



## **Progress in regional downscaling over West Africa**

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We present a regional climate model (RCM) intercomparison using the novel multi-model RCM data set from the ENSEMBLES project that together with extended observational data sets by AMMA allows more extensive studies than before. Present RCMs have distinct systematic errors in terms of West African precipitation varying in amplitude and pattern across models. This is also reflected in a relatively large spread in projected future precipitation trends. Altogether, the ENSEMBLES RCMs indicate a prevailing drying tendency in sub-Saharan Africa, with land cover change playing a possibly important role in determining future precipitation in the region. Statistical post-processing of simulated precipitation is a promising tool to reduce systematic model errors before application in impact studies.