

# WGSIP, DCPP and GC-NTCP

## 40th Session of the WCRP Joint Scientific Committee

*Doug Smith and Bill Merryfield, WGSIP co-chairs*

*May 2019*

*Geneva, Switzerland*



International  
Science Council



# Progress and achievements - WGSIP



International Conferences on Subseasonal to Decadal Prediction  
17–21 September 2018 | NCAR, Boulder, CO, USA

- 368 presentations, 347 participants, 38 countries
- 9 WGSIP members on organizing committees
- BAMS S2S/S2D survey article submitted soon



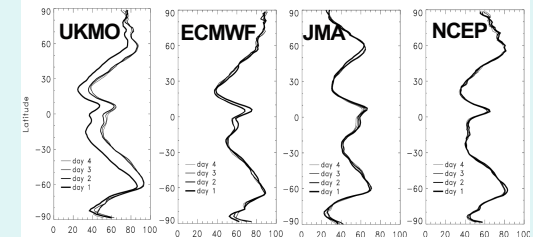
## The Climate-system Historical Forecast Project

at Centro de Investigaciones del Mar y la Atmosfera

- New: JMA/MRI-CPS2, JAMSTEC/SINTEX, NMME models (in progress) → >25 systems
- Sea ice variables added
- New storage system for long term hardware integrity

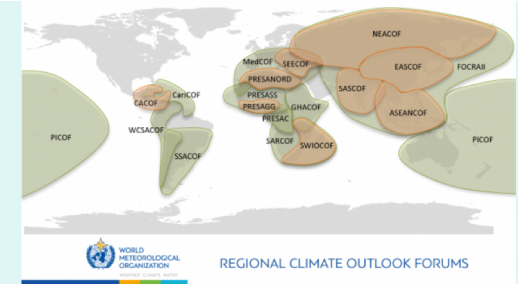
## Current cycle of WGSIP projects

- Teleconnections: ENSO global circulation influence in CHFP/Copernicus models
- SNOWGLACE: paper on snow initialization impacts submitted to JGR S2S issue
- Transient Intercomparison Project: shock/drift diagnostics developed →



## WGSIP engagement with WMO operations

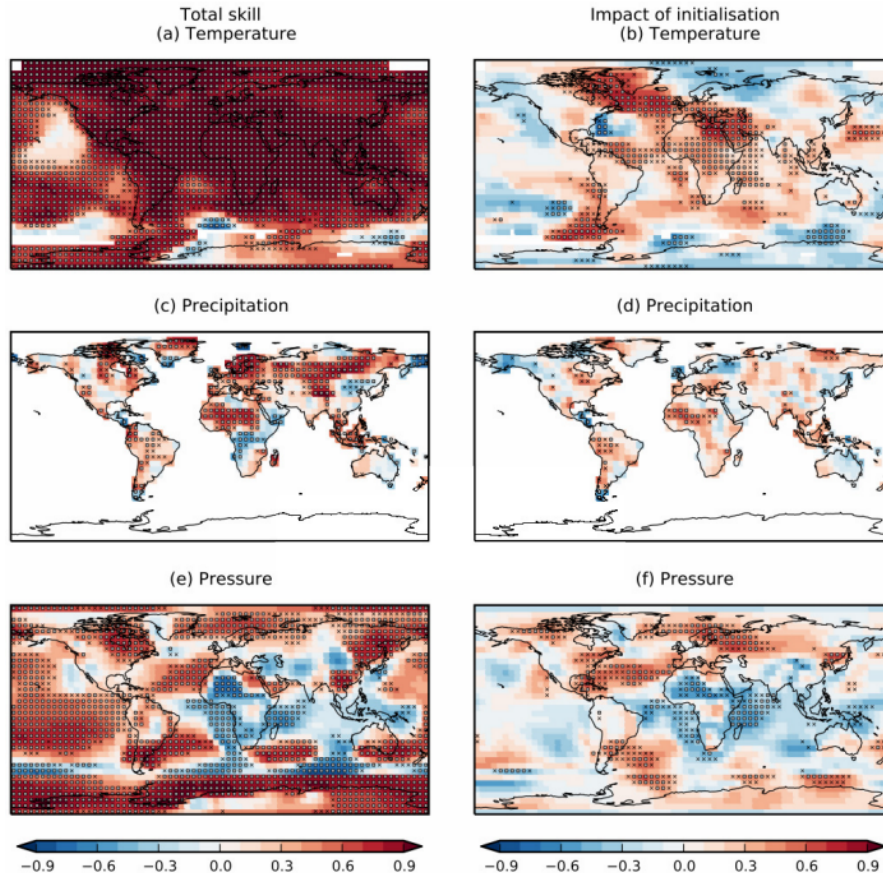
- Contributed to writing and review of “Guidance on Operational Objective Practices for Seasonal Forecasting” document for WMO regions →
- Participation in 2<sup>nd</sup> WMO Workshop on Operational Climate Prediction
- S2S/S2D conference R2O: session + current research survey article





# Progress and achievements - DCPD

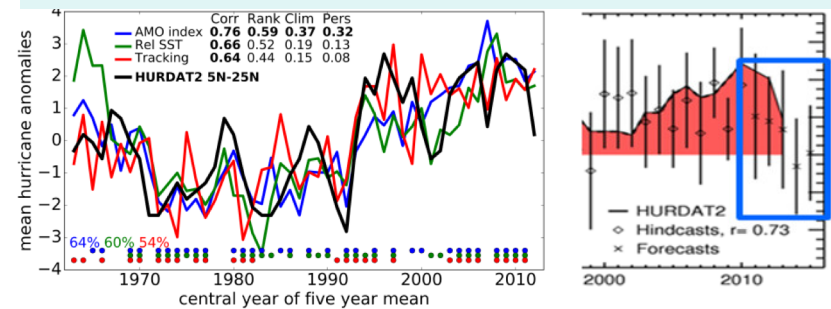
## Robust skill of decadal predictions



- S/N ratio too small
  - Need large ensemble to remove noise
  - Use anomaly correlation (insensitive to magnitude)
- Impact of initialisation masked by common signals
  - Assess variability *not captured* by uninitialized runs

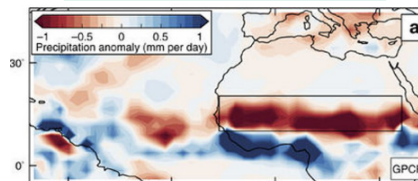
## Predicting extremes

### Atlantic hurricane numbers

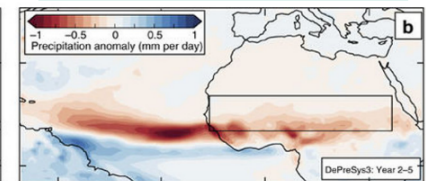


### Sahel drought

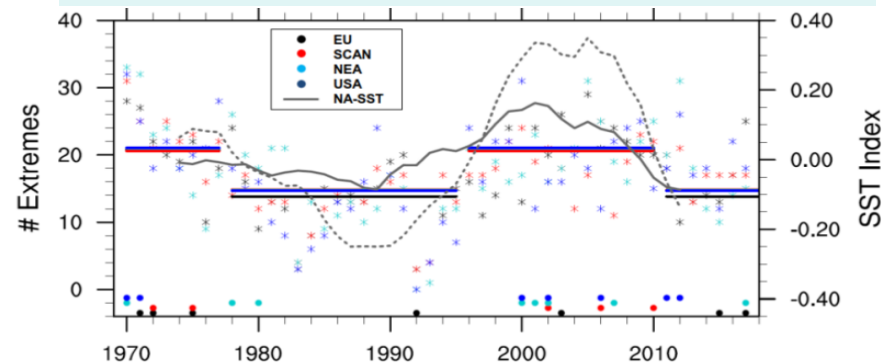
#### 1970s and 80s Sahel drought: obs



#### 1970s and 80s Sahel drought: forecasts



### N. Hemisphere JJA continental extreme temperatures



# Progress and achievements – GC-NTCP

## WMO operational decadal predictions

### WMO Lead Centre for Annual-to-Decadal Climate Prediction

The Met Office is a designated Lead Centre for Annual-to-Decadal Climate Prediction (LC-ADCP). The LC-ADCP collects and provides hindcasts, forecasts and verification data from a number contributing centres worldwide.



- Lead centre for annual-to-decadal climate prediction
  - Met Office
- 4 global producing centres
  - BSC
  - DWD
  - Environment and Climate Change Canada
  - Met Office
- [www.wmolc-adcp.org](http://www.wmolc-adcp.org)

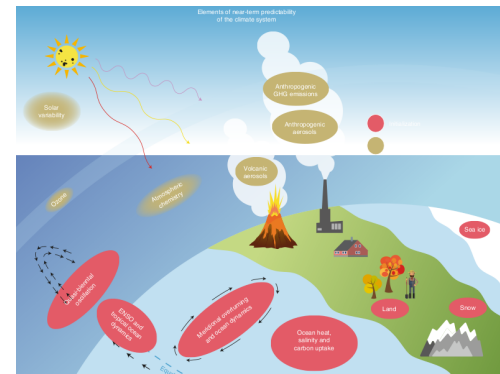
nature  
climate change

PERSPECTIVE

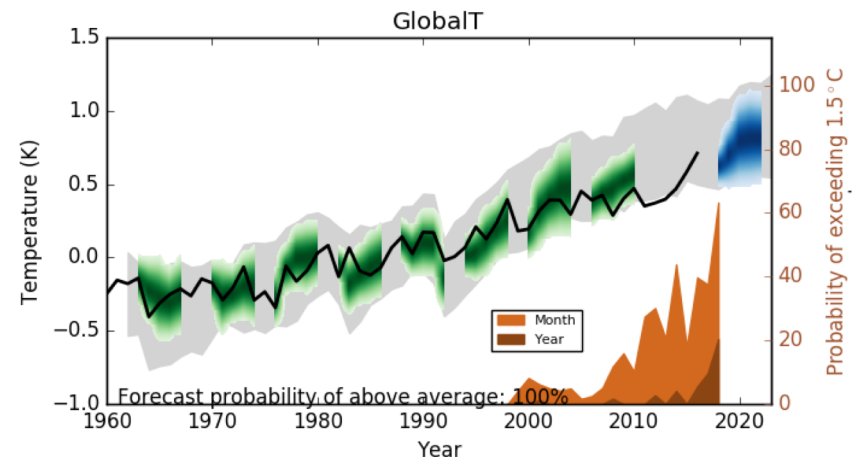
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41558-018-0359-7>

## Towards operational predictions of the near-term climate

- Sets out the case for operational decadal predictions
- Kushnir et al 2019



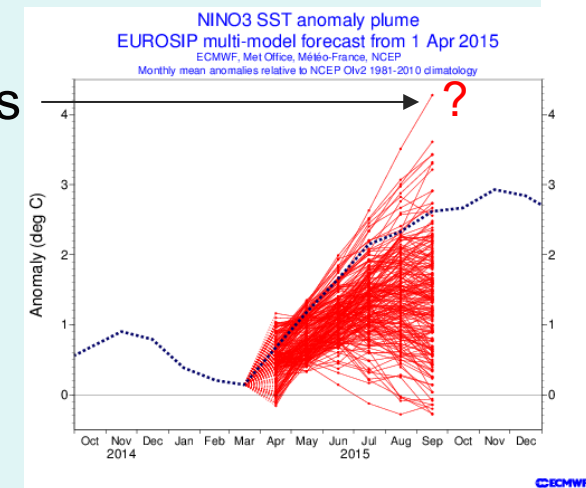
## Annual-to-decadal climate update





# Future plans - WGSIP

- Major changes in WGSIP membership in 2019-20
  - broadened geographical representation, improved gender balance
  - expertise in subseasonal/seasonal/decadal prediction
  - 9 WMO Global Producing Centres represented
- New cycle of WGSIP projects
  - to be identified and initiated at WGSIP 21 in late May
  - candidate projects include:
    - nature of unprecedented extremes in hindcasts
    - prediction of extremes across time scales
    - Asian summer/winter monsoon in CHFP
    - ocean climate forecasting (beyond SST)
- WGSIP led workshop in 2020 or 2021
  - to be formulated at WGSIP 21
  - +seasonal-multiseasonal session at Fall AGU/WCRP Science Week



# Future plans - WGSIP

- WGSIP considering engagement in CMIP

- pilot for sub-annual prediction MIP would build on CMIP6 DCPD
- hindcasts to ~12 months initialized 4x per year as in CHFP
- main motivations include:
  - wider range of earth system variables at higher frequency than typically available in hindcasts (cf. DCPD)
  - leveraging ESGF for data access, multi-investigator coordination
- cognizant of CMIP/ESGF resource challenges, engaging WMO could help provide stability

- WGSIP possibly to lead operational prediction assessments

- TPOS2020 draft Second Report recommends periodic assessment of seasonal to interannual forecast skill + biases
- Discussions underway with TPOS2020; CHFP could provide basis



# Future plans - DCPD

- Coordinate analysis of CMIP6
  - Compare hindcast skill with CMIP5, assess extreme event predictions
  - Component C “understanding” experiments (AMV, PDV → teleconnections, storm tracks, Sahel, aerosols, Mediterranean,...)
  - Volcano experiments
- Papers and workshops/meetings

# Future plans - DCPD

- Coordinate new Earth System decadal predictions
- Contribute to global stocktake
- Run new forecasts if volcano erupts
- CMIP7 (eddy resolving ocean?)



# Future plans – GC-NTCP

- This year
  - Finish website development
  - Issue first Annual-to-Decadal Climate Update
  - Decadal session Fall AGU/WCRP Science Week
- Afterwards
  - Standards, verification methods and guidance for operational near-term predictions
  - Continued issuance of Annual-to-Decadal Climate Update including uncertainty, skill estimates
  - Focus on developing users

# Links to the WCRP Strategic and Implementation Plans

- Primary WGSIP/DCPP/GC-NTCP links are with Objective 2, *Prediction of the near-term evolution of the climate system*
  - high-frequency hindcast data across earth system components from DCPP + possible sub-annual MIP will enable predictability & skill assessment for meteorological, oceanic and hydrological extremes
  - verification against specific observed events (not possible for simulations/ projections) points to model successes & errors
  - rigorous verification requires high-quality observations
- Potential capacities also to address other Objectives:
  - 1 “*Understanding*”
    - unprecedented extremes in hindcasts → new climate dynamics insights
    - annual to decadal forecasts of energy, water, and carbon flows could enhance their understanding



# Links to the WCRP Strategic and Implementation Plans

- 3 *“Future evolution”*
    - verified decadal hindcasts could improve understanding of influences of external forcing (especially solar, volcanoes and anthropogenic aerosols) on climate evolution
    - development of seamless information out to projection time scales
  - 4 *Bridging climate science and society* – continue developing collaborative links, providing information on emerging predictive capabilities to WMO operations and associated Expert Team
- 
- Suggestions for implementation plan:
    - large-scale meeting (akin to 2017 pan-WCRP modelling meeting) addressing each objective of Strategic Plan (also modelling, obs?)
    - for Objective 2, would involve WGSIP, DCP, GC-NTCP, S2S + core project expertise aligned with prediction aspects of ocean, land, cryosphere, stratosphere...
    - chairs would report back to and iterate with JSC

# Emerging issues

- Viability of pilot sub-annual prediction MIP aligned with CMIP6 DCPP will require rapid engagement with and approval by CMIP panel
- In terms of future structure and functioning of WCRP relating to prediction, could have much better coordination and leveraging of expertise between prediction-centric groups and prediction elements of core projects, some GC (e.g. Carbon, Extremes), and CORDEX
- A pan-WCRP prediction meeting in ~2020 would jump start such coordination and accelerate strategic plan implementation relating to prediction