

CORDEX-Africa report 2019

Academic publications

Although lack of funding meant it was not possible to run another workshop series as in 2017/2018 at least nine papers were produced during 2019 by CORDEX-Africa participants, some of which were presented at the ICRC 2019 meeting in Beijing. These papers are detailed on the Cordex-Africa website under the Publications link. Two of these papers were from the VIA community of CORDEX-Africa, and we are very happy to have had excellent collaboration between climate and VIA specialists in the production of the papers. There is continued collaboration between the climate science and VIA cohorts with 3 papers in varying stages of completeness currently being written.

Additionally, a very detailed step-by-step tutorial on how to download CORDEX-Africa data from the ESGF has been written and placed on the CORDEX-Africa web site and numerous emails have been received thanking us for this.

FPS

Two Africa-led FPSs are underway and several CORDEX-Africa affiliates are involved in the European-led ELVIC FPS. A new FPS titled *“Modelling the Southeast African regional Climate”* was endorsed at the ICRC-2019 in Beijing and will begin in 2020. The FPS titled *“Coupled regional modelling of land-atmosphere-ocean interactions over western-southern Africa under climate change”* has not sustained funding to run to completion and has stalled because of this. Further efforts will be made to source funding in 2020 that would facilitate completion of the FPS. In the ELVIS FPS CORDEX-Africa affiliates are involved in the analysis of the simulations being performed over the region.

ICRC-2019

Several CORDEX-Africa affiliates were able to attend the ICRC-2019 conference in Beijing. Representatives from both the climate and VIA communities were present. Oral and poster presentations were made by the attendees and they contributed to the breakout sessions.

IPCC

Several CORDEX-Africa affiliates are involved as Lead Authors and Contributing Authors in the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (AR6). Lead Authors are involved in WG1 Chapters 10, 11, 12 and the Atlas and also in WG2 Chapter 9 (Africa).

Plans for 2020

Workshops

Depending on funding CORDEX-Africa would like to run 3 more workshops that focus on building the VIA community in the initiative as well as strengthen the already well developed climate science community. The objective of these workshops would be the production of at least one climate paper per region based on the new CORDEX-Core data and three papers from the VIA community addressing hydrology, agriculture and health. Funding for these workshops will be sourced from WCRP and other institutions that could fund these kinds of workshops.

COP26

We also hope to have some CORDEX-Africa representation at COP26 in Glasgow as the scope of the Kyoto Protocol ends in 2020 and representation by developing nations in scientific side events is essential to create a louder “southern” voice in the negotiations.

CORDEX-CORE data

Data from the CORDEX-Core simulations are now available on ESGF. These data will be downloaded and stored at CSAG, UCT in early 2020 and distributed on request (and receipt of external hard drives) to CORDEX-Africa participants as well as other interested persons.