

## **Climate change at local level : let's look around downscaling**

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Weather services and climatologists in research centre are overwhelmed by requests from local authorities about climate change in their regions. Most of the times local authorities want initially a level of precision in terms of time and space scale which far beyond the scientific knowledge we have for the time being.

The communication will build upon several experiences of such requests and show the importance of building common language and confidence between the different actors that are to be involved in downscaling exercise. The goal is to bridge the gap between initial requests by decision makers and existing scientific knowledge.

UNDP (United Nations Development Program) set up recently a unit called ClimSAT to help regions (sub national authorities) to establish mitigation and adaptation action plans. ClimSAT already initiated such plans in Uruguay, Albania, Uganda, Senegal, Morocco, ... Météo-France takes part to ClimSAT for instance by explaining the importance of data rescue, providing with latest information about climate change impacts and stressing the interests to involve national weather services in regional climate change action plans, ...

In Basse Normandie, Bretagne and Pays de Loire, Météo-France has been involved in several processes aiming ultimately at building local climate change action plans. For the time being, no real dynamical or statistical downscaling exercise have been launched : For impacts on precipitation pattern, IPCC models do not really agree on this zone, so downscaling is not really pertinent. For temperature, the climate change signal is clearer, but downscaling won't give much more information. Of course on other meteorological parameters or on other variable that are linked to meteorological parameters, downscaling could be of interest and will probably be necessary.

With or without downscaling, the stake is to build, at a local level, mechanisms which are similar to IPCC and UNFCCC. In that context, downscaling could either be helpful or create a kind of black box effect which will hamper real dialogues between stakeholders.