

Proposal for a workshop on impacts of climate fluctuations and trends in West Africa.

26 February to 2nd of March 2007

Dakar or Bamako (hosted by an AMMA partner)

This workshop is organized by AMMA in collaboration with ENSEMBLES. It is open to all members of AMMA and ENSEMBLES interested in impact of variations and trends in the African monsoon and the links between the global climate and the African monsoon.

The aim of the workshop are :

- Coordinate studies on seasonal prediction and climate change between ENSEMBLES and AMMA.
- Integrate more strongly the different impact studies carried out within AMMA.
- Integrate the new African partners which have joined the AMMA-EU consortium.

The agenda will cover the following topics :

- A brief review of the outcome of the AMMA SOP/EOP campaign (*plenary presentations*)
- West African Monsoon and the global climate (*AMMA-EU=WP1.1, ENSEMBLES=RT5, ...*)
Discuss and elaborate the strategy to prepare and improve climate change scenarios for the region. In the plenary this group should inform the impact community and collect their needs in term of geophysical forecasts.
- Scaling issues in the West African monsoon (*AMMA-EU=WP1.4, ENSEMBLES=RT2b, RT3 & RT6*)
Prepare the steps to be taken to desegregate seasonal and climate forecasts using statistical and dynamical methods for the benefit of impact studies. An important step will be to determine path to validation of both methods with AMMA data.
- Land-productivity (*AMMA-EU=WP3.1, ENSEMBLES=RT6*)
Specify the needs for seasonal forecast and climate scenarios in terms of 1) spatial coverage and resolution 2) temporal extension and time step to be communicated to the Geophysical WPs. Identify needs from the other impact WPs. Set up plans for the inclusion of new test areas and partners, including a unified research approach. Pastoral production should have special attention in the discussion.
- Water resource management (*AMMA-EU=WP3.3, ENSEMBLES=RT6*)
As for land-productivity but focus should be put on data availability.
- Public health (*AMMA-EU=WP3.4, ENSEMBLES=RT6*)
- Vulnerability studies (*AMMA-EU=WP3.2, ENSEMBLES=RT6*)

For this WP two important issues need special attention: increased focus on pastoral systems, and increased focus on external and socio-economic factors in the modeling of agricultural systems as discussed in Copenhagen.

- Early warning systems for food security (*AMMA-EU=WP5.2, ENSEMBLES=RT5*)

The links to other WPs and 3.2 in particular will have to be addressed.

Time needs to be set aside for the following management meetings :

- AMMA-EU Governing Board (1/2 day).
- Coordinating impact studies within AMMA at an international level.

Location

The preferred location is the Univeristé Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar. On the 25th of February there will probably be national elections in Senegal. Some Embassies have advised to avoid traveling to Senegal during this period. Should this warning be confirmed then we will move the location of the meeting to Bamako. The final decision on the location will be taken end of November.

Program committee :

Inge Sandholt, Amadou Gaye, Chris Hewitt, Lorenzo Genesio.