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From regional climate models to climate change impact assessment: data support and demand

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Society expects climate science to deliver robust and reliable information on future climate change projections. Based on these data decision makers should be able to generate decisions on land-, resources- and risk management. The expectations of the society, however, sometimes conflict with the state of the art climate science, as part of what is demanded cannot - or only with certain limitations - be delivered. To prevent from misunderstandings and displeasedness, it is essential for climate scientists to communicate the known limitations and to give insight into what is state of the art climate science. In the same way society, the climate change impact assessment community, and policy makers have to internalize that future climate can not be prognosed, but its projection is always subject to uncertainties. One of the main missions and challenges of the Climate Service Center (CSC) in Hamburg is to bridge the gap between climate science and society and to facilitate and foster the communication between the relevant groups and institutions. The poster will show a typical example of data/information request, which is on the first view rather simple but can lead to complex answers. On the basis of this data request a methodology is presented, to obtain robust and statistically significant information on future regional changes of climatic parameters from an ensemble of regional climate change simulations for Germany.