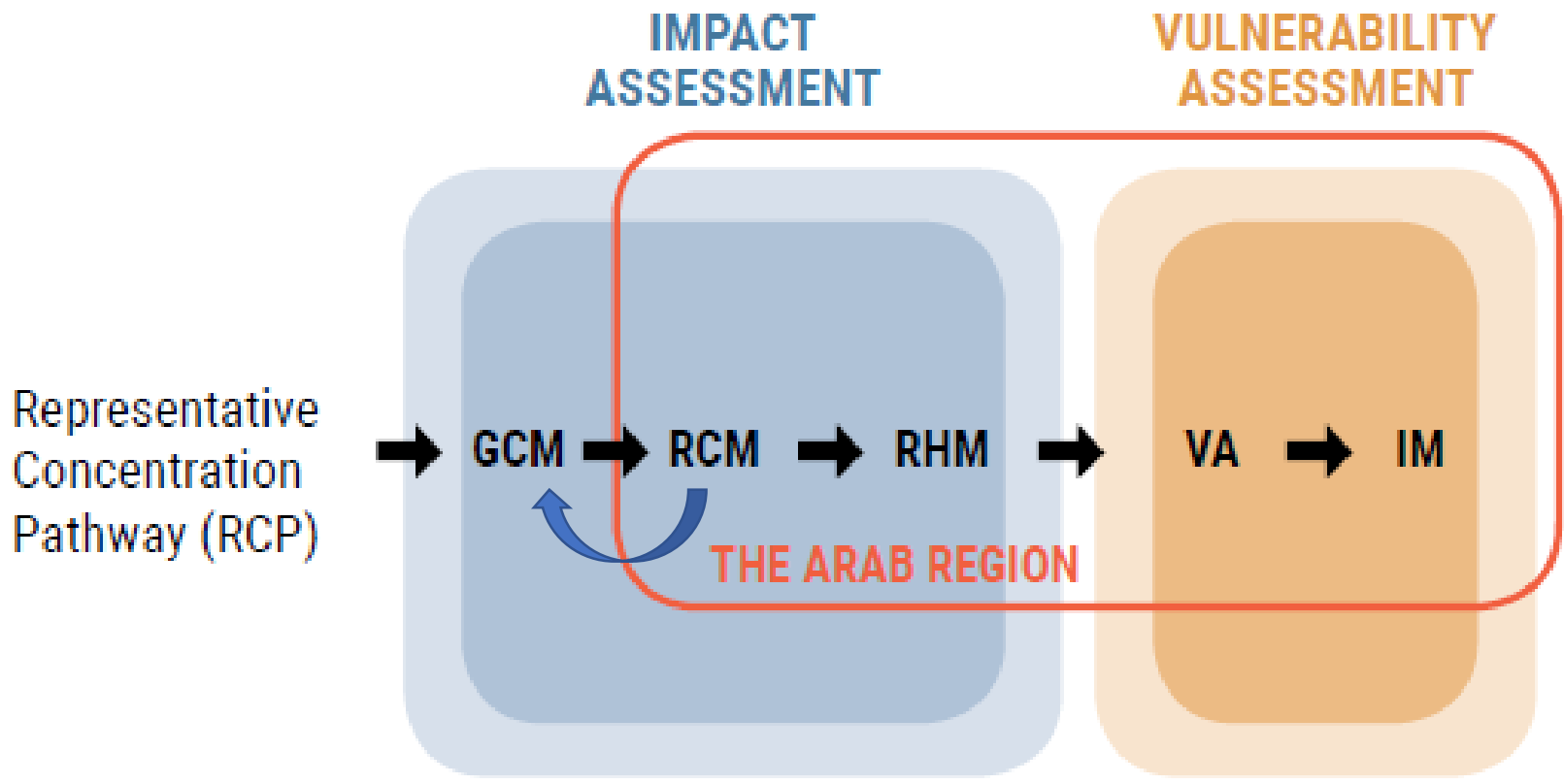
ACCWaM

CORDEX/MENA Domain housed at
The Cyprus Institute

Pillars of Work



Integrated Assessment



GCM: Global Climate Modelling
RCM: Regional Climate Modelling
RHM: Regional Hydrological Modeling

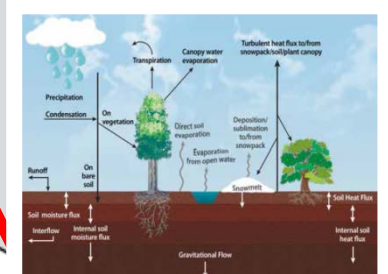
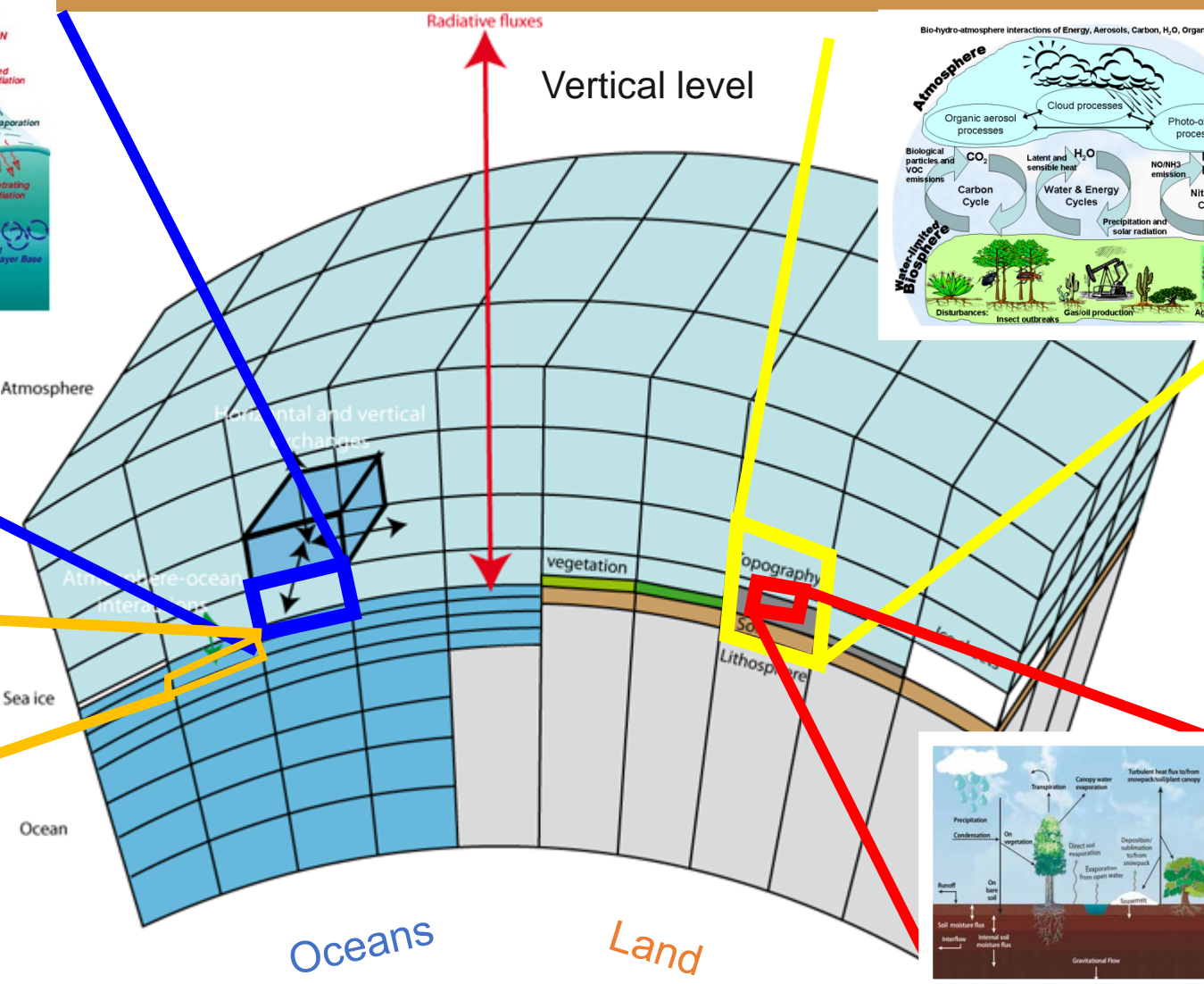
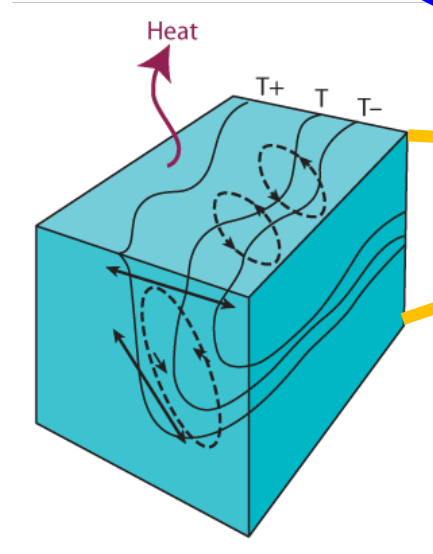
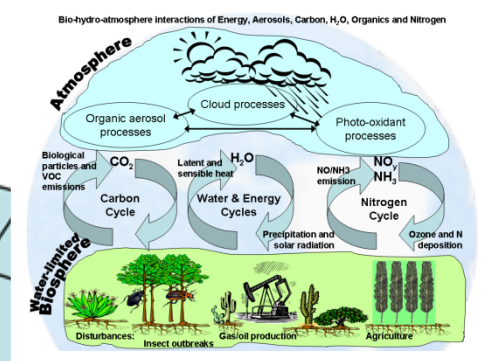
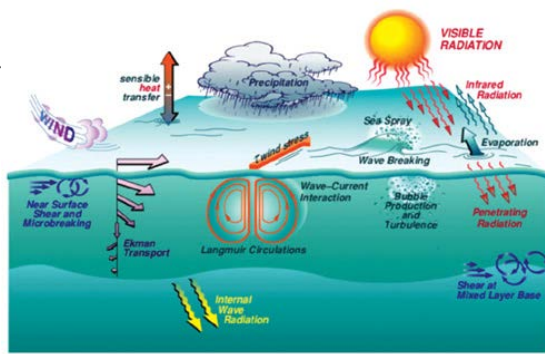
VA: Vulnerability Assessment
IM: Integrated Mapping

When examining Regional Climate Modelling and Hydrological modelling outputs, consider:

- 1) What **scale** of outputs do you need?
- 2) Which **Essential Climate Variables** are you interested in?
- 3) What **Domain** to use or draw upon for regional climate modelling?
- 4) Which **Climate Scenario** is of interest to your work?
- 5) Can you allocate the time needed to consider an **Ensemble** of projections for quantifying the range of uncertainty?
- 6) What **Time Intervals** do you need? Daily; Monthly; 10-year; 20-year; mid-century; end-century

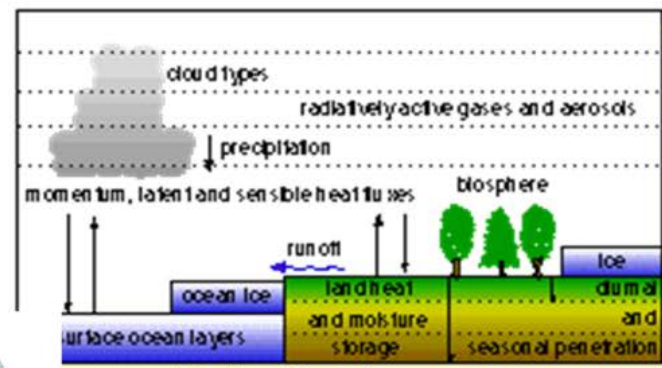
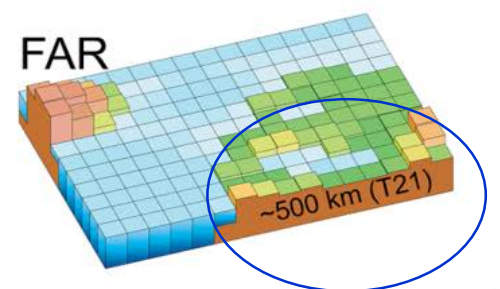
*And ultimately, do you need ready-made **outputs (projections) or inputs (dataset)** for use in other models?*

1- Scale: Computing Climate Variables

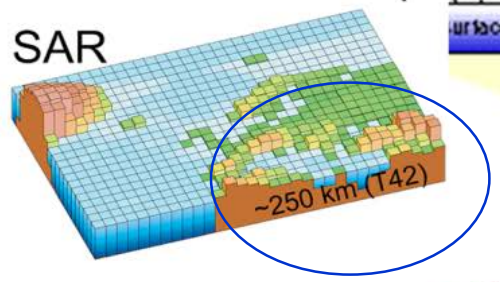


Computing Climate Variables: Scale Improving Over Time

IPCC
1990

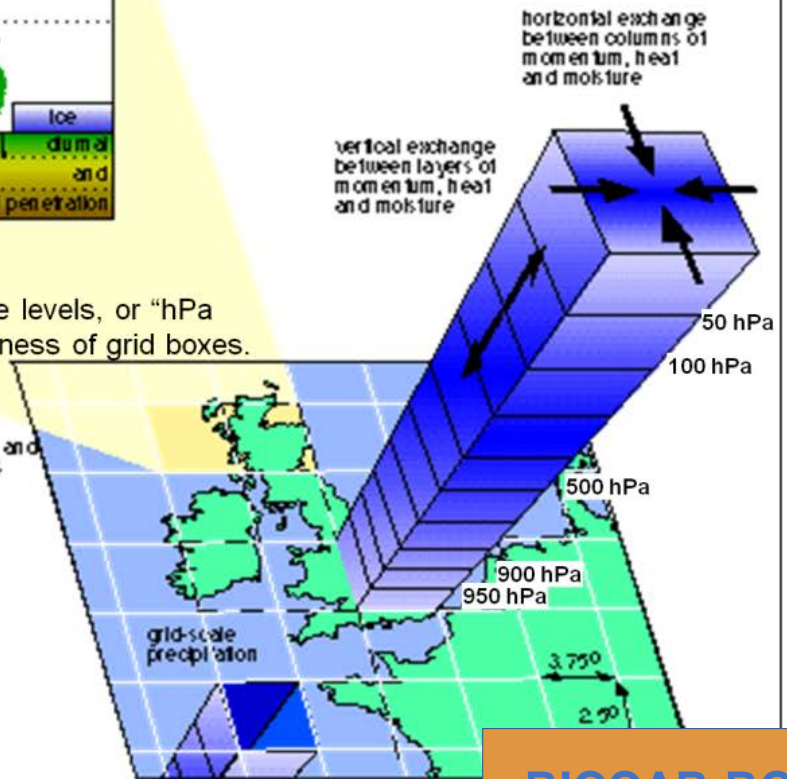
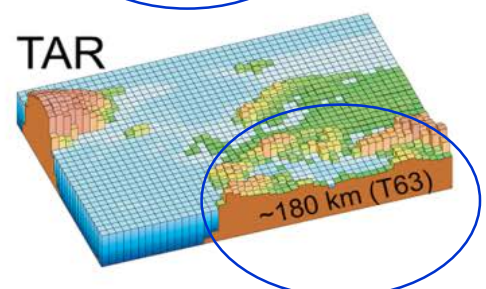


1995



Relative position of pressure levels, or "hPa Levels" that define the thickness of grid boxes.

2001



2007



Horizontal Grid:
Evolution of horizontal resolution over the course of the Various IPCC reports

vertical exchange between layers of momentum, heat and salts by diffusion, convection and upwelling

horizontal exchange between columns by diffusion and advection

**RICCAR RCM Outputs
now at
50x50 km & 25x25 km
Mashreq to be at 10 km²**

AR5 in 2014

AR6 in 2021/2022

2- Essential Climate Variables: Generated per Grid Box

Atmosphere

Surface

- [Precipitation](#)
- [Pressure](#)
- [Radiation budget](#)
- [Temperature](#)
- [Water vapour](#)
- [Wind speed and direction](#)

Upper-air

- [Earth radiation budget](#)
- [Lightning](#)
- [Temperature](#)
- [Water vapor](#)
- [Wind speed and direction](#)

Atmospheric Composition

- [Aerosols](#)
- [Carbon dioxide, methane and other greenhouse gases](#)
- [Clouds](#)
- [Ozone](#)
- [Precursors for aerosols and ozone](#)

Land

Hydrosphere

- [Groundwater](#)
- [Lakes](#)
- [River discharge](#)

Cryosphere

- [Glaciers](#)
- [Ice sheets and ice shelves](#)
- [Permafrost](#)
- [Snow](#)

Biosphere

- [Above-ground biomass](#)
- [Albedo](#)
- [Evaporation from land](#)
- [Fire](#)
- [Fraction of absorbed photosynthetically active radiation \(FAPAR\)](#)
- [Land cover](#)
- [Land surface temperature](#)
- [Leaf area index](#)
- [Soil carbon](#)
- [Soil moisture](#)

Anthroposphere

- [Anthropogenic Greenhouse gas fluxes](#)
- [Anthropogenic water use](#)

Ocean

Physical

- [Ocean surface heat flux](#)
- [Sea ice](#)
- [Sea level](#)
- [Sea state](#)
- [Sea surface currents](#)
- [Sea surface salinity](#)
- [Sea surface stress](#)
- [Sea surface temperature](#)
- [Subsurface currents](#)
- [Subsurface salinity](#)
- [Subsurface temperature](#)

Biogeochemical

- [Inorganic carbon](#)
- [Nitrous oxide](#)
- [Nutrients](#)
- [Ocean colour](#)
- [Oxygen](#)
- [Transient tracers](#)

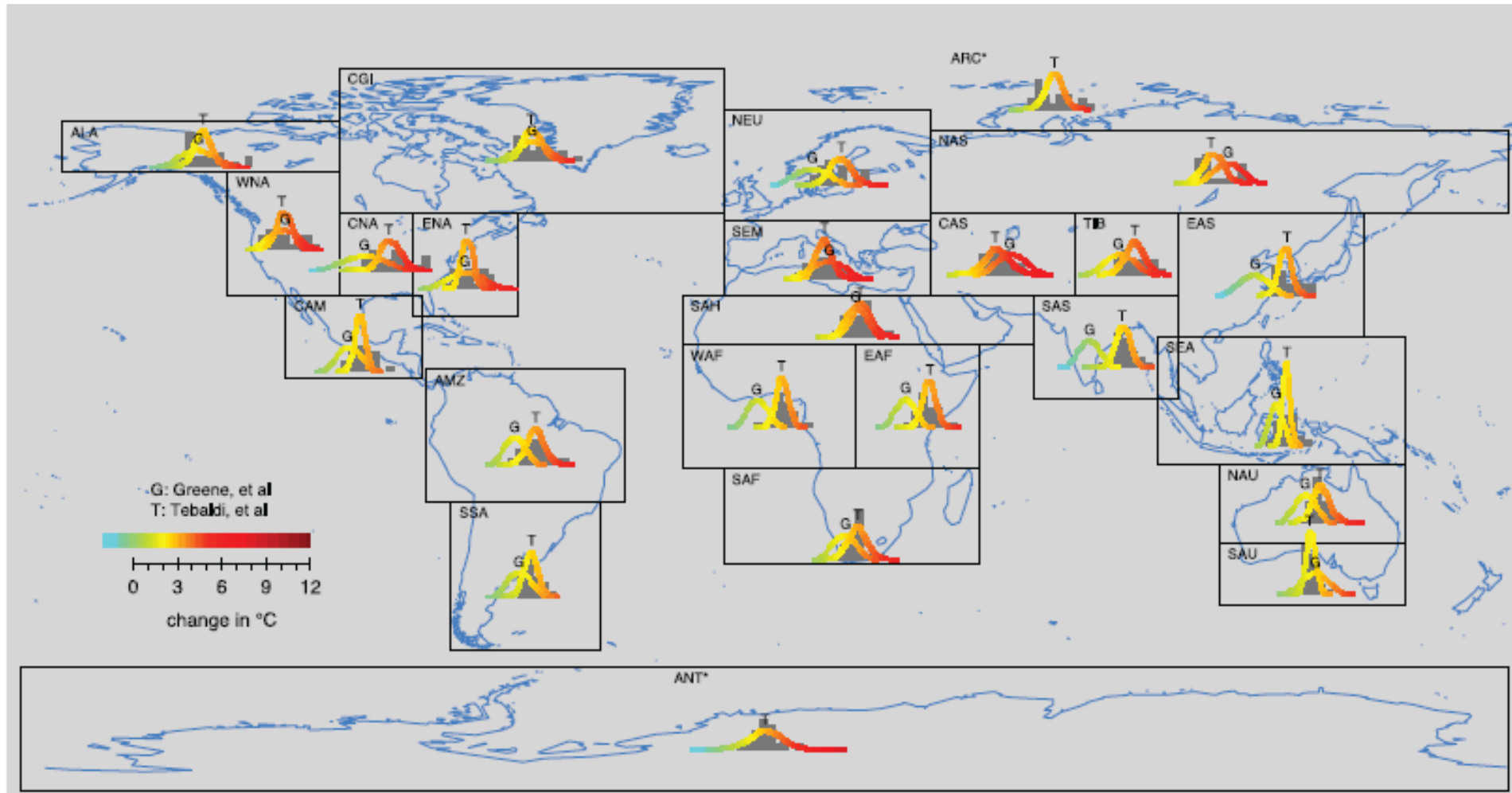
Biological/ecosystems

- [Marine habitats](#)
- [Plankton](#)

RICCAR RCMs are land-based models and do not generate Oceanic Variables

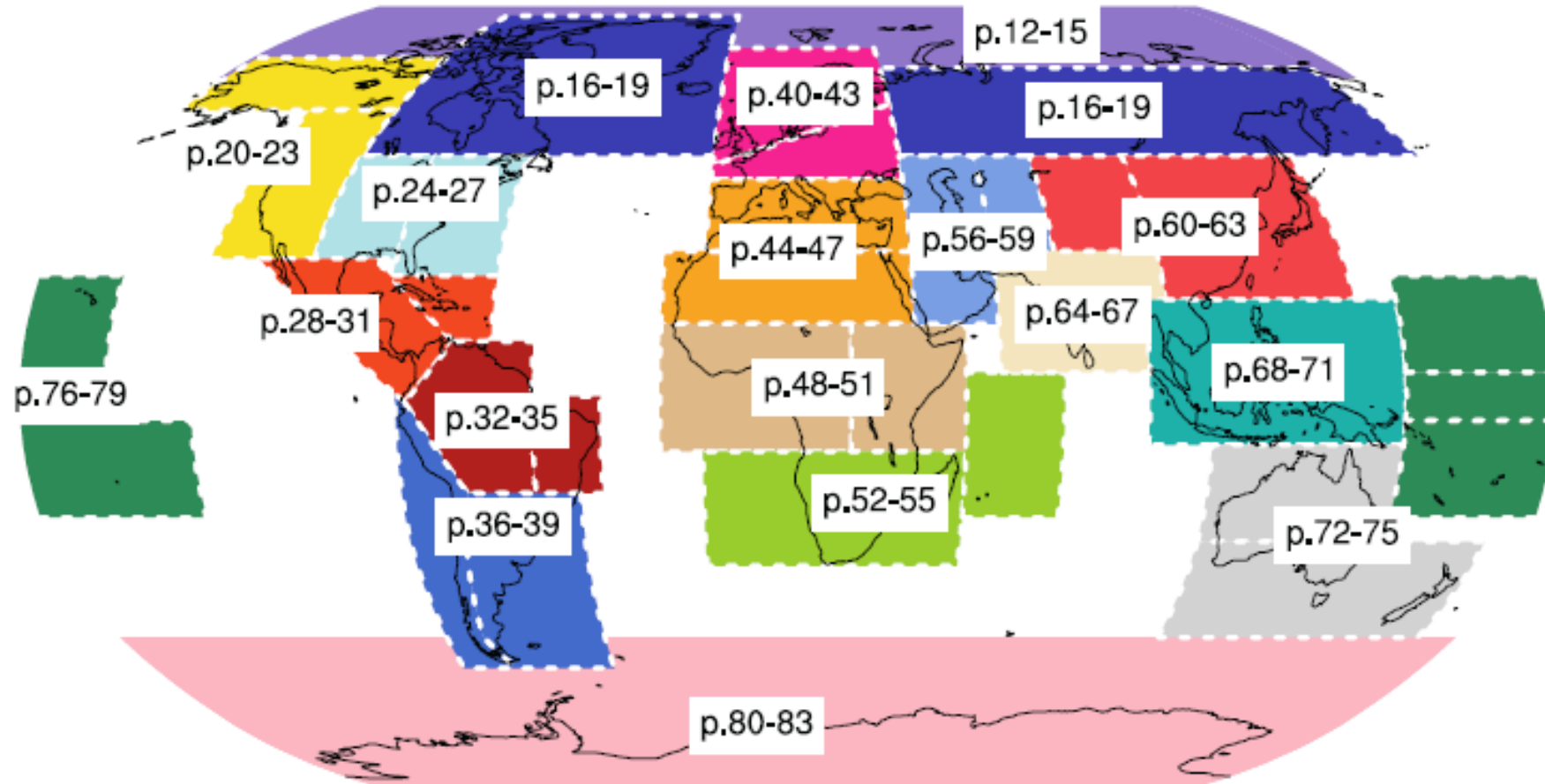
Essential Climate Variables (ECV) datasets provide the empirical evidence needed to understand and predict the evolution of climate

3-Domain: IPCC Regional Domains (2010)



From R.K Kolli, WMO
RICCAR EGM #2 (Beirut, 2010)

IPCC Regional Domains (2013)



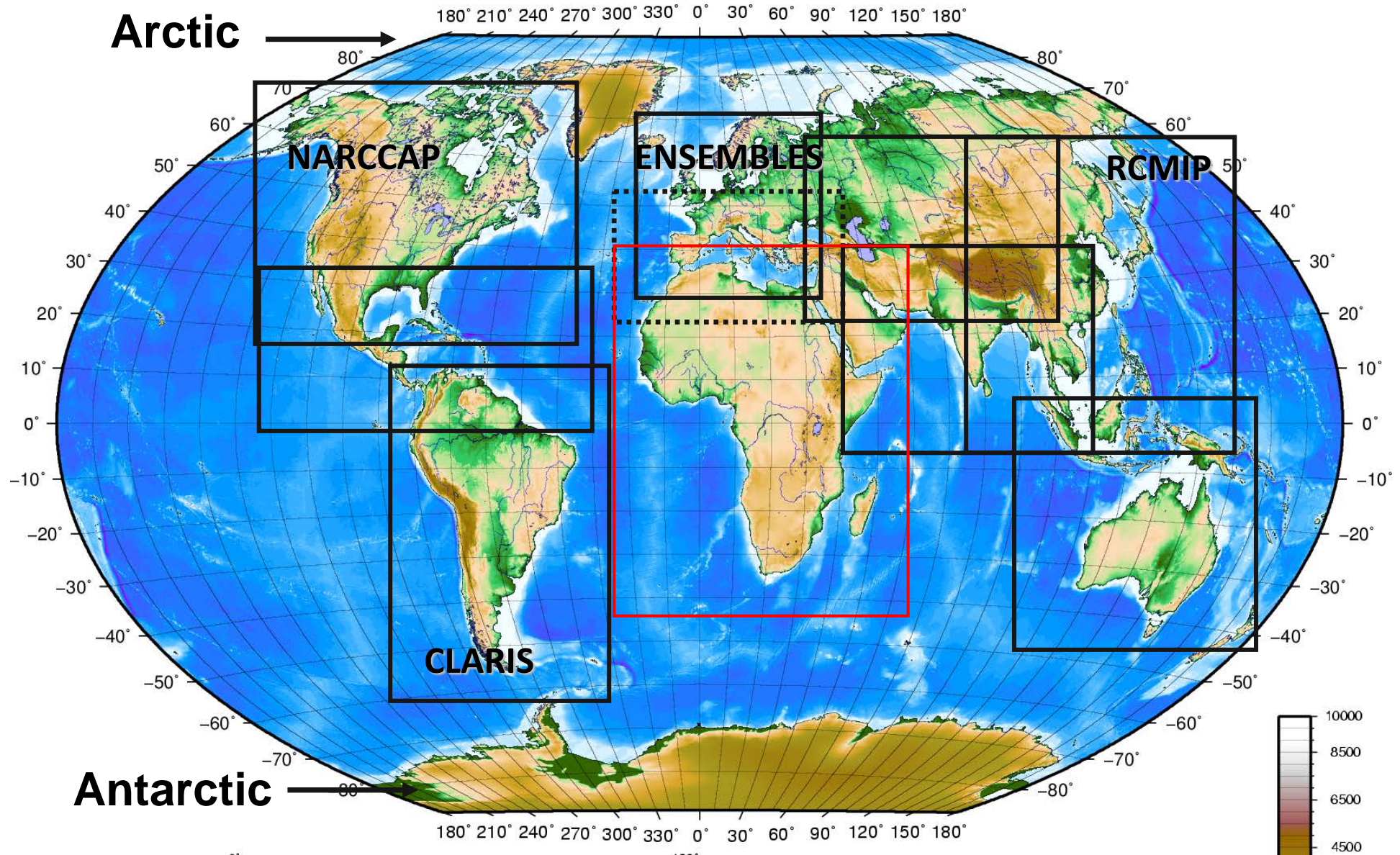
1
2 **Figure AI.3: Overview of the SREX, ocean and polar regions used.**

SREX: Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation

*IPCC Assessment Report 5 – WGI: Annex I
Draft: 30 September 2013*

CORDEX Domains (2012)

Coordinated Regional Climate Downscaling Experiment



CORDEX-MENA Working Group

- Preliminary RCM Ensemble Meeting (Brussels, 2013)
- First **CORDEX MENA-CA Meeting** (Nicosia, November 2014)
- Organized by CORDEX (WMO) with SMHI & Hosted by The Cyprus Institute.

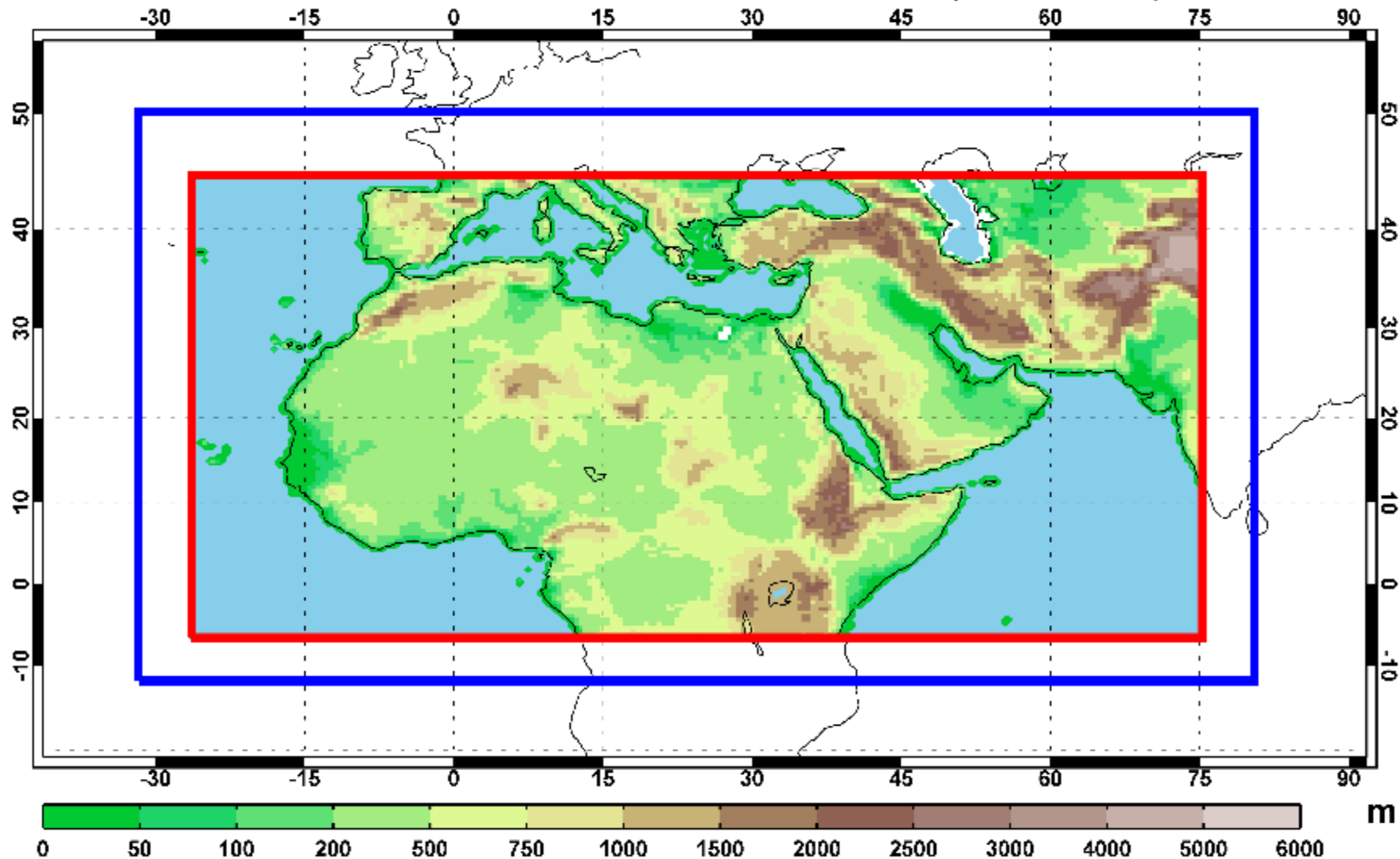
Attending or Interested Centers:

- King Abdulaziz University (KAU) - KSA
- King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) - KSA
- Istanbul Technical University (Turkey)
- Bogazici University (Turkey)
- Cairo University
- Jet Propulsion Laboratory (USA)
- Max Plank Institute for Chemistry (Germany)
- Italian Aerospace Research Center (CIRA)
- Qatar Meteorology Department
- SMHI
- ACSAD
- Maroc Meteo
- The Cyprus Institute
- WMO
- ESCWA

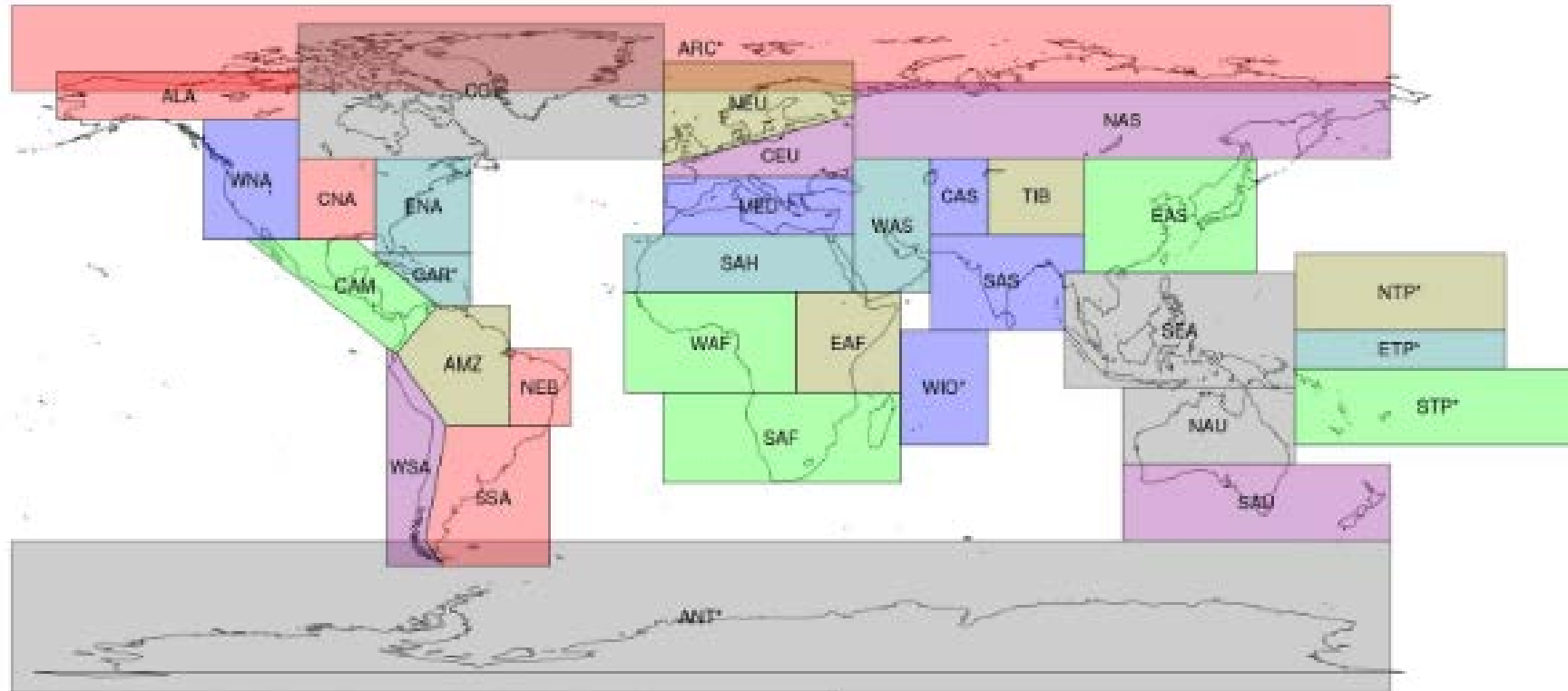
MENA Domain

CORDEX-MENA/Arab Domain | 0.44° (50 km)

— Active Domain — Full Domain (SMHI-RCA4)



IPCC Regional Domains (2014)



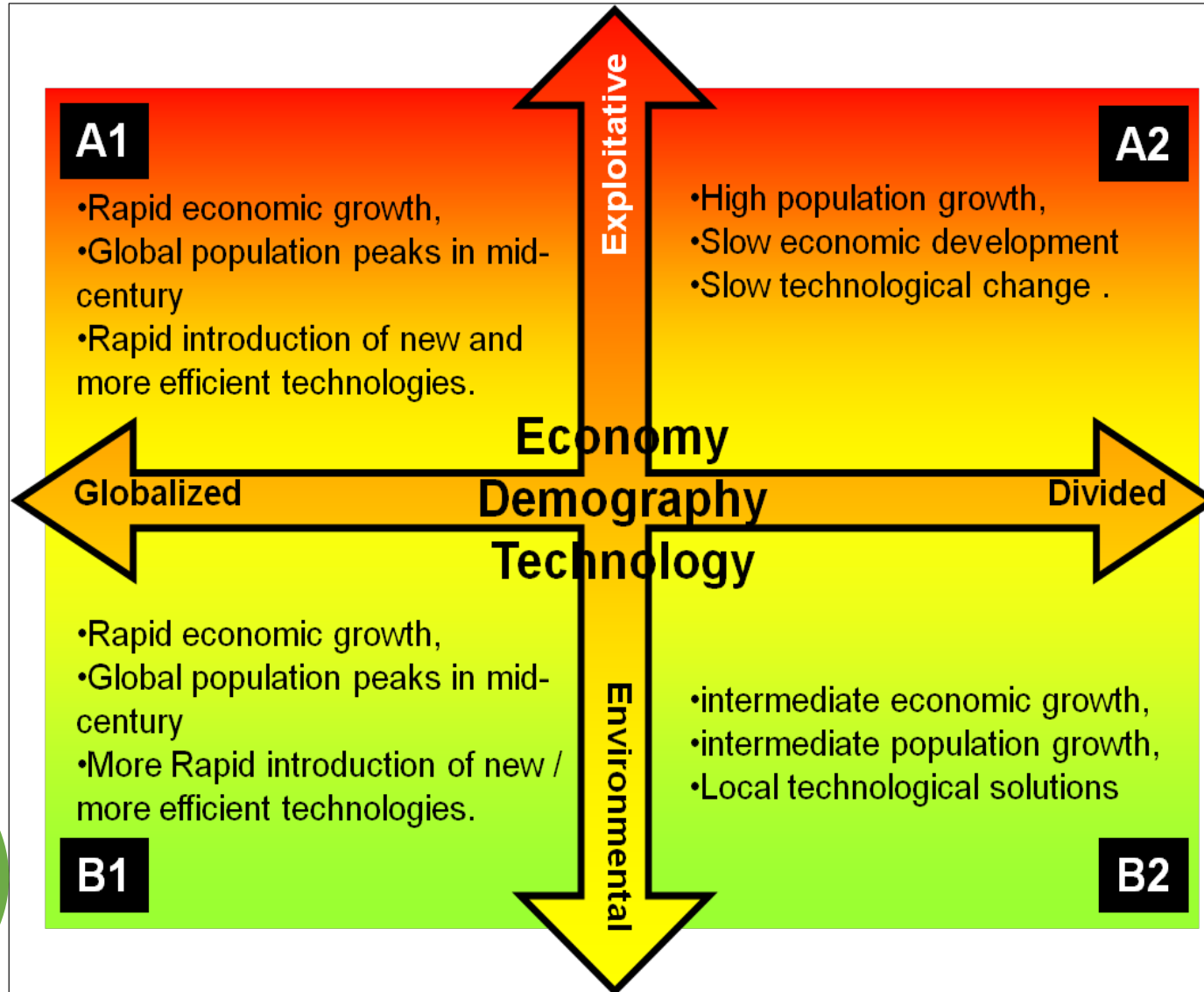
ALA : Alaska/N.W. Canada [ALA:1]	SAH : Sahara [SAH:14]
AMZ : Amazon [AMZ:7]	SAS : South Asia [SAS:23]
CAM : Central America/Mexico [CAM:6]	SAU : South Australia/New Zealand [SAU:26]
CAR* : small islands regions Caribbean	SEA : Southeast Asia [SEA:24]
CAS : Central Asia [CAS:20]	SSA : Southeastern South America [SSA:10]
CEU : Central Europe [CEU:12]	TIB : Tibetan Plateau [TIB:21]
CGI : Canada/Greenland/Iceland [CGI:2]	WAF : West Africa [WAF:15]
CNA : Central North America [CNA:4]	WAS : West Asia [WAS:19]
EAF : East Africa [EAF:16]	WNA : West North America [WNA:3]
EAS : East Asia [EAS:22]	WSA : West Coast South America [WSA:9]
ENA : East North America [ENA:5]	ANT* : Antarctica
MED : South Europe/Mediterranean [MED:13]	ARC* : Arctic
NAS : North Asia [NAS:18]	NTP* : Pacific Islands region[2]
NAU : North Australia [NAU:25]	STP* : Southern Topical Pacific
NEB : North-East Brazil [NEB:8]	ETP* : Pacific Islands region[3]
NEU : North Europe [NEU:11]	WIO* : West Indian Ocean
SAF : Southern Africa [SAF:17]	

Spatial boundaries of the
geographical regions used in the
IPCC 5th Assessment Report (AR5)
(2014)

http://www.ipcc-data.org/guidelines/pages/ar5_regions.html

4- Climate Scenarios

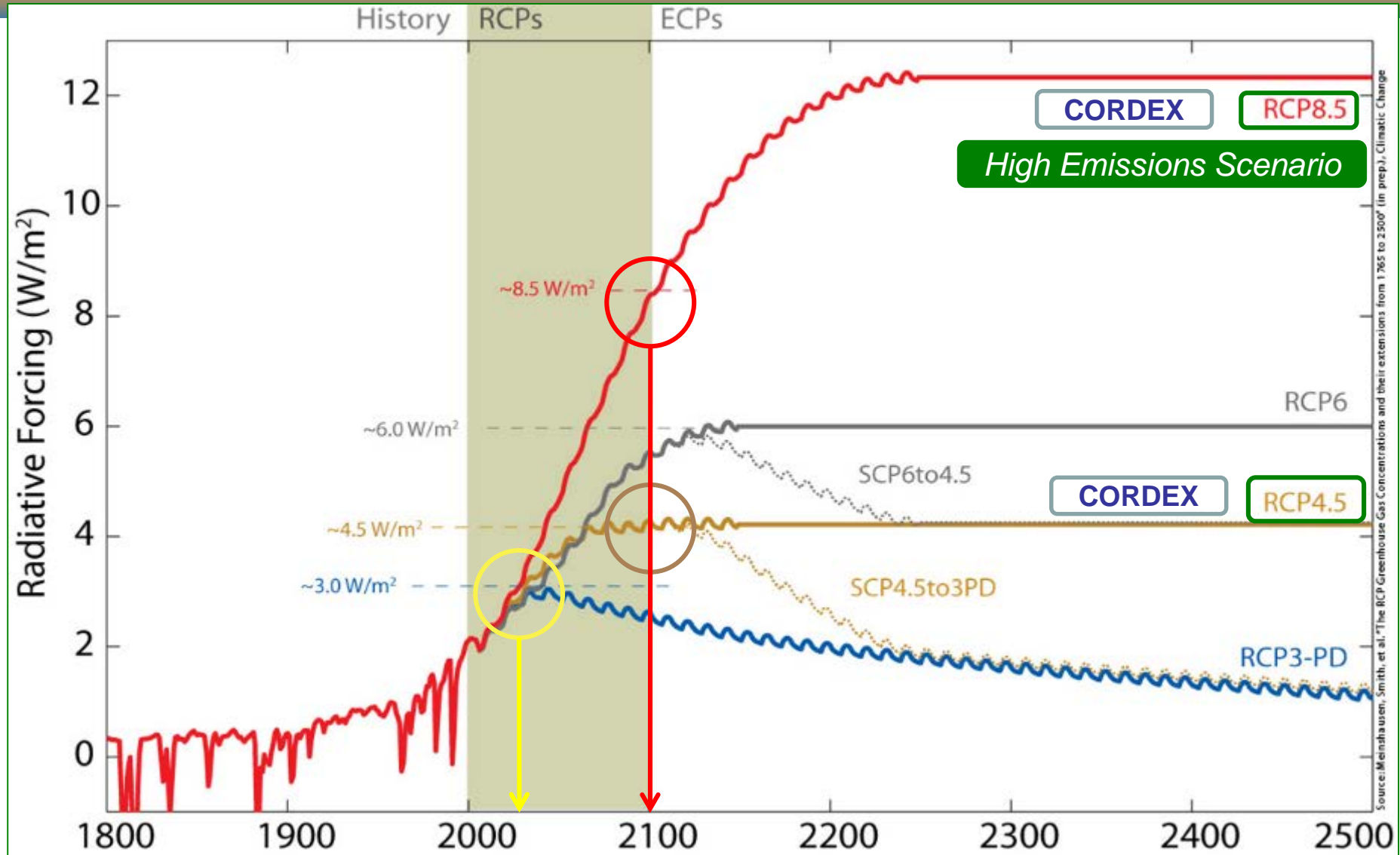
Special Report on Emission Scenarios (SRES) - SRES used in IPCC AR4 (2007)



Average
3.4C
Temp
increase
Scenario

Average
1.8 C
Temp
increase
Scenario

Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs) Scenarios used in IPCC AR5

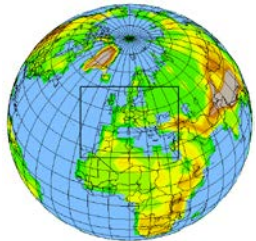
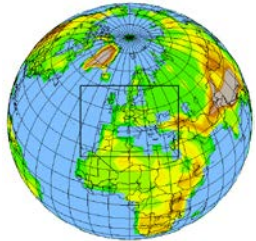
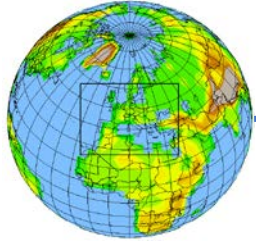


Graph adapted from: Meinshausen et al., 2010

5- Regional Climate Modeling as Core Component

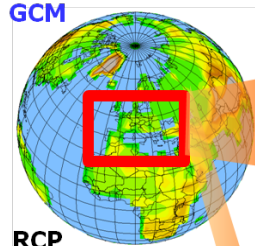
GCM ensembles used by IPCC

Different GCMs



At least 3 projections for the same scenario to generate an Ensemble

General Circulation Model (GCM)

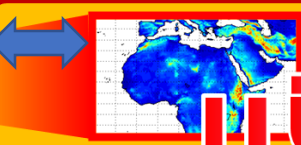


RCP
GCMs at 300 km x 300 km

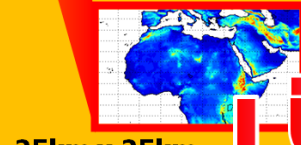
Ensemble Average used to reduce uncertainty at level of RCMs & RHM

Ensembles compare findings of different RCMs & RHM applied for same RCP & Domain

Regional Climate Model (RCM)

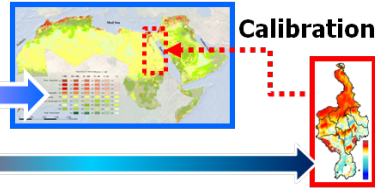


50km x 50km



25km x 25km

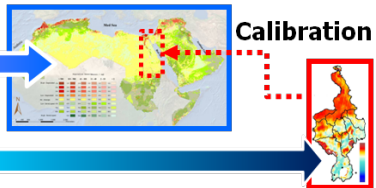
Regional Hydrological Model (RHM)



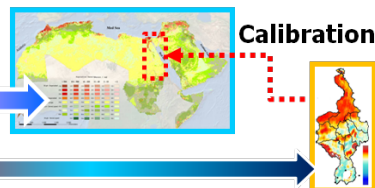
Calibration



Calibration



Calibration



Calibration



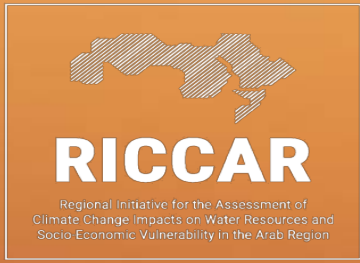
Calibration

Extreme Climate Events from RCM

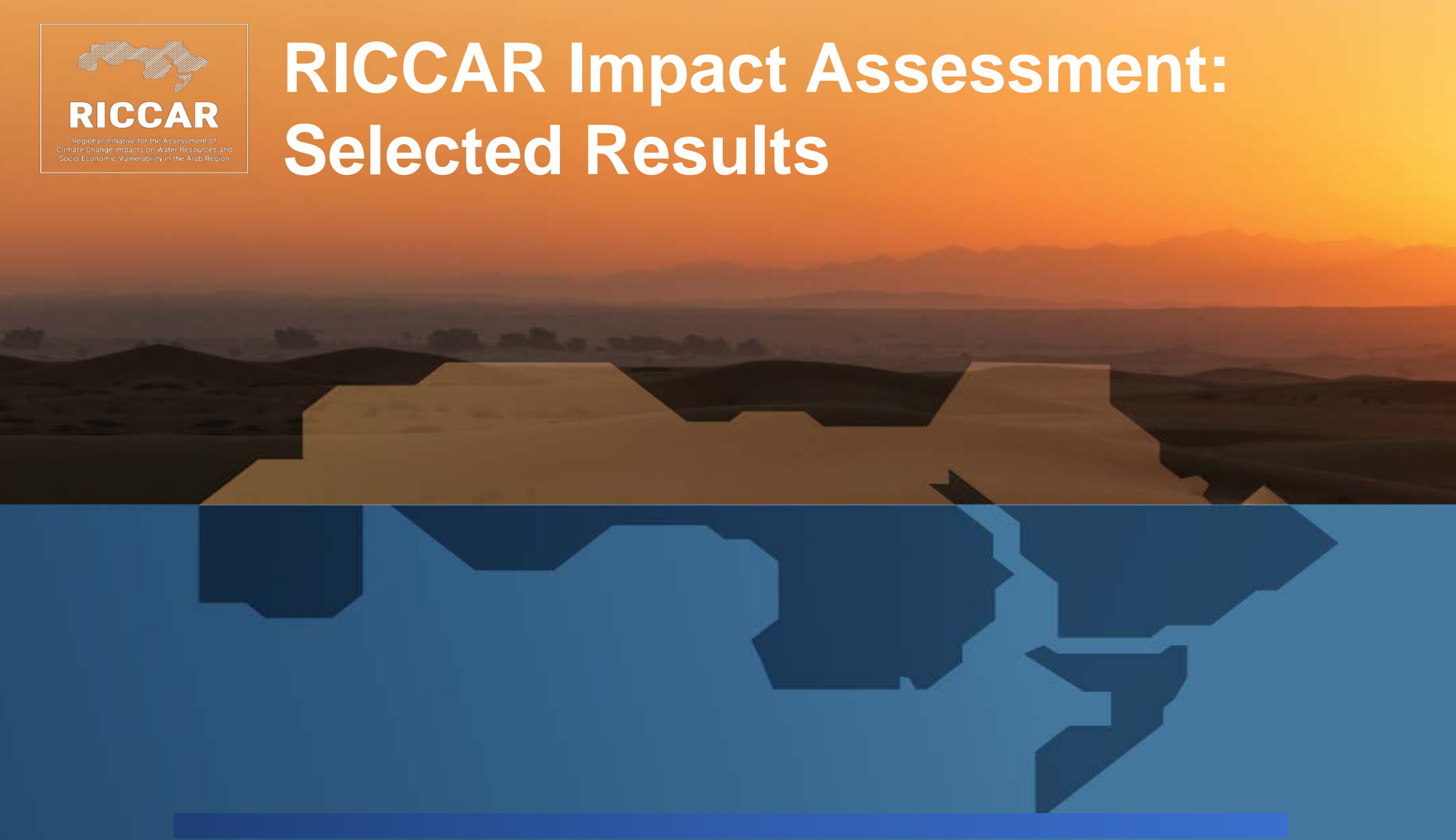
RCM Ensemble Matrix

RCM	Driving GCM/ Reanalysis	Evaluation 1979-2010	Historical 1950-2005	RCP 2.6 2006-2100	RCP 4.5 2006-2100	RCP 8.5 2006-2100	RESOLUTION (km)
RCA4	ERA-INTERIM	X					50
RCA4	EC-Earth		X	X	X	X	50
RCA4	EC-Earth		X			X	25
RCA4	CNRM-CM5		X		X	X	50
RCA4	GFDL-ESM2M		X		X	X	50
RCA4	GFDL-ESM2M		X			X	25
HIRAM	GFDL-ESM2M		X				25
REMO	MPI-ESM-LR		X				50

For RICCAR Report (2017), MENA/Arab Domain presented for Reference period; Mid-Century; End-Century, but data is available for customized domains & for daily/monthly/customized time periods via RICCAR Regional Knowledge Hub

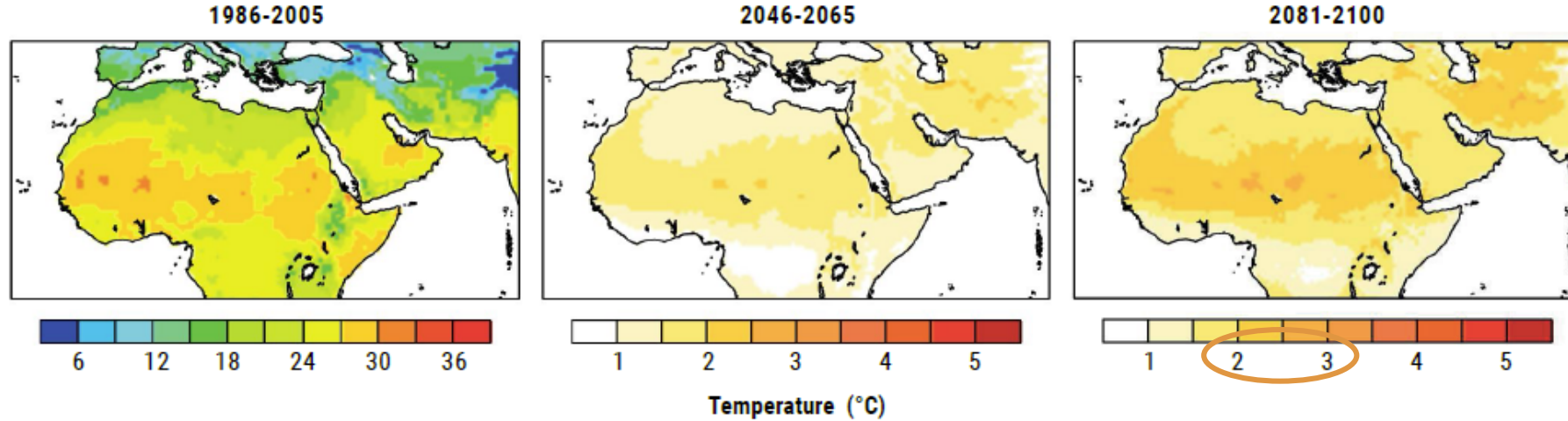


RICCAR Impact Assessment: Selected Results

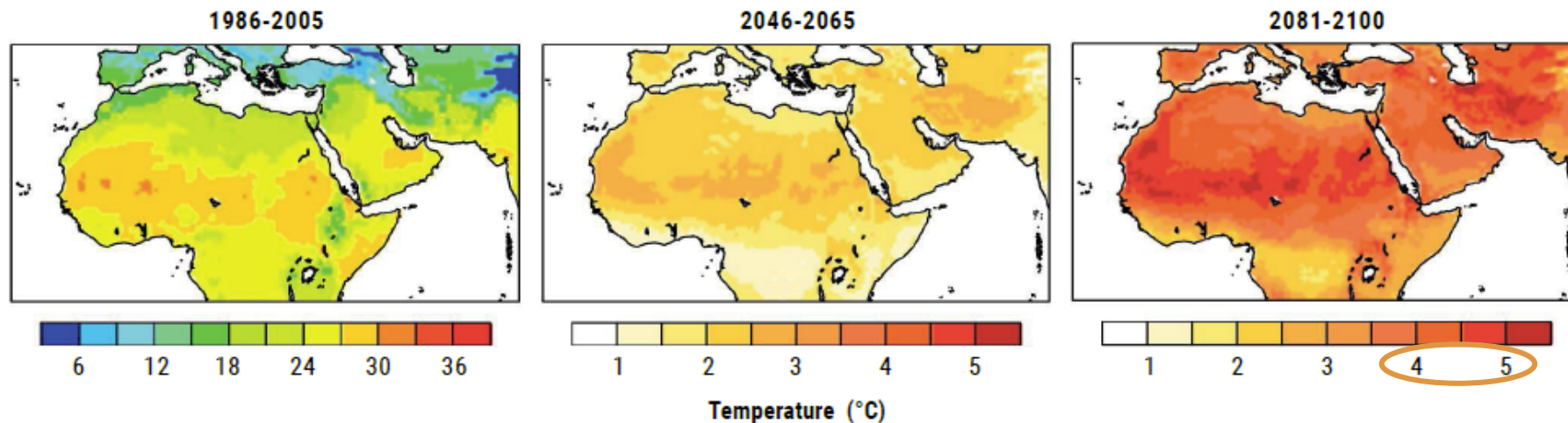


Temperature in the region is increasing and is expected to continue to increase until the end of the century.

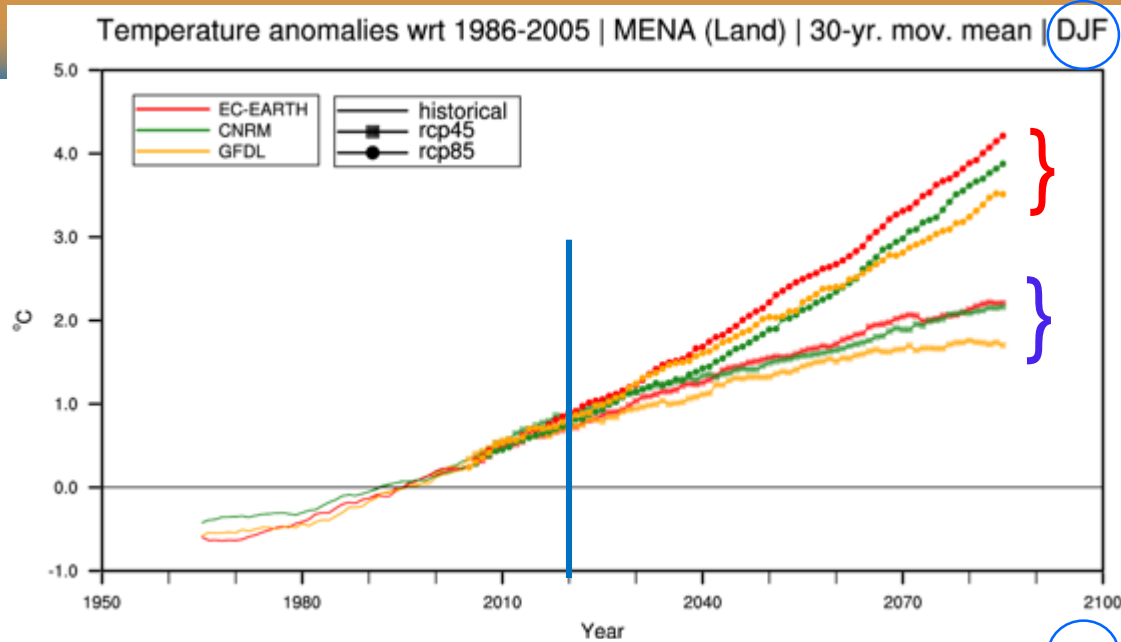
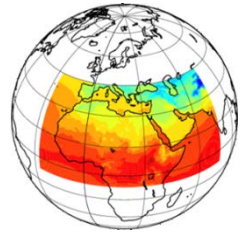
RCP 4.5



RCP 8.5



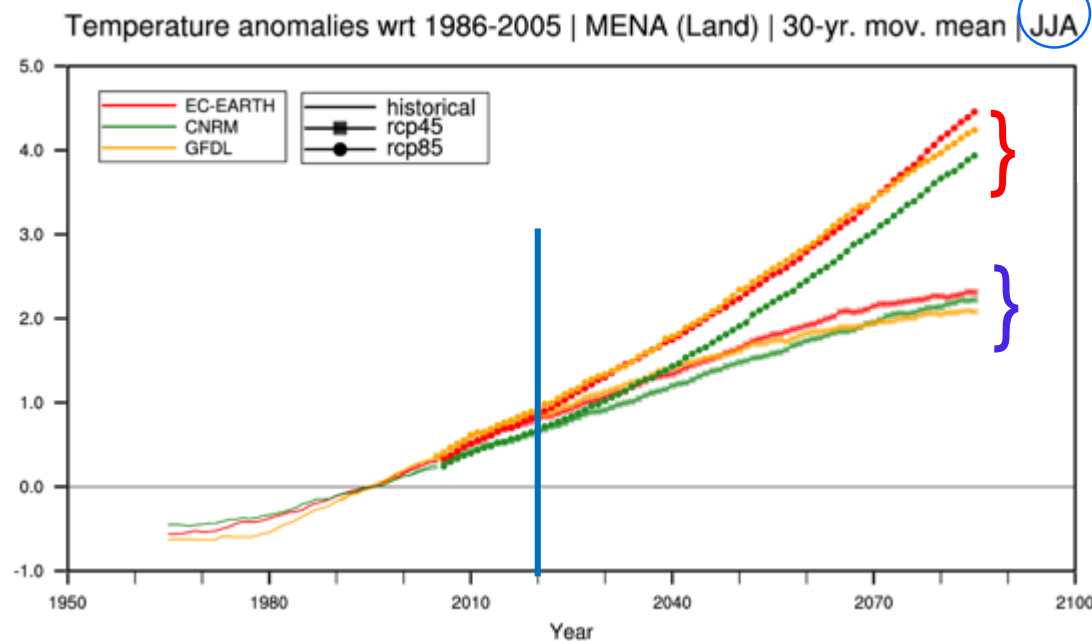
Temperature Ensembles through a Seasonal Lens



Winter

RCP 8.5 Ensemble

RCP 4.5 Ensemble



Summer

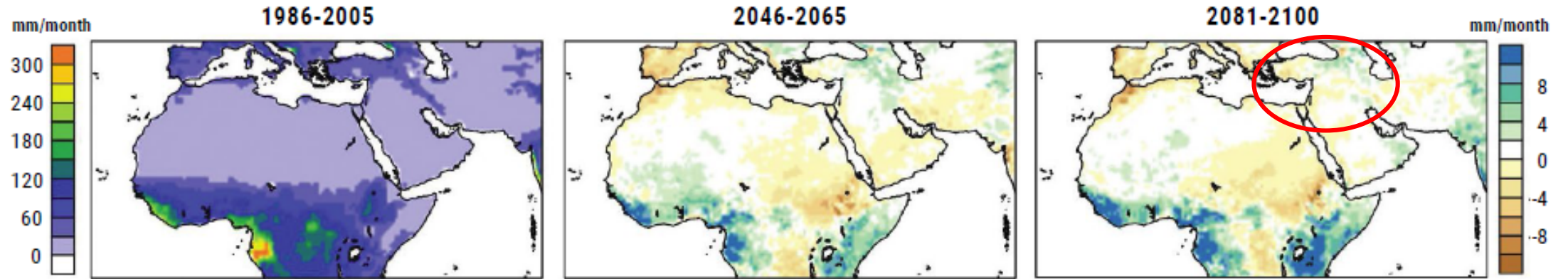
RCP 8.5 Ensemble

RCP 4.5 Ensemble

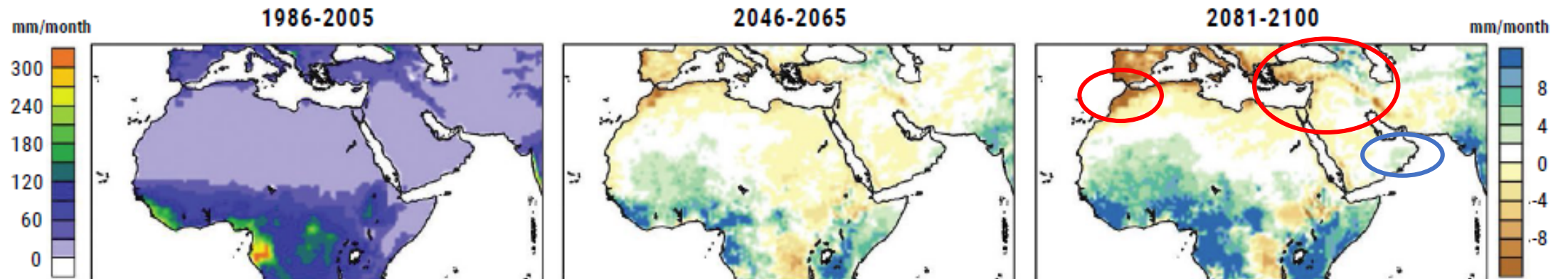
Depends on
which future
(which climate scenario)
one plans against

Precipitation trends are largely decreasing across the region until the end of the century, though limited areas expected to exhibit an increase in the intensity & volume of precipitation.

RCP 4.5



RCP 8.5

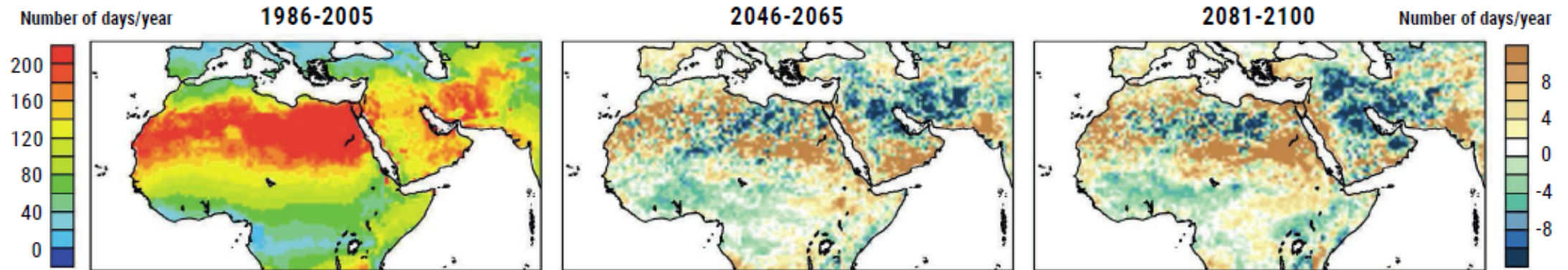


Extreme events indices

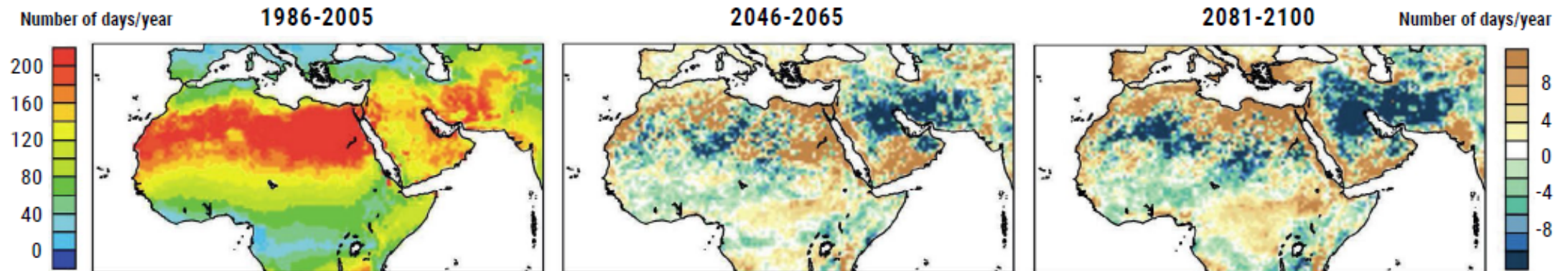
Extreme temperature indices		Extreme precipitation indices	
Index	Full name	Index	Full name
SU	Number of summer days	CDD	Maximum length of dry spell
SU35	Number of hot days	CWD	Maximum length of wet spell
SU40	Number of very hot days	R10	Annual count of 10 mm precipitation days
TR	Number of tropical nights	R20	Annual count of 20 mm precipitation days
		SDII	Simple precipitation intensity index

Maximum length of dry spell (CDD)

RCP 4.5

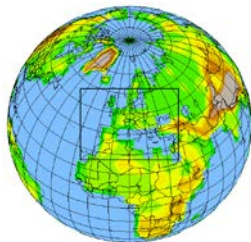
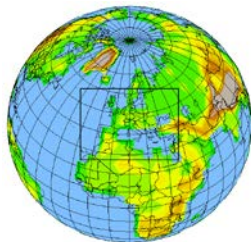
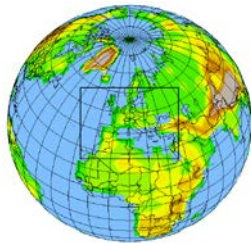


RCP 8.5



Regional Climate Modeling to Hydrological Modeling

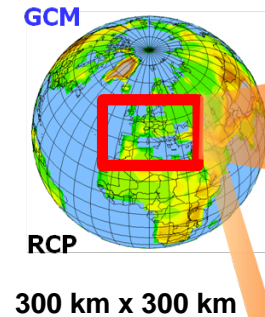
Different
GCMs



Same RCP

*Bias
Correction
of RCM
Projections
needed
before data
can be
used for
water &
agricultural
modeling*

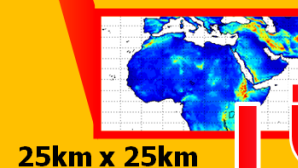
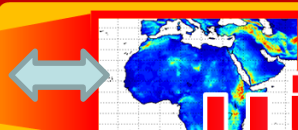
General Circulation
Model (GCM)



*Ensembles
used to
reduce
uncertainty
at level of
RCMs &
RHMs*

*Ensembles
aggregate
findings of
different
RCMs &
RHMs
applied for
same RCP
& Domain*

Regional Climate
Model (RCM)



Regional Hydrological
Model (RHM)



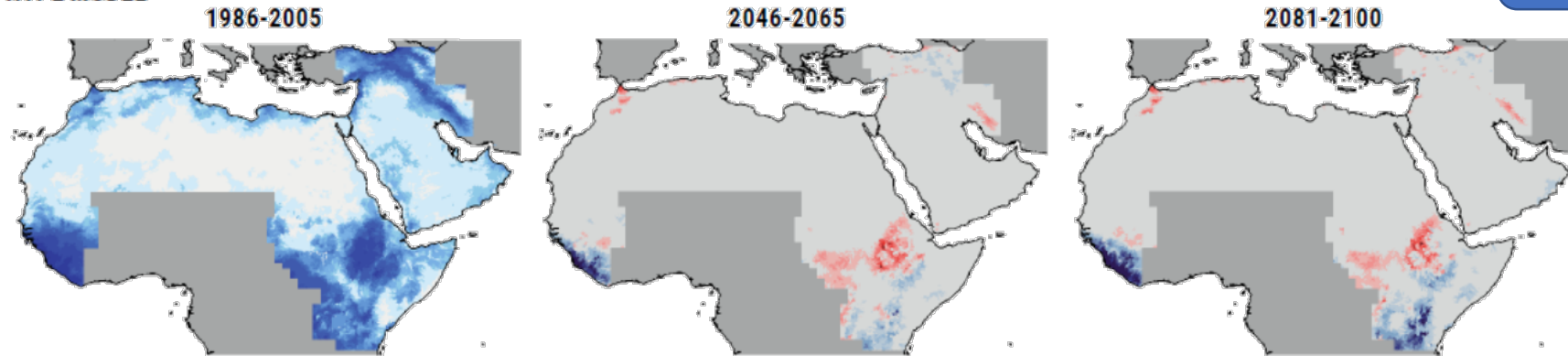
VIC
HYPE
HEC-HMS
Models Used

Mean change in Annual Runoff

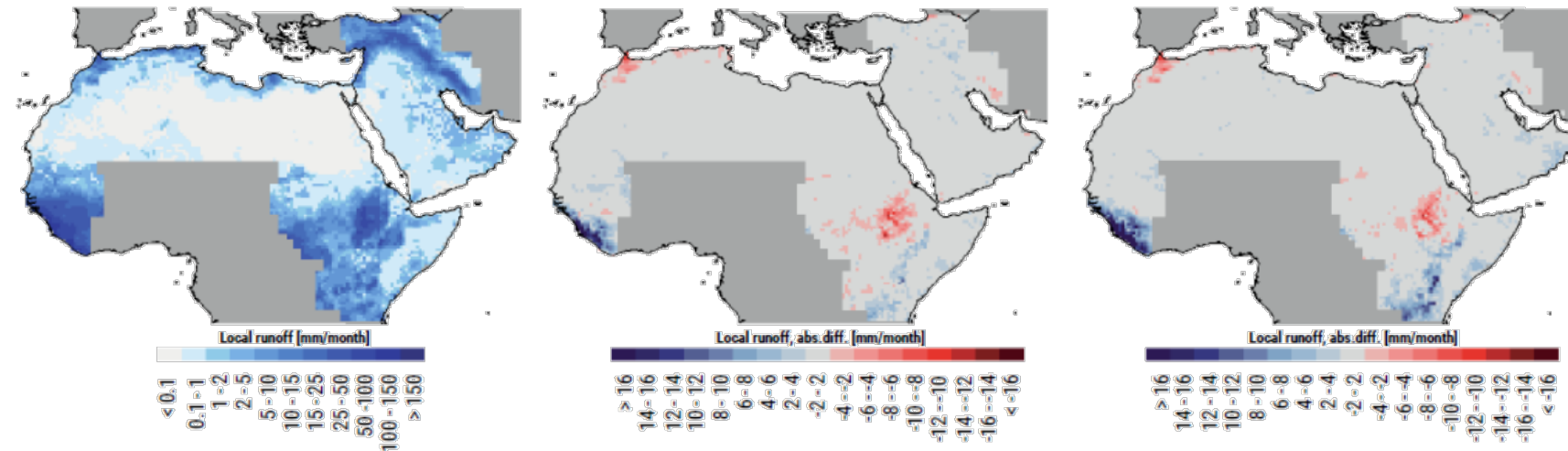
RCP 4.5

2 Models; 2 RCPs

HYPE MODEL



VIC MODEL



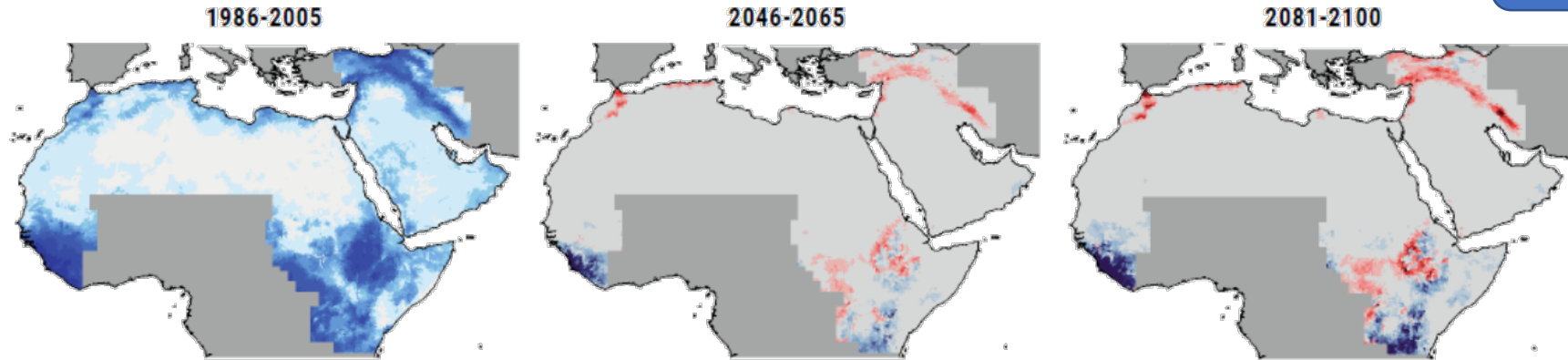
Comparison between 2 hydrological models based on SMHI modeling outputs:
Hydrological Predictions for the Environment (HYPE) and Variable Infiltration Capacity (VIC)

Mean change in Annual Runoff

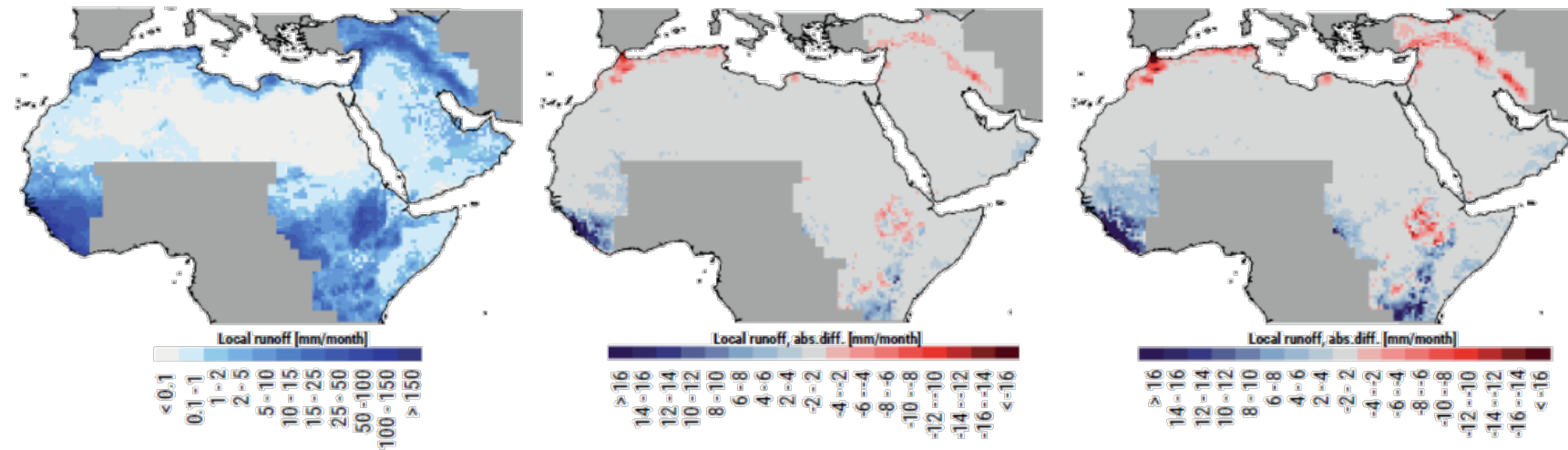
RCP 8.5

2 Models; 2 RCPs

HYPE MODEL



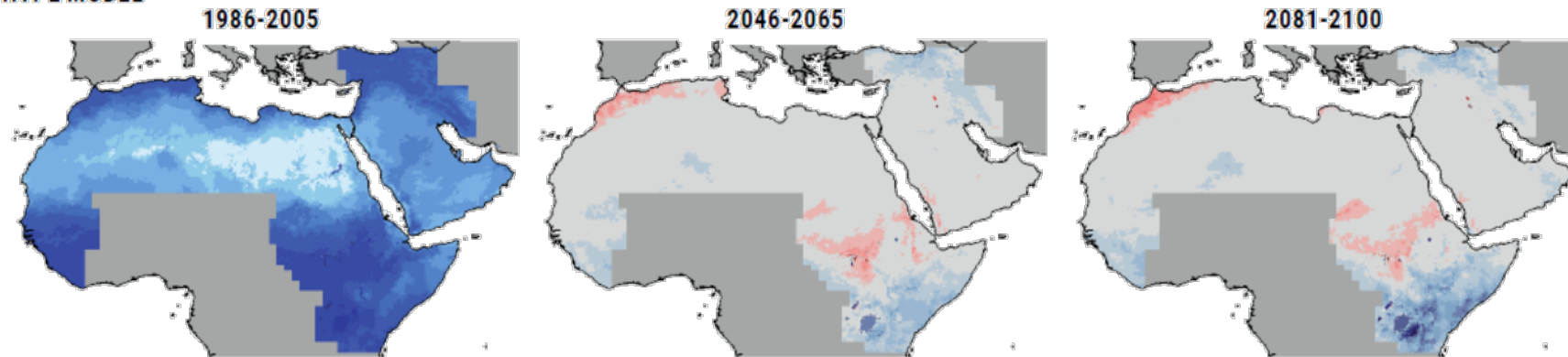
VIC MODEL



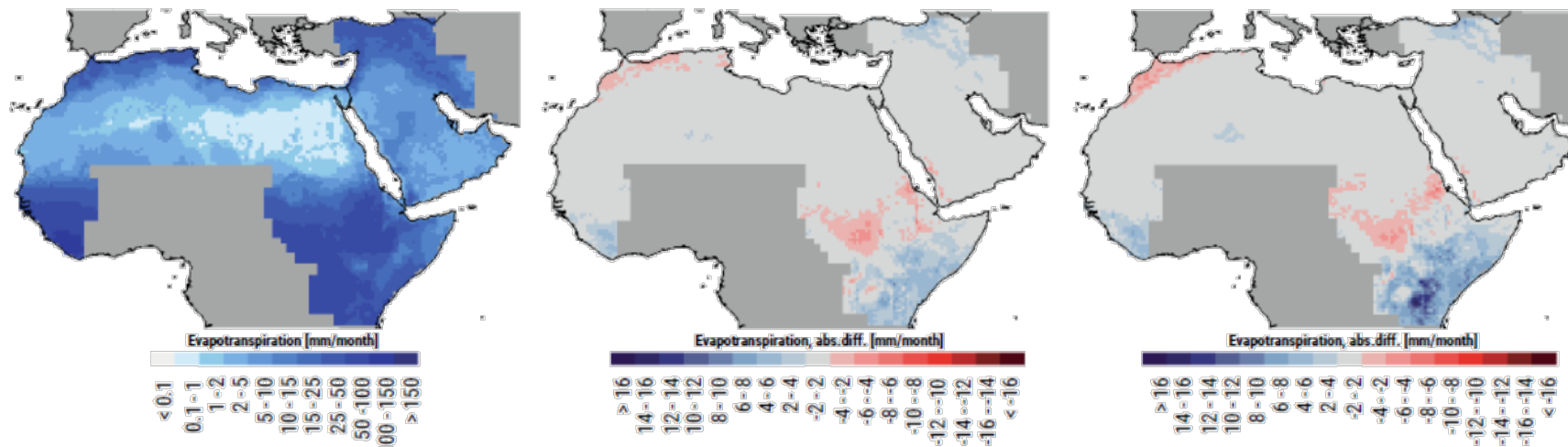
Mean change in Annual Evapotranspiration

RCP 4.5

HYPE MODEL



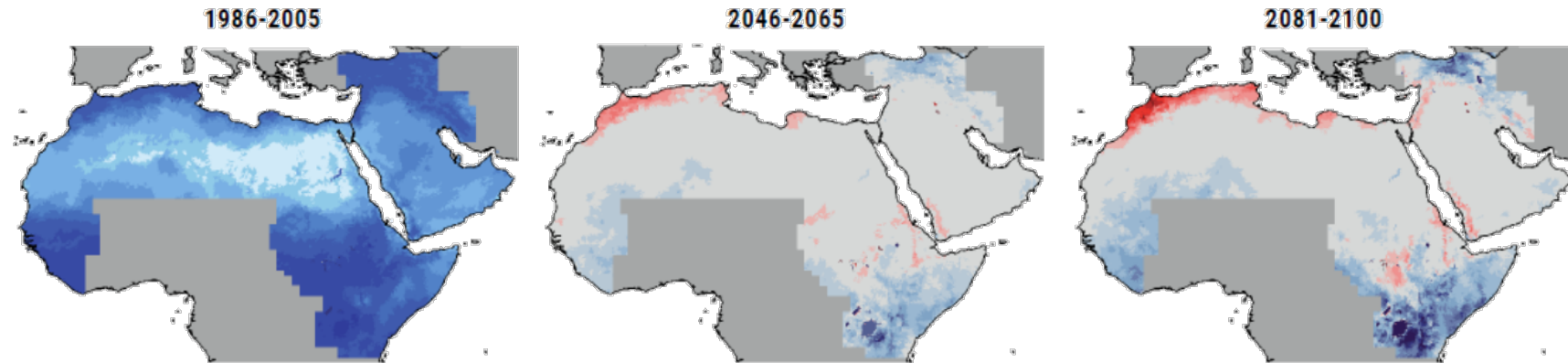
VIC MODEL



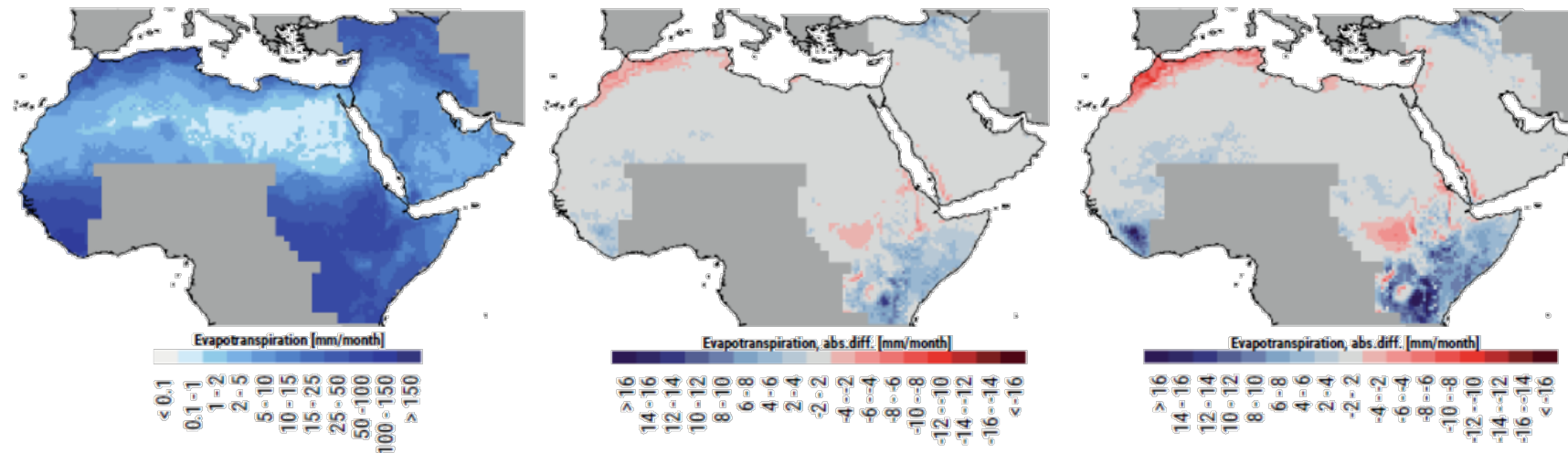
Mean change in Annual Evapotranspiration

RCP 8.5

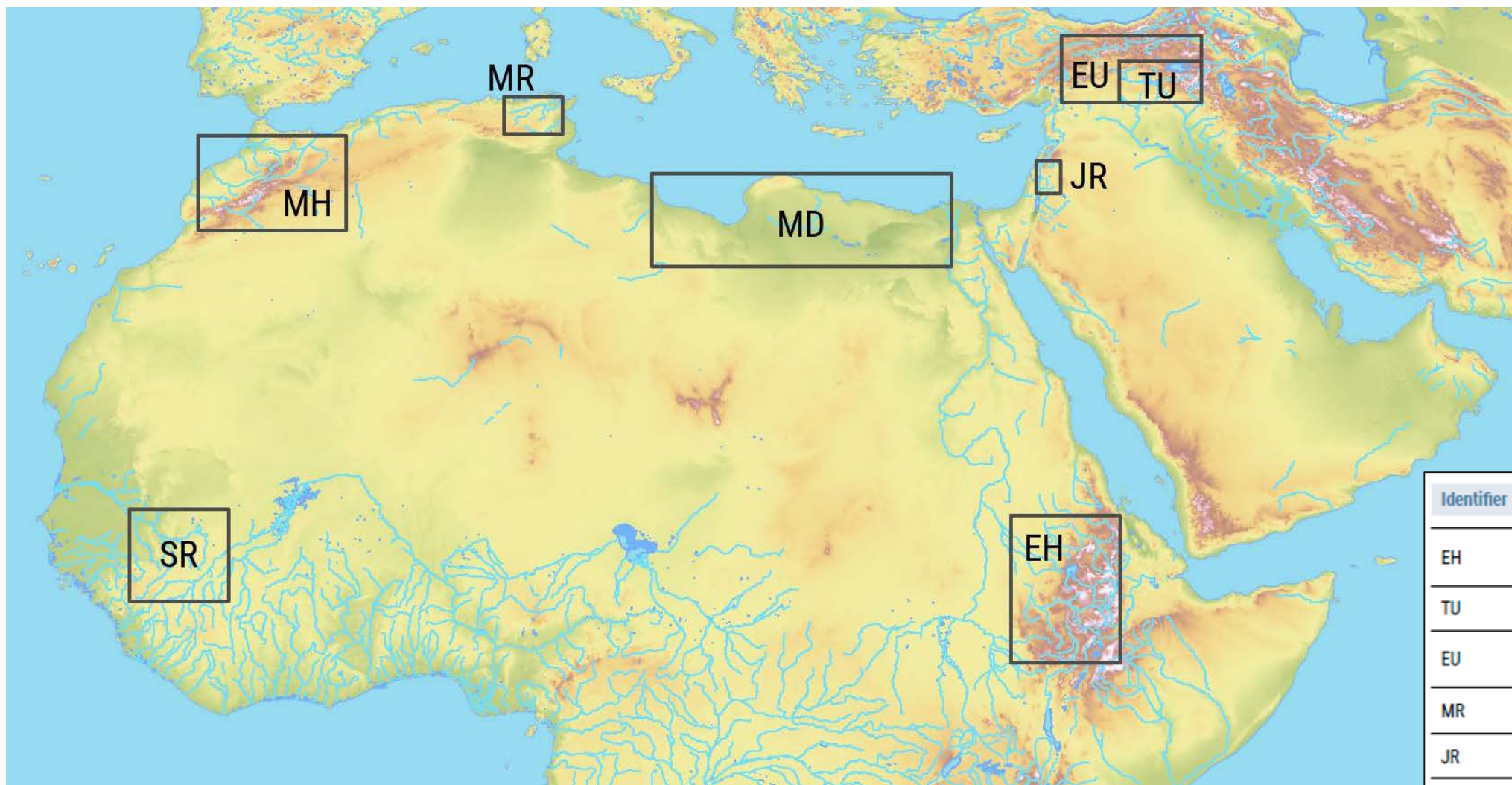
HYPE MODEL



VIC MODEL



Locations of subdomains identified for hydrological analysis



*Most details in
the RICCAR
Main Report's
Technical Annex
and RKH*

Identifier	Subdomain Name
EH	Ethiopian Highlands (Blue Nile Headwaters)
TU	Upper Tigris (Tigris River Headwaters)
EU	Upper Euphrates (Euphrates River Headwaters)
MR	Medjerda River
JR	Jordan River
SR	Senegal River Headwaters

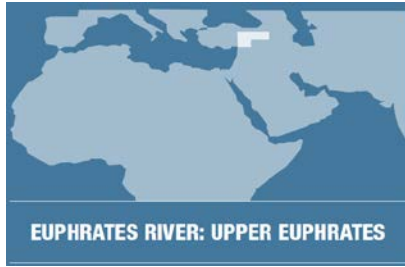


FIGURE 140
Mean change in annual temperature over time for ensemble of three RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5 projections

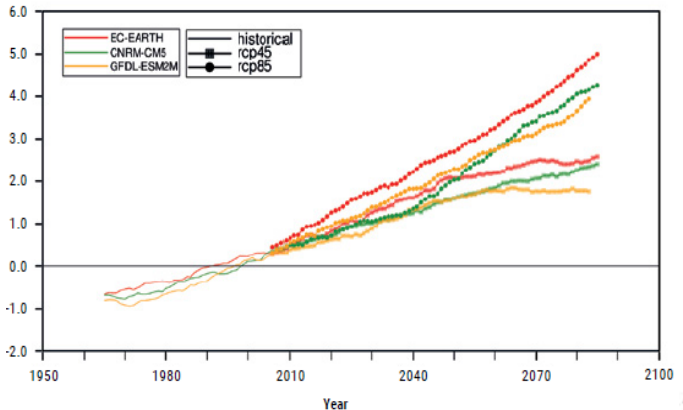
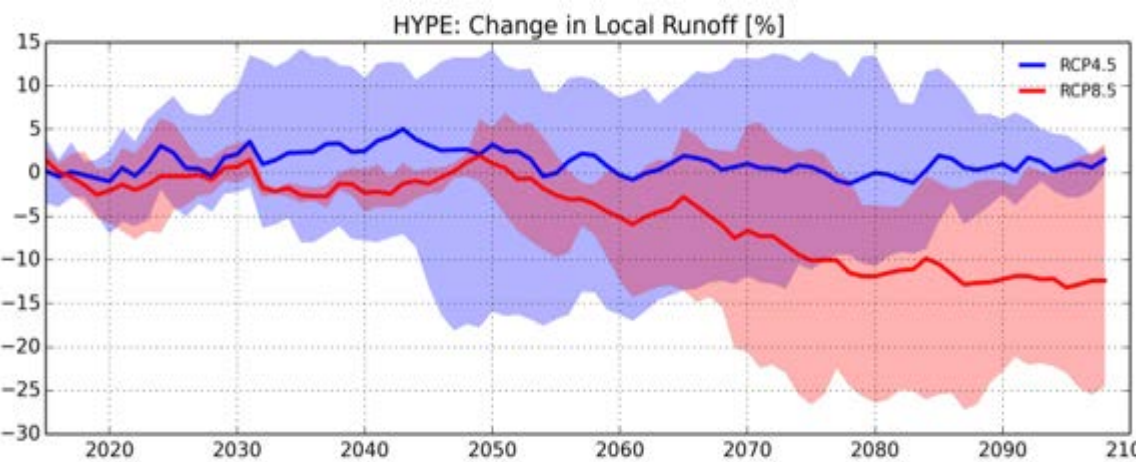
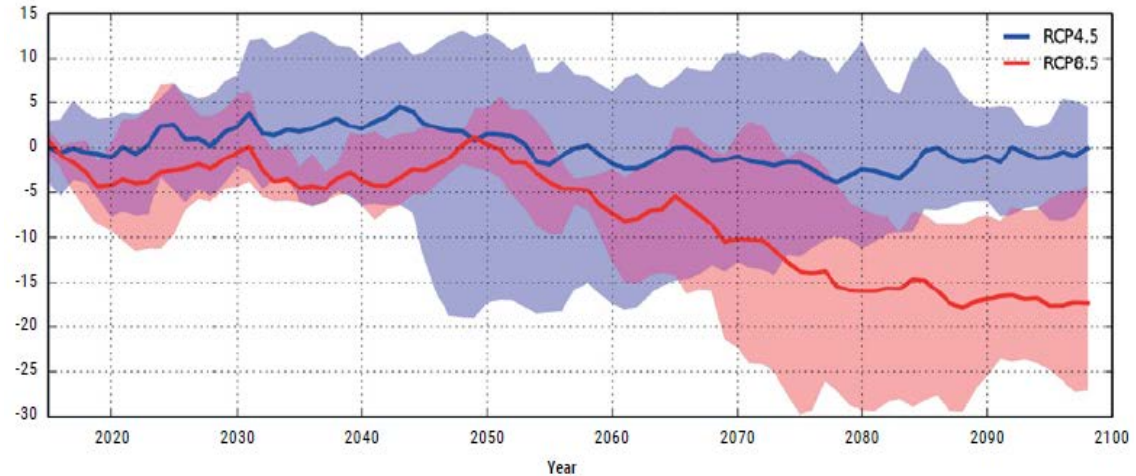


FIGURE 160
Mean change in annual discharge over time for ensemble of three RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5 projections using HYPE model



Upper Euphrates River (1986-2005) : (2081-2100)

Variable	RCP4.5	RCP8.5
Temp.	2.3°C	4.8°C
Precip.	3%	0%
Runoff	-2%	-12%



Upper Tigris River: Seasonal Temperature (RCM output)

FIGURE 111
Mean change in seasonal temperature (April-September) over time for ensemble of three RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5 projections

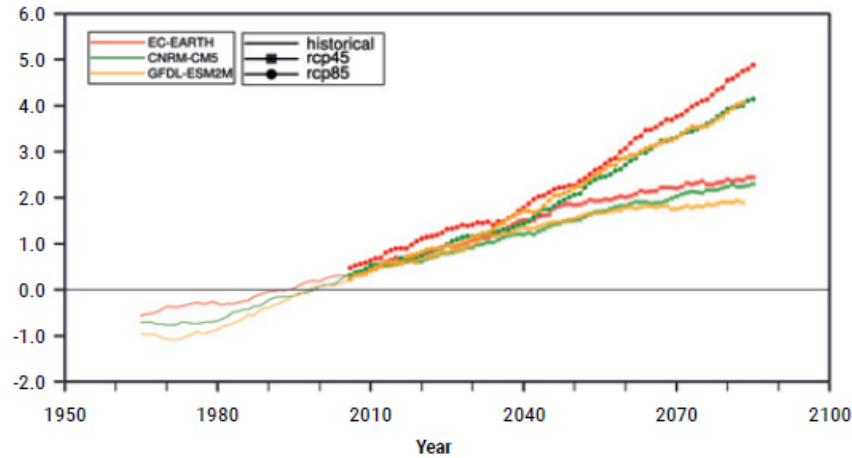
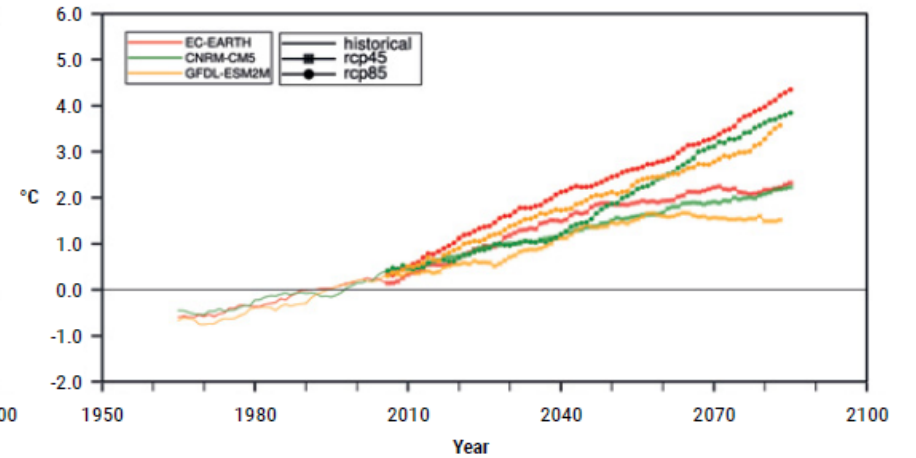


FIGURE 112
Mean change in seasonal temperature (October-March) over time for ensemble of three RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5 projections



Upper Tigris River: Extreme Climate Indicators: Consecutive Dry Days Consecutive Wet Days (RCM output)

FIGURE 123
Mean change in CDD over time for ensemble of three RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5 projections

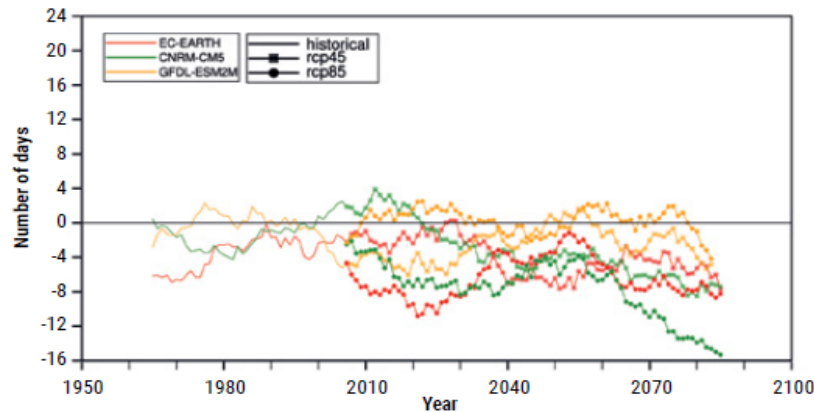
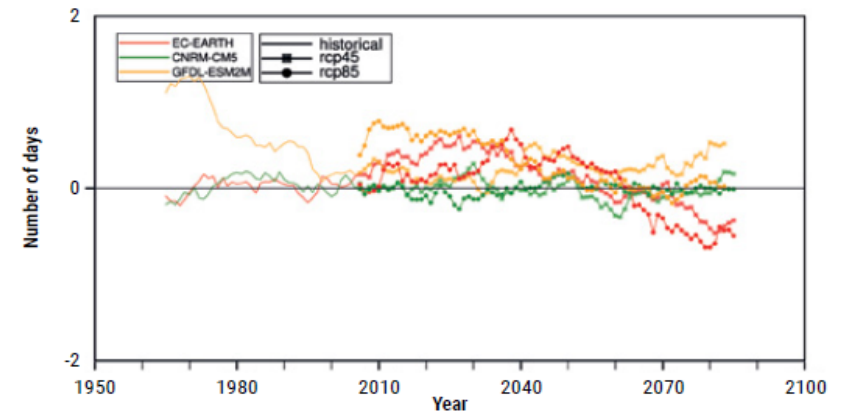


FIGURE 124
Mean change in CWD over time for ensemble of three RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5 projections



Upper Tigris River:
Monthly precipitation
(mm/day) for
mid-century and
end-century
(RHM output)

FIGURE 118

Mean change in monthly precipitation for mid-century for ensemble of three RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5 projections compared to the reference period

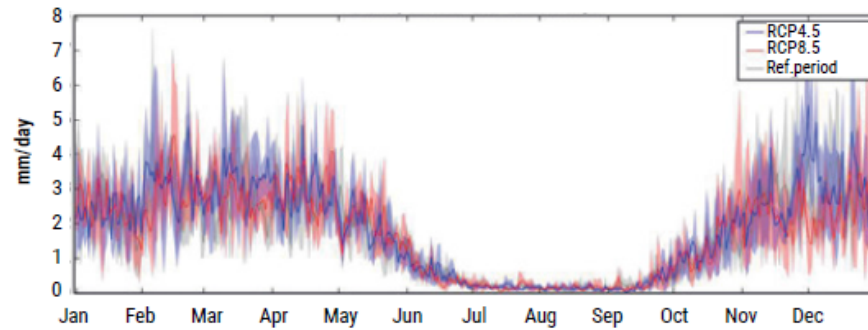


FIGURE 119

Mean change in monthly precipitation for end-century for ensemble of three RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5 projections compared to the reference period

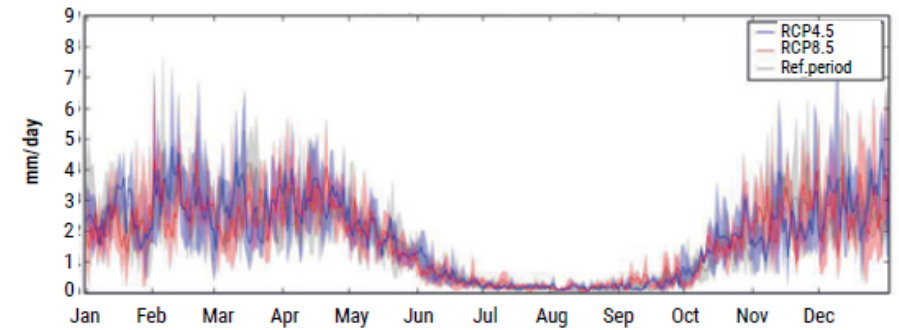
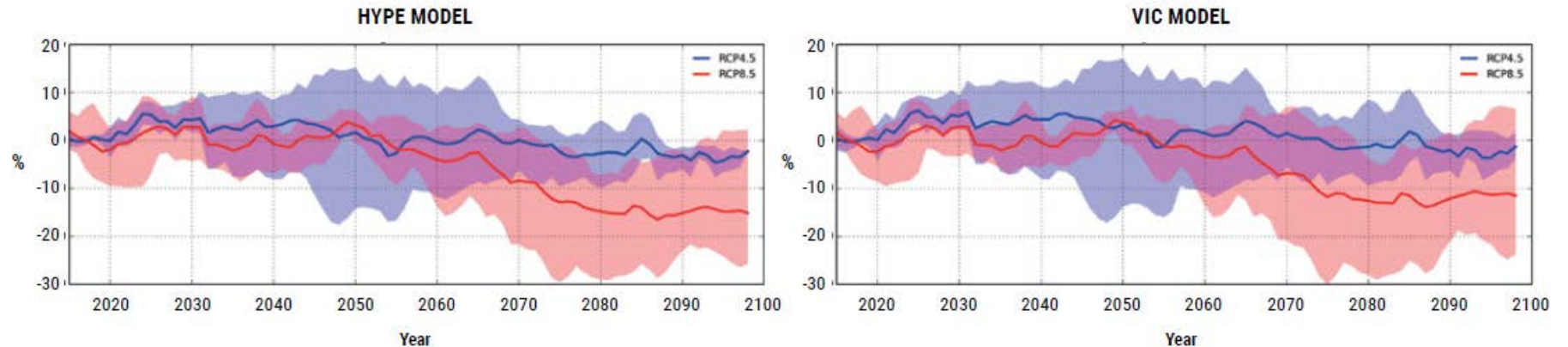


FIGURE 127

Mean change in annual runoff over time for ensemble of three RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5 projections using two hydrological models

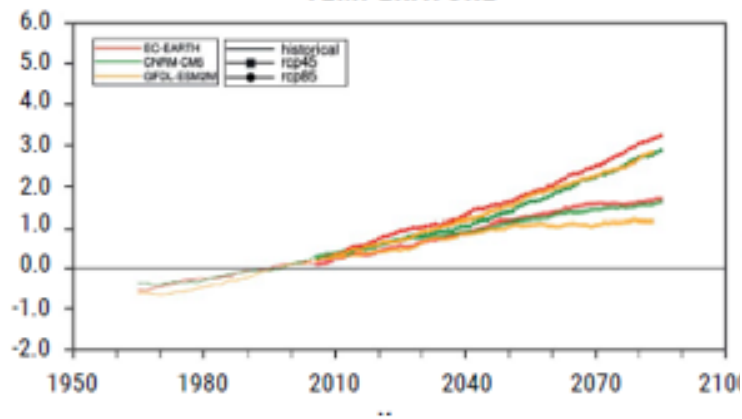


Upper Tigris River:
Runoff
(RHM output)

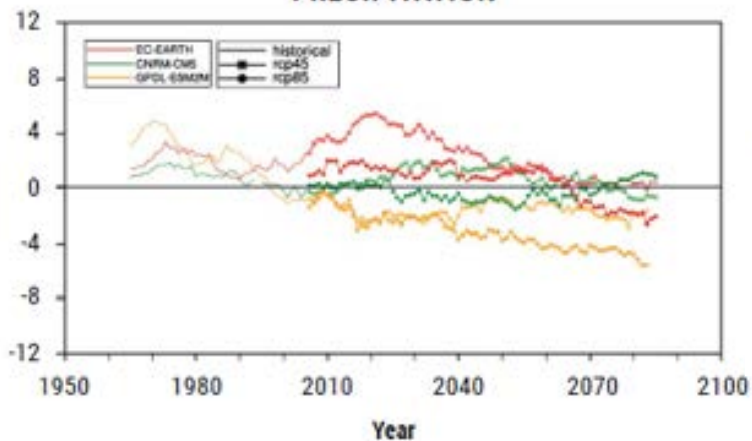
Climate Impacts on Transboundary Water Resources: Jordan River

for a three-member ensemble of RCP 4.5 projections and three-member ensemble of RCP 8.5 projections for the Jordan River

TEMPERATURE

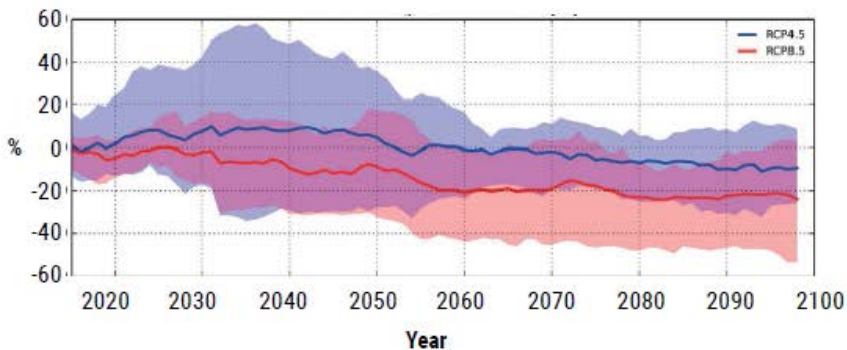


PRECIPITATION

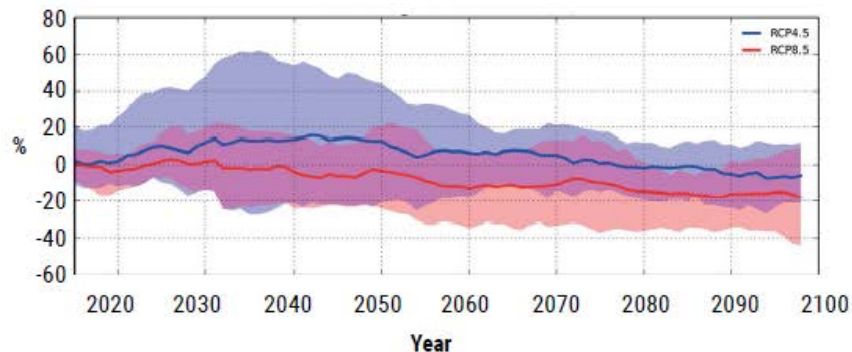


RUNOFF

HYPE MODEL

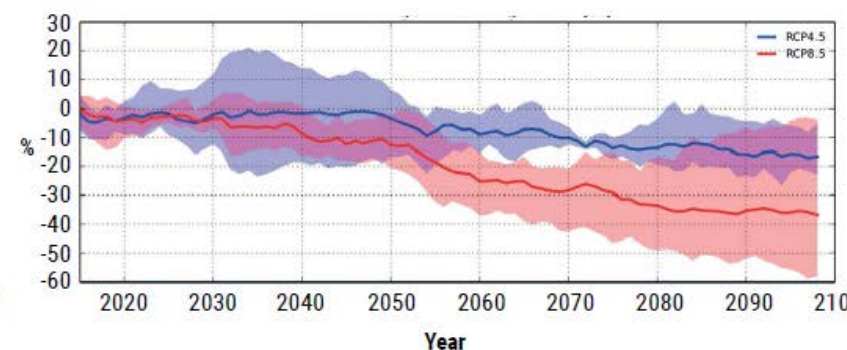


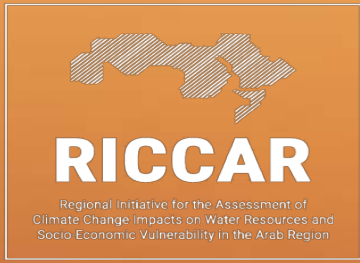
VIC MODEL



DISCHARGE

HYPE MODEL

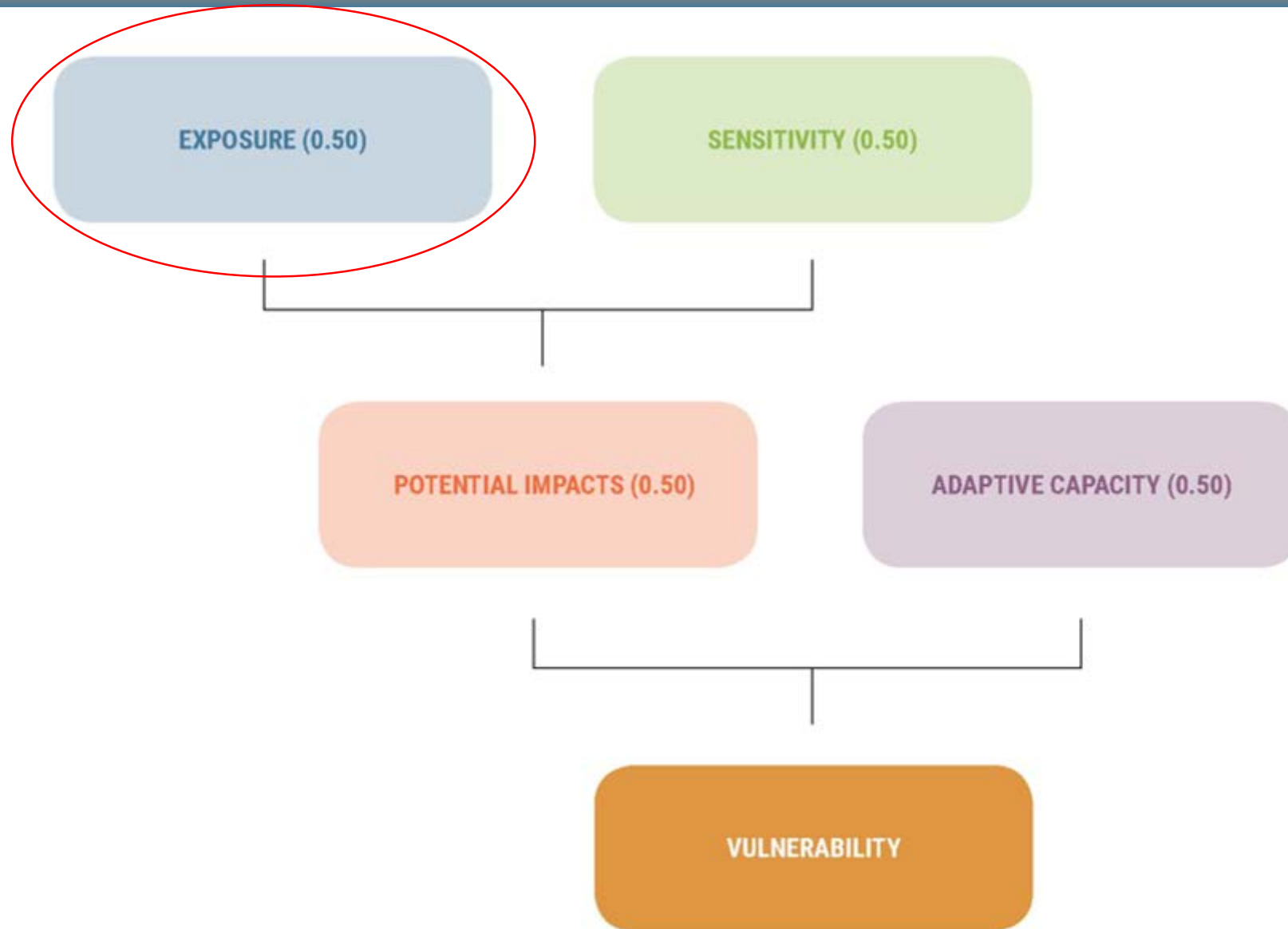




Integrated Vulnerability Assessment: Selected Results



RICCAR Vulnerability Assessment Components



Overall Vulnerability

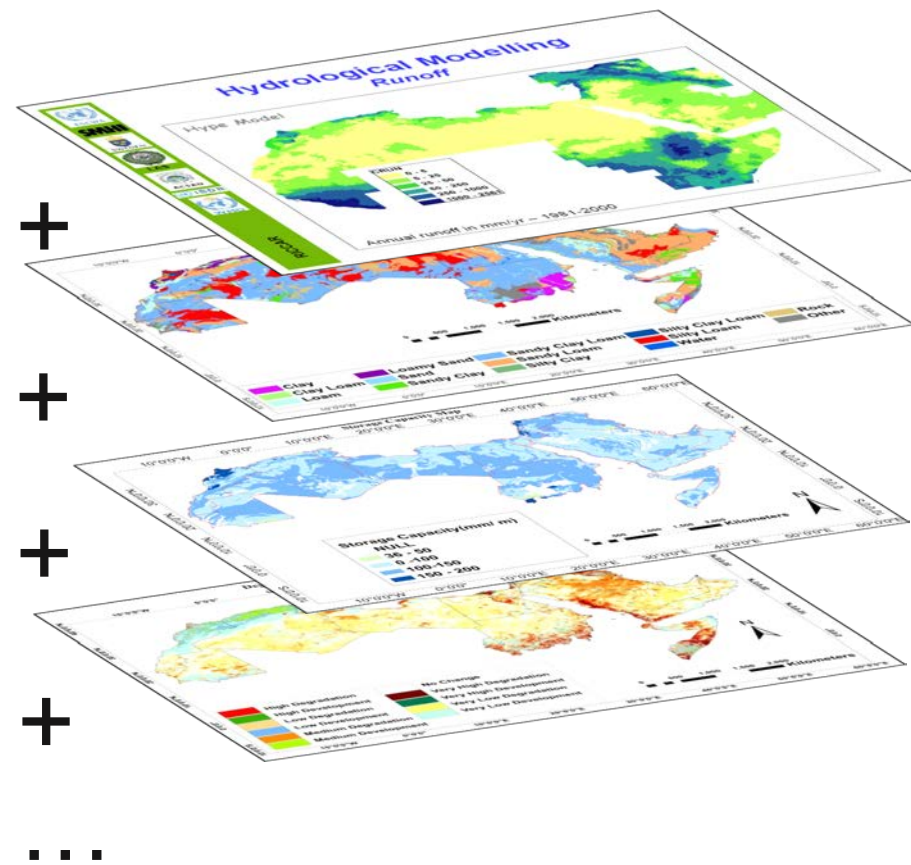
Preparation of a Vulnerability Index:

➤ Per Sector






- Contains all indicators identified to assess a given sectors
- Attribution of weights for each indicator dependent on impact chains and expert judgment
- As sector level, aggregated by component: Exposure, Sensitivity, Adaptive Capacity

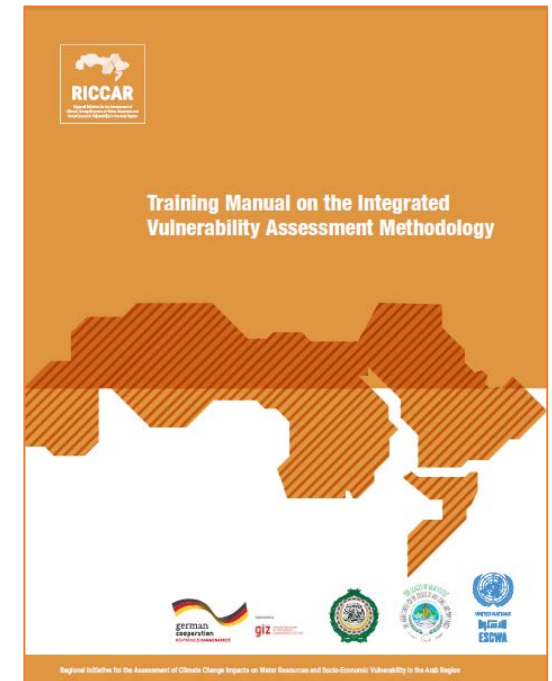
➤ Overall Vulnerability

- Aggregates vulnerability of each sector to generate an Overall VA
- Supports identification of VA Hotspots



Vulnerability Assessment

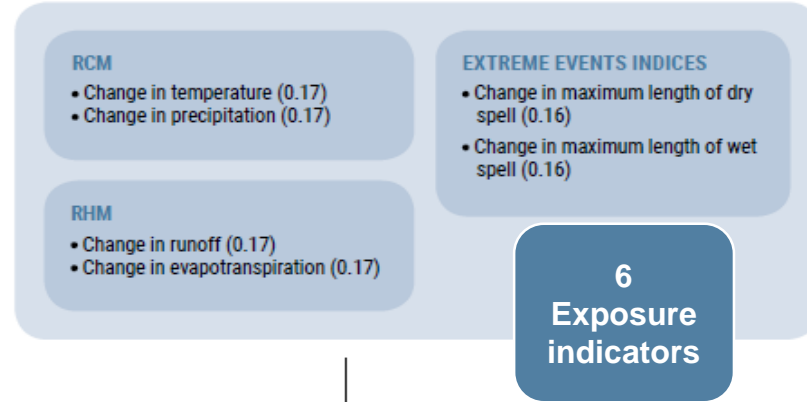
SECTORS	SUBSECTORS
 Water	Water availability
 Biodiversity and Ecosystems	Area covered by forests Area covered by wetlands
 Agriculture	Water available for crops Water available for livestock
 Infrastructure and Human Settlements	Inland flooding area
 People	Water available for drinking Health conditions due to heat stress Employment rate for the agricultural sector



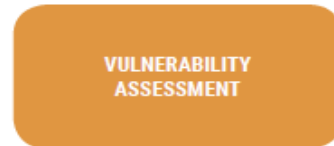
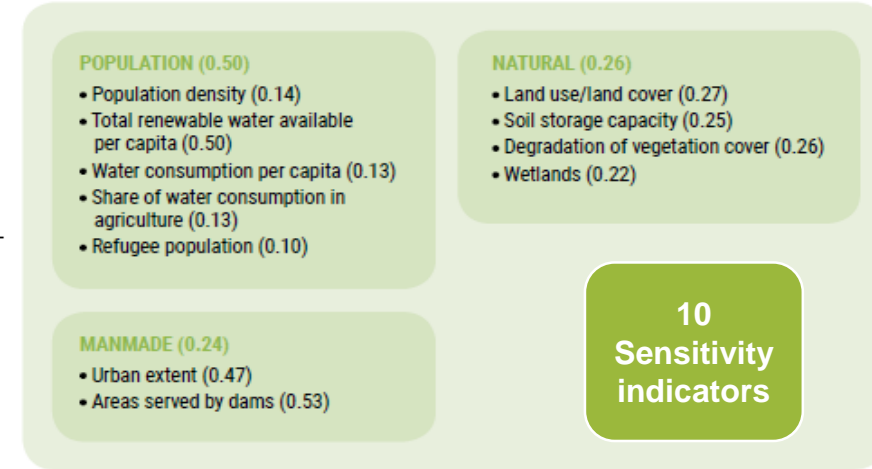
Vulnerability Assessment Impact Chain

Water Availability

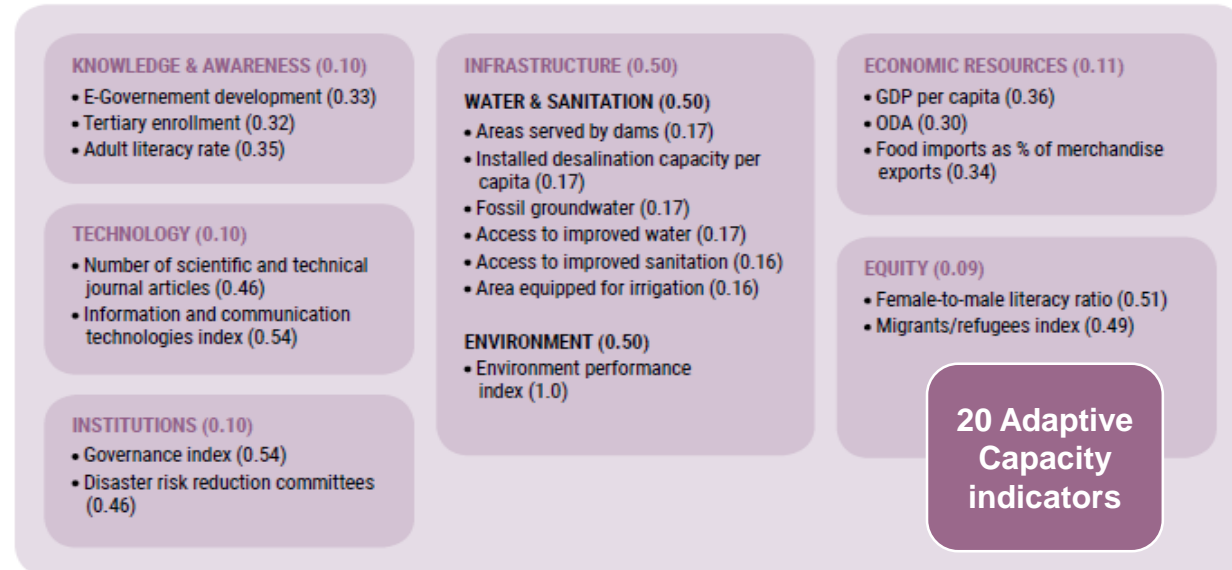
EXPOSURE (0.50)

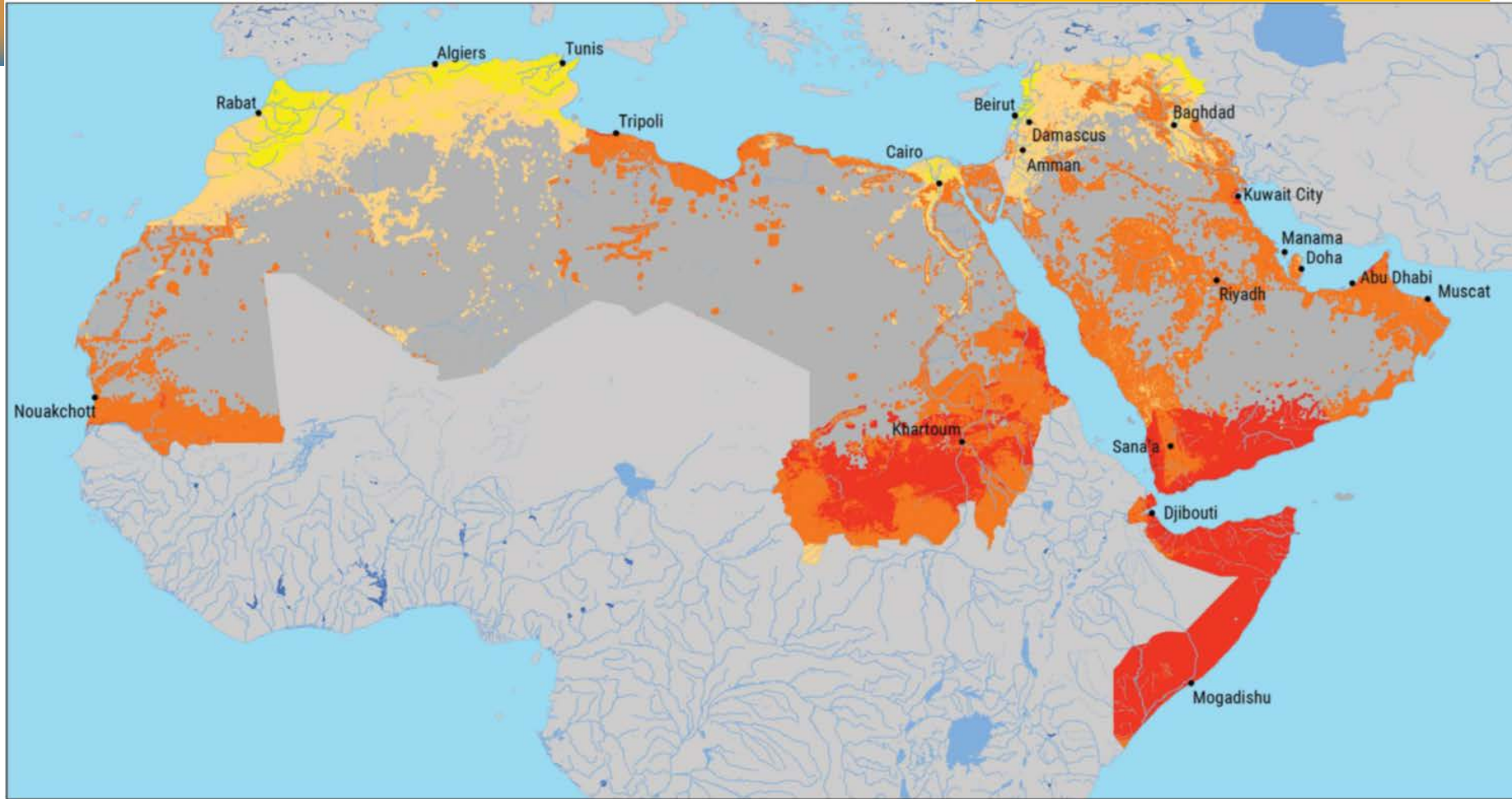


SENSITIVITY (0.50)



ADAPTIVE CAPACITY (0.50)





WATER: WATER AVAILABILITY

VULNERABILITY: REFERENCE PERIOD

Legend



Lakes



Rivers



Major cities



Intermittent
rivers

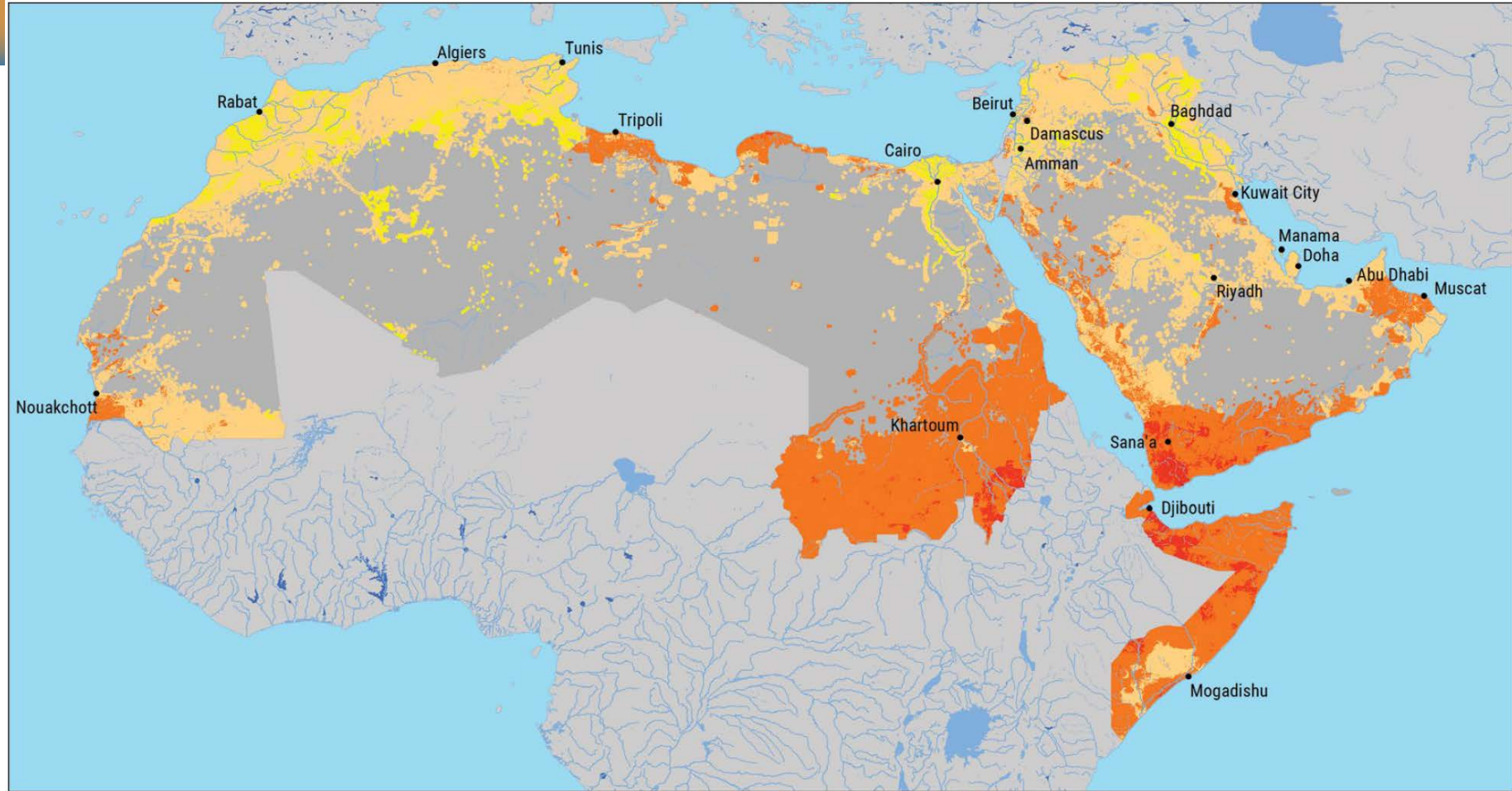


Area not relevant
to subsector



RICCAR

Regional Initiative for the Assessment of
Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources and
Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region



WATER: WATER AVAILABILITY

VULNERABILITY: RCP4.5 MID-CENTURY (2046-2065)

Legend



Lakes



Rivers



Major cities



Reservoirs

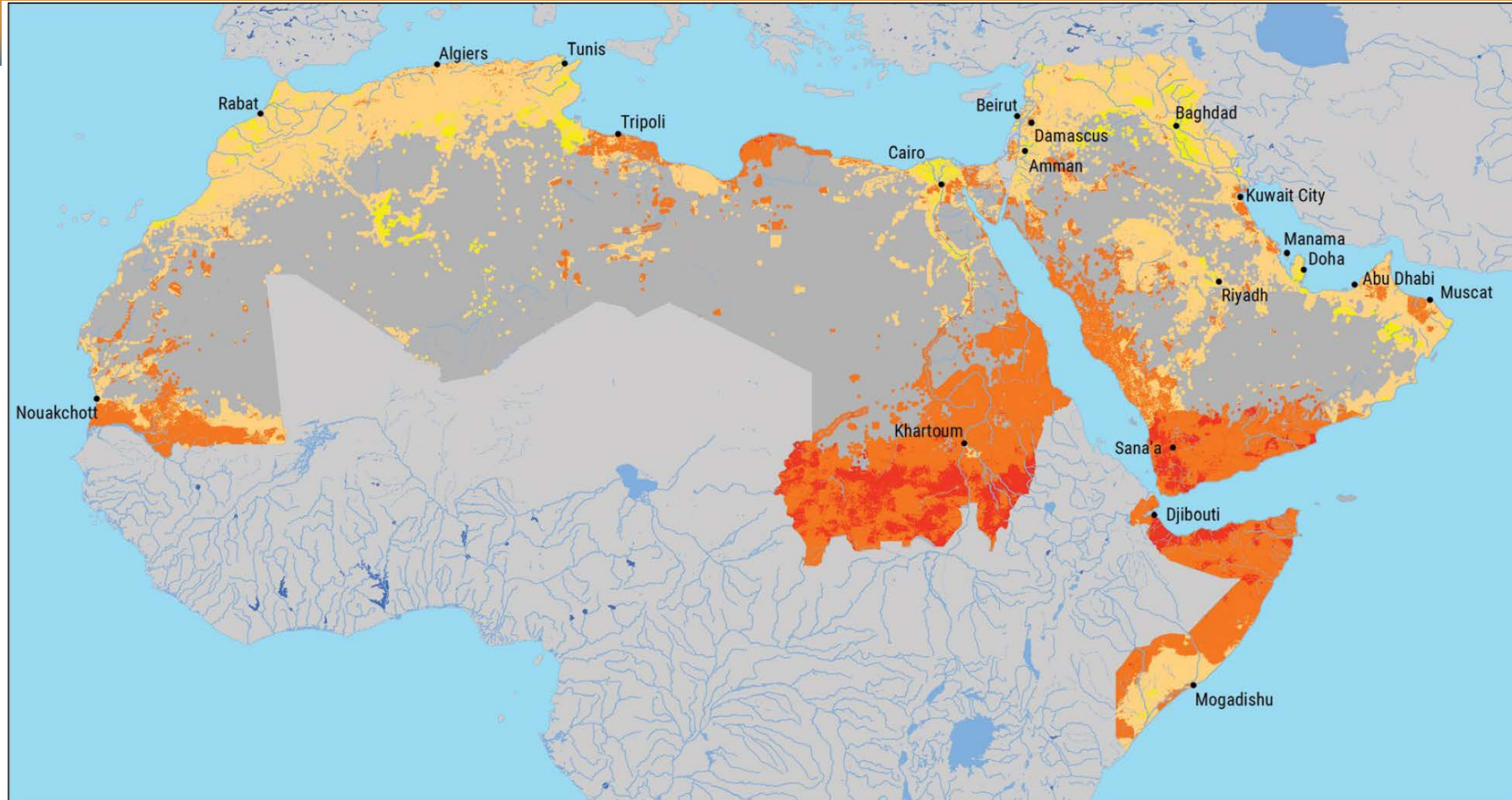


Intermittent
rivers



Area not relevant
to subsector







WATER: WATER AVAILABILITY

VULNERABILITY: RCP4.5 END-CENTURY (2081-2100)

Legend

-  Lakes
-  Reservoirs

-  Rivers
-  Intermittent rivers

-  Major cities
-  Area not relevant to subsector



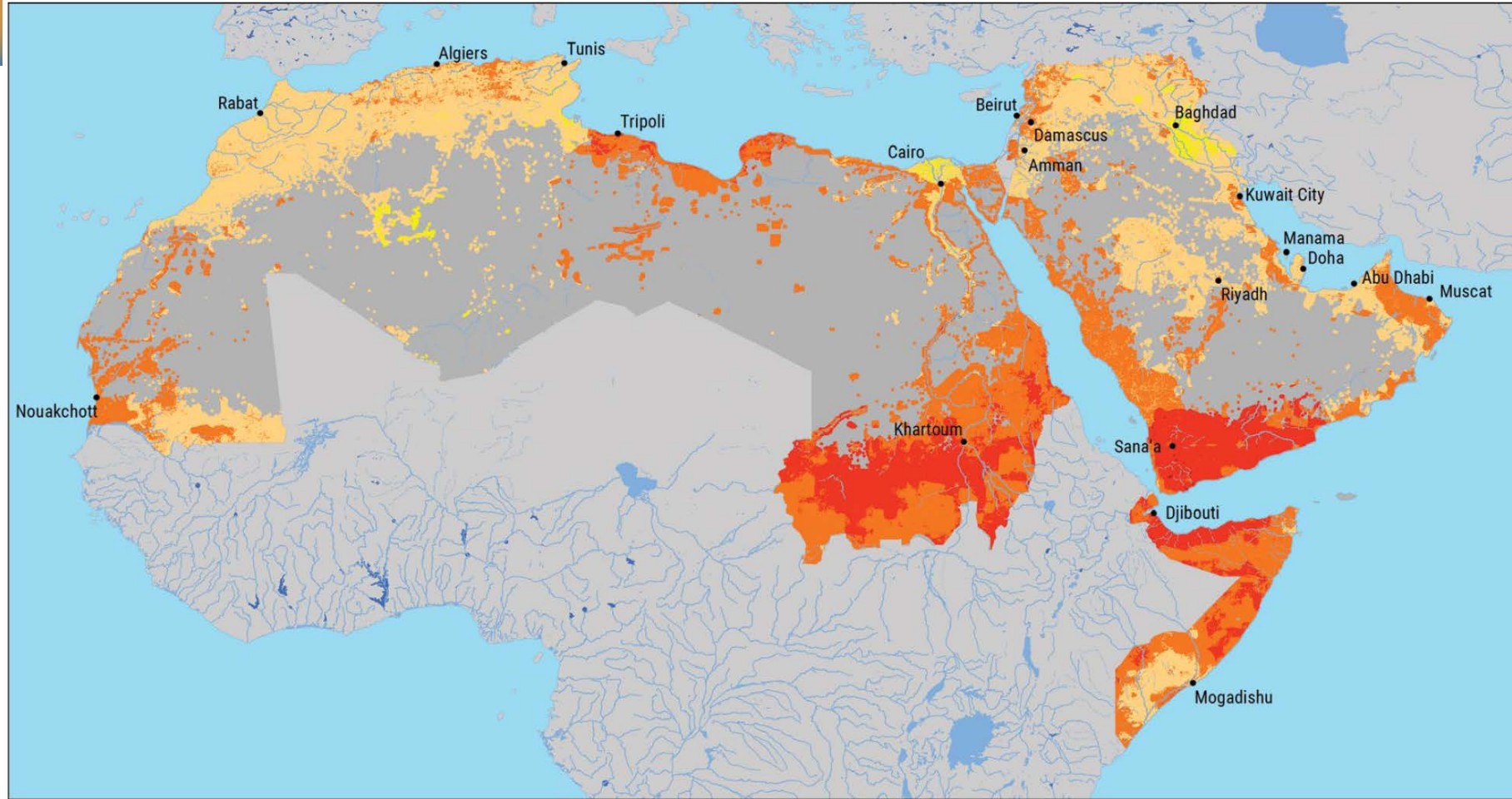


Regional Initiative for the Assessment of
Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources and
Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region



WATER AVAILABILITY VULNERABILITY

End-Century RCP 8.5



WATER: WATER AVAILABILITY

VULNERABILITY: RCP8.5 END-CENTURY (2081-2100)

Legend



Lakes



Rivers



Major cities



Intermittent
rivers



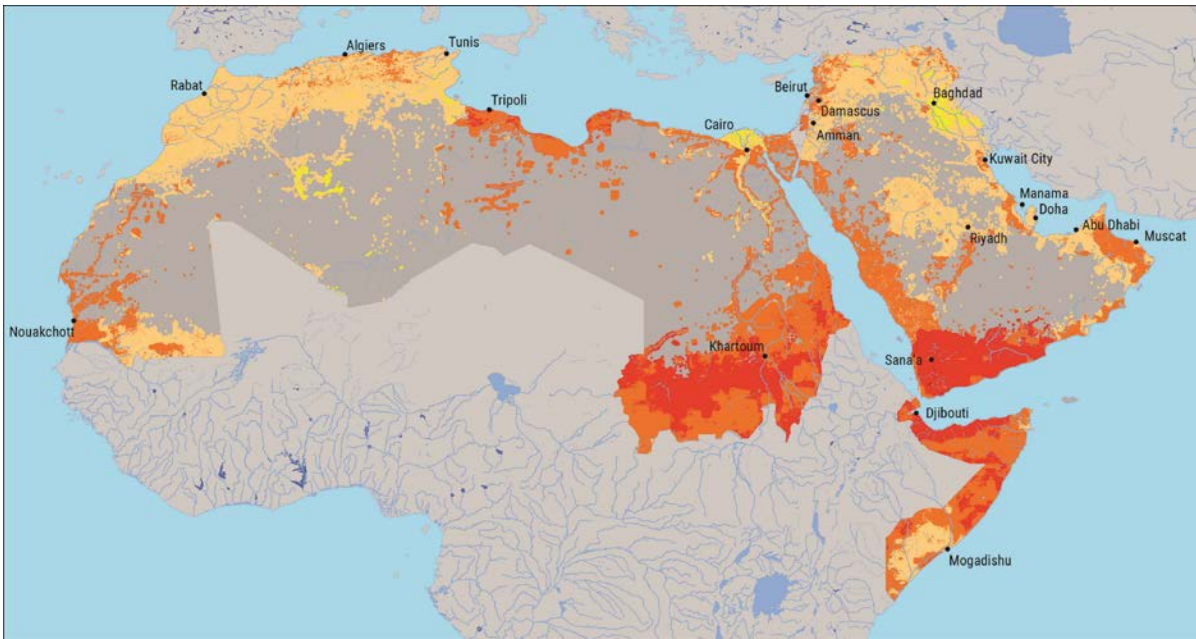
Area not relevant
to subsector



RICCAR

Regional Initiative for the Assessment of
Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources and
Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region

Water Availability Vulnerability



WATER: WATER AVAILABILITY

VULNERABILITY: RCP8.5 END-CENTURY (2081-2100)

Legend

-  Lakes
-  Reservoirs
-  Rivers
-  Intermittent rivers
-  Major cities
-  Area not relevant to subsector
-  Low Vulnerability High Vulnerability

Scenario	Percentage of study area		
	Low Vulnerability	Moderate Vulnerability	High Vulnerability
RCP 4.5 Mid-century	0%	57%	43%
RCP 8.5 Mid-century	0%	48%	52%
RCP 4.5 End-century	0%	52%	48%
RCP 8.5 End-century	0%	43%	57%

Lebanese Agricultural Sector Vulnerability Assessment

FIGURE 7: Change in temperature compared to the reference period at mid-century for (a) RCP4.5 and (b) RCP8.5 (0.11° grid resolution)

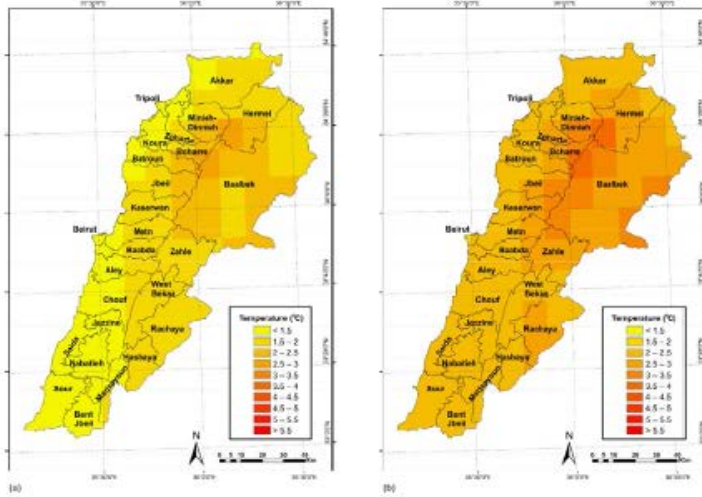


FIGURE 8: Change in temperature compared to the reference period at end-century for (a) RCP4.5 and (b) RCP8.5 (0.11° grid resolution)

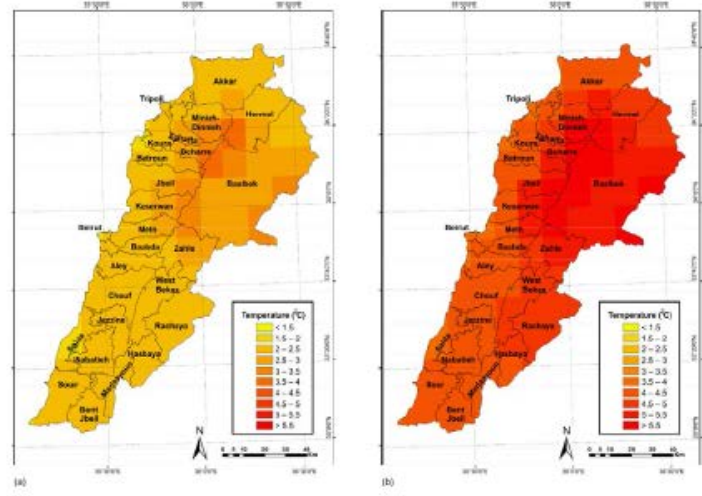


FIGURE 21: Vulnerability at mid-century for (a) RCP4.5 and (b) RCP8.5

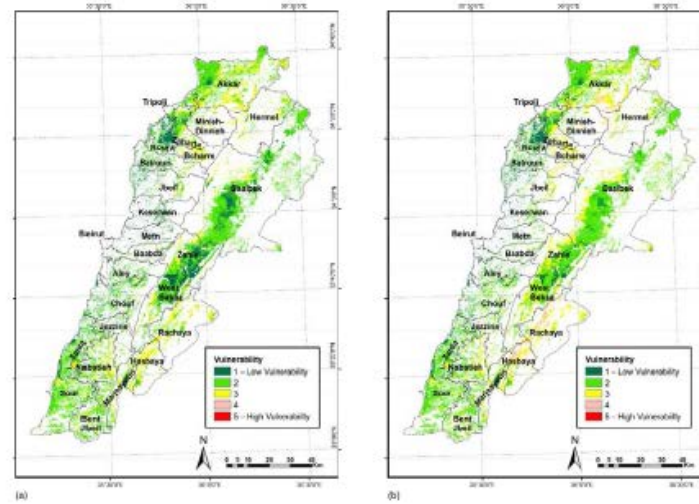


FIGURE 22: Vulnerability at end-century for (a) RCP4.5 and (b) RCP8.5

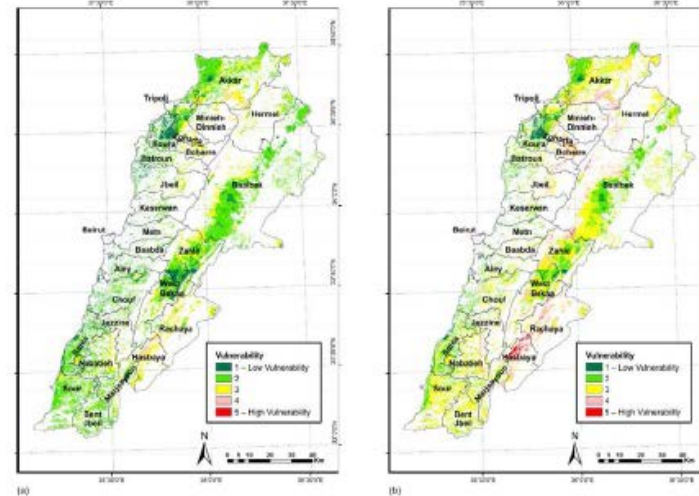
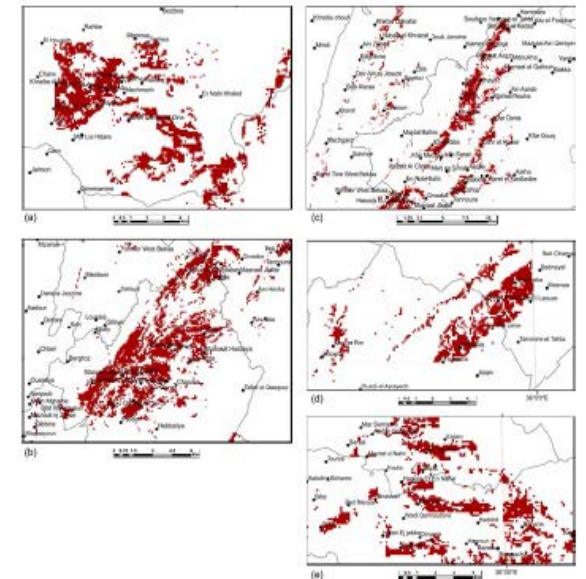


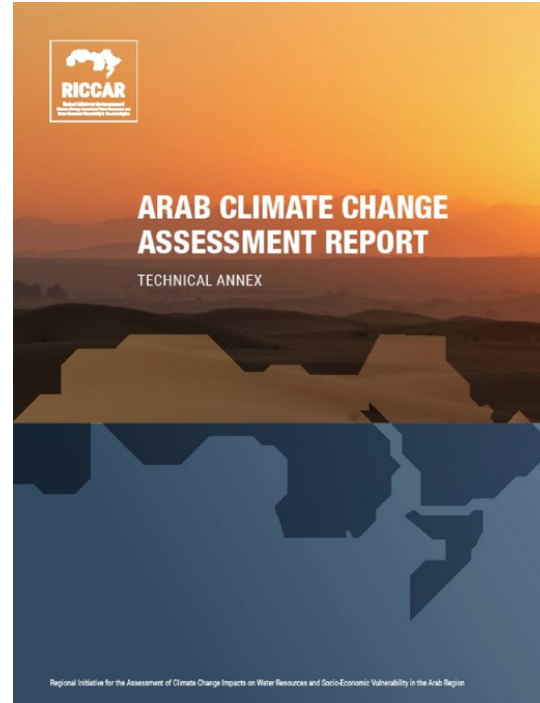
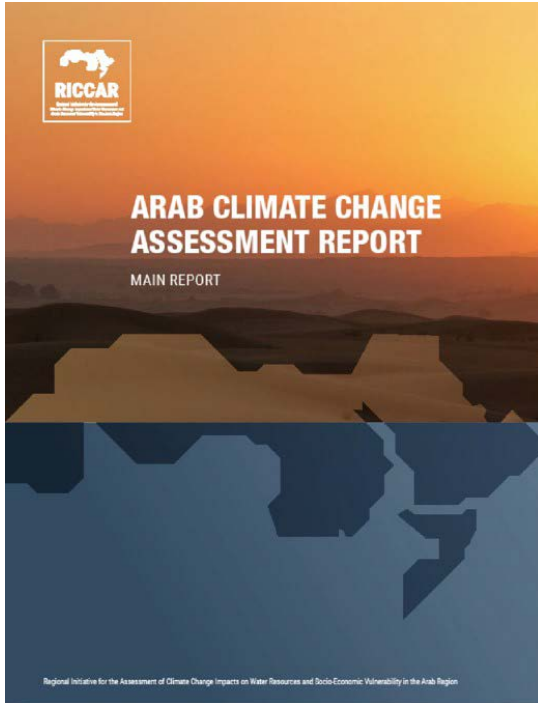
FIGURE 24: Vulnerability hotspots for end-century RCP8.5



FIGURE 25: Selected vulnerability hotspots for end-century RCP8.5 in (a) Akkar, (b) Hasbaya, (c) Rachaya, (d) Baalbek and Zahle, and (e) Zgharta and Bcharre



Report Launched – September 2017



Implementing Partners



Collaborating Research Institutes

- Center of Excellence for Climate Change Research/ King Abdulaziz University (CECCR/KAU) - KSA
- King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) - KSA
- Climate Services Center 2.0 (CS2.0) - Germany

Implemented by **giz** (German Research Cooperation) and **ACCWA** (Arab Center for Climate Change and Water Assessment).

RICCAR Publication Series



RICCAR used to inform other publications

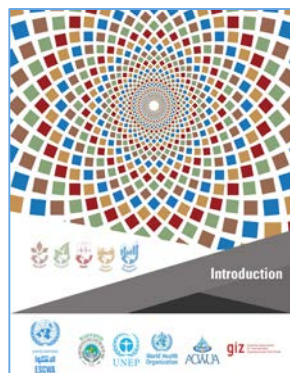
Climate Change Adaptation Manual:

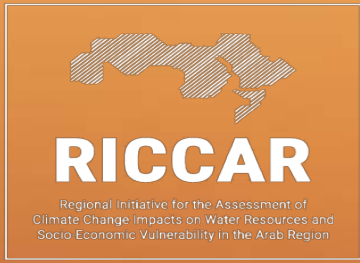
Five sector modules drawing on RICCAR outputs were developed by ESCWA in close cooperation with the following leading organizations:

1. **Environment** module with UNEP/ROWA;
2. **Agriculture** module with ACSAD and GIZ;
3. **Health** module with WHO;
4. **Human settlements** (on water supply/sanitation) with ACWUA;
5. **Economic Development** module by ESCWA



A joint introductory chapter by ESCWA render the 5 modules a manual.
Five workshops were held with stakeholders from each sector to finalize the modules.





Thank You

www.riccar.org

www.unescwa.org/our-work/climate-change