

APPLICATIONS OF VIC FOR CLIMATE/ LAND COVER CHANGE IMPACTS

Kel Markert

NASA-SERVIR Mekong Regional Associate

University of Alabama in Huntsville | Earth System Science Center

8 March 2017

VIC/BCSPP Training
Huntsville, AL



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



ICIMOD

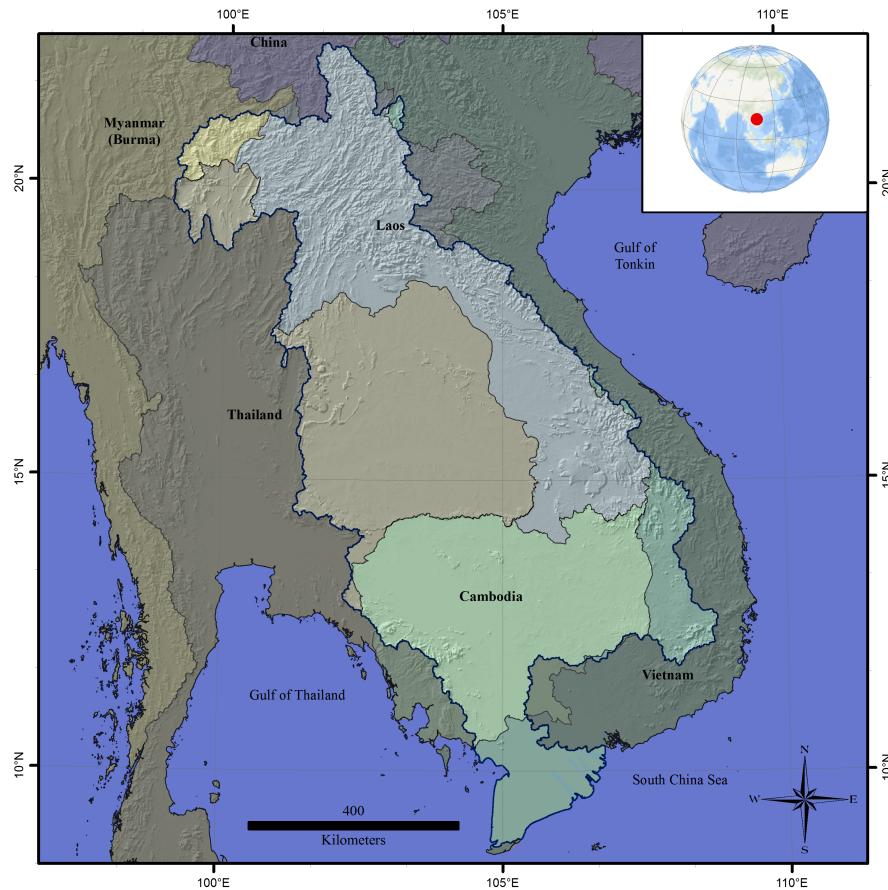


OUTLINE

- Introduction
- Research Question
- Data and Methods
 - Land Cover Change Model
 - Hydrologic Model
 - Analysis
- Results
- Conclusions

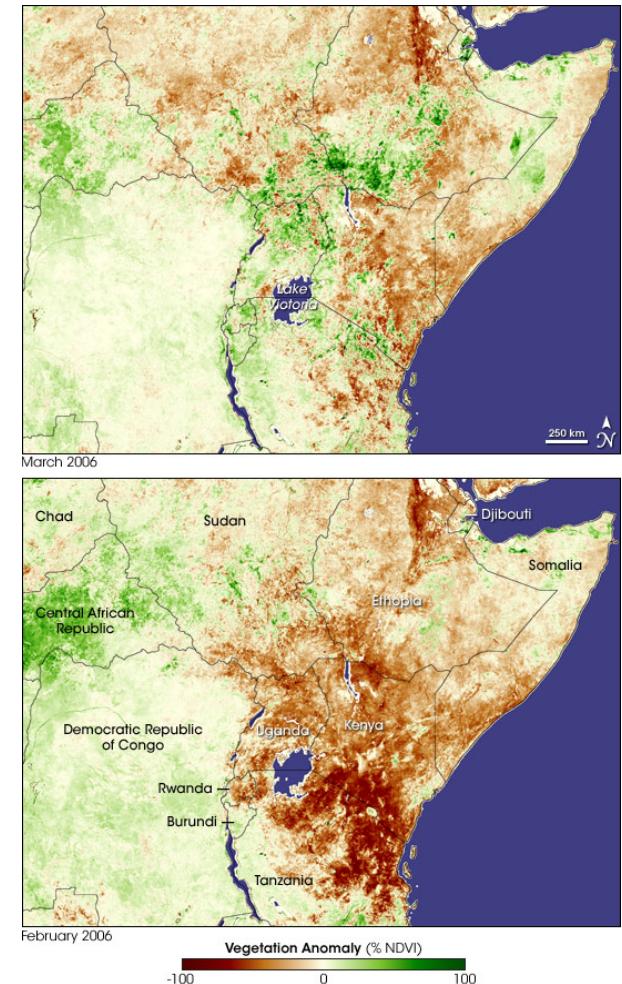
INTRODUCTION

- Study focuses on the Lower Mekong Basin (LMB)
- The LMB is an economically and ecologically important region
 - One of the largest exporters of rice and fish products [Sakamoto et al., 2006; Poulsen et al., 2002)
 - Within top three most biodiverse river basins in the world [Dudgeon, 2000]
- Natural climate variability plays an important role in water supply within the region
 - Short-term climate variability (ENSO, MJO)
 - Long-term climate variability (climate change)



INTRODUCTION

- Projections of climate change show there will be a decrease in water availability world wide which has implications for food security and ecology [Mancosu, et al., 2015]
- Additional studies show there may be socioeconomic turmoil due to water wars and food security in developing regions such as the Mekong Basin [Mainuddin et al, 2011; Pearse-Smith, 2012]



INTRODUCTION

- Southeast Asia has experienced major changes in land use and land cover from 1980 – 2000 [Fox & Vogler, 2005]
 - Major economic reforms resulting in shift from subsistence farming to market-based agricultural production [Rigg, 2006]
- Changes in land cover continue to occur which have an important role within the land surface aspect of hydrology

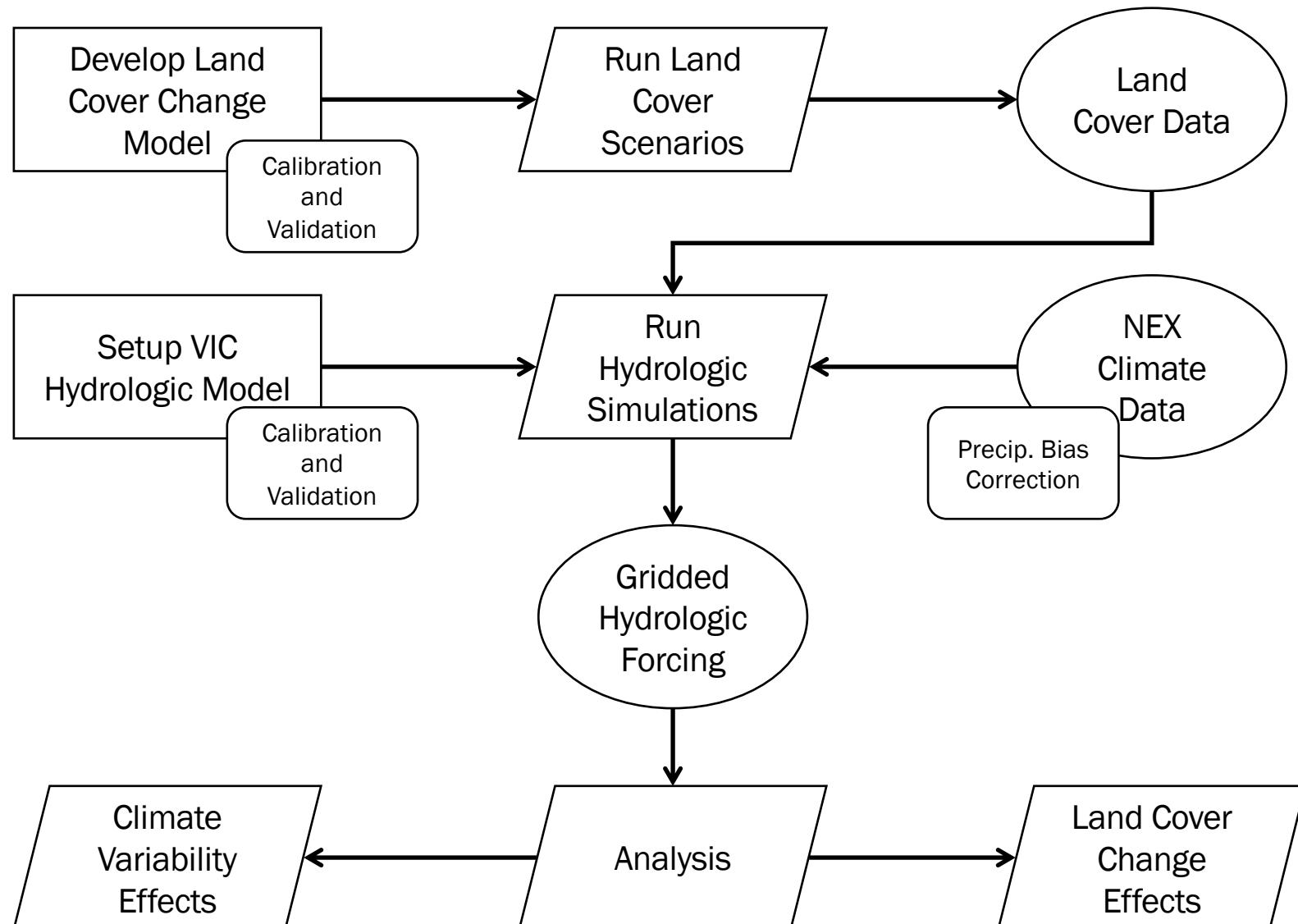


Source: W

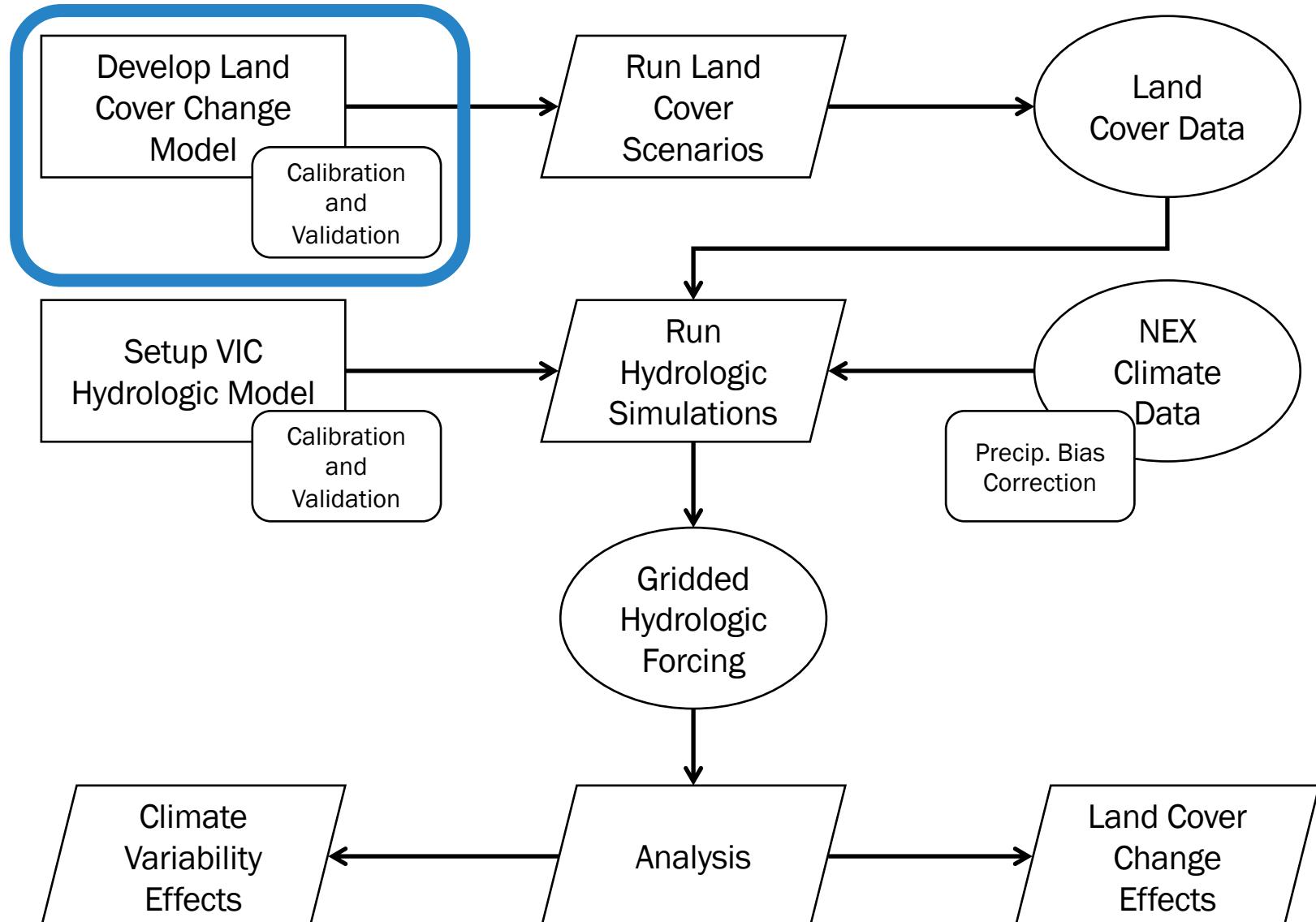
Public domain photo

- How will climate variability and land cover change affect the **spatial and temporal characteristics of the hydrological system** within the LMB?
- Hypothesis:
 - Climate scenarios will result in decrease of water/streamflow with increased temperatures and changes in precipitation intensity and patterns
 - Increases in simulated agricultural land will yield increases in runoff (increases in forest land will yield decreases in runoff)
 - The system is more sensitive to climate variability than land cover change, as precipitation is a major driving force for hydrology

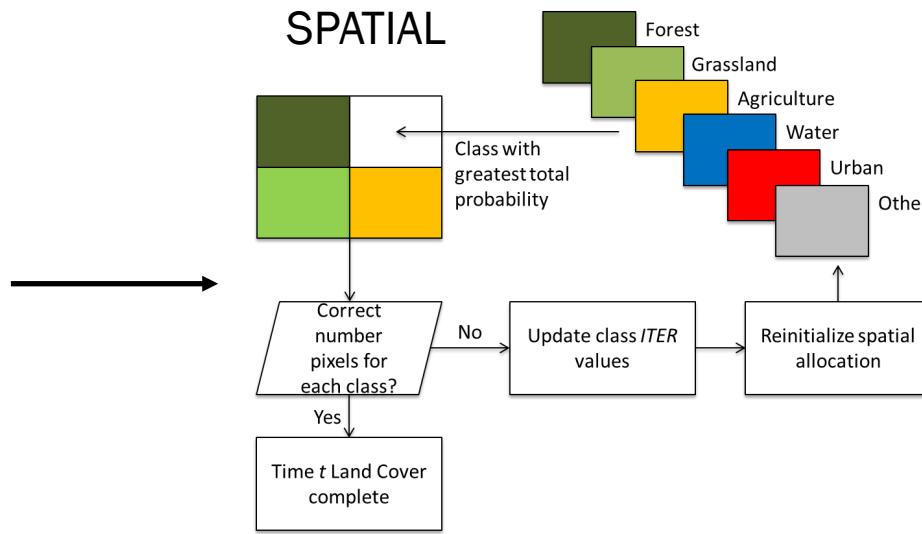
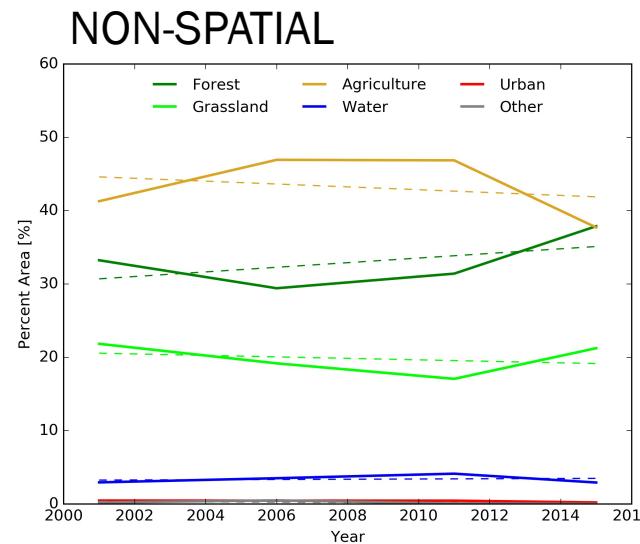
RESEARCH OUTLINE



LAND COVER CHANGE MODEL

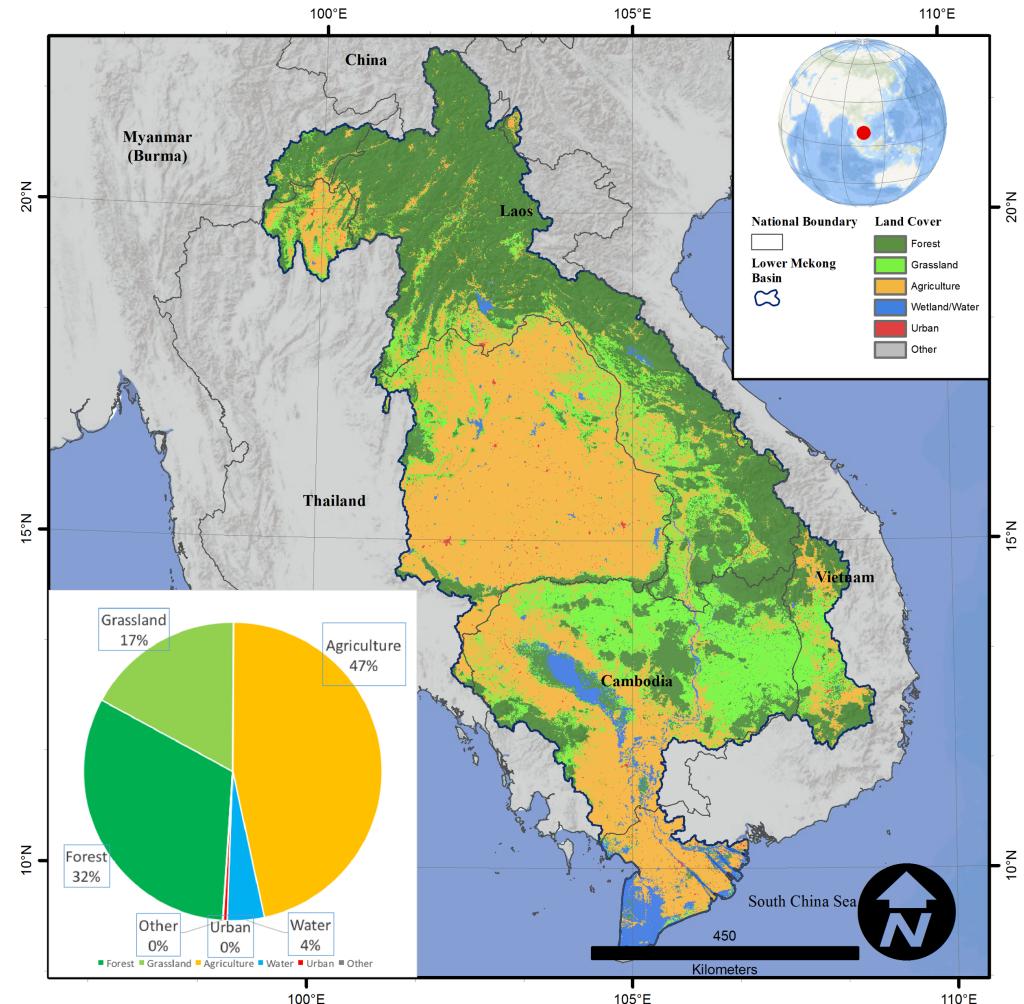


- Land cover change model is based on the CLUE-S model framework [Verburg et al., 2002]
- The model contains two components to estimate land cover at a given place at a given time
 - Non-spatial component (demand for land cover type)
 - Spatial component (probability of land cover type and spatial allocation of land cover type)



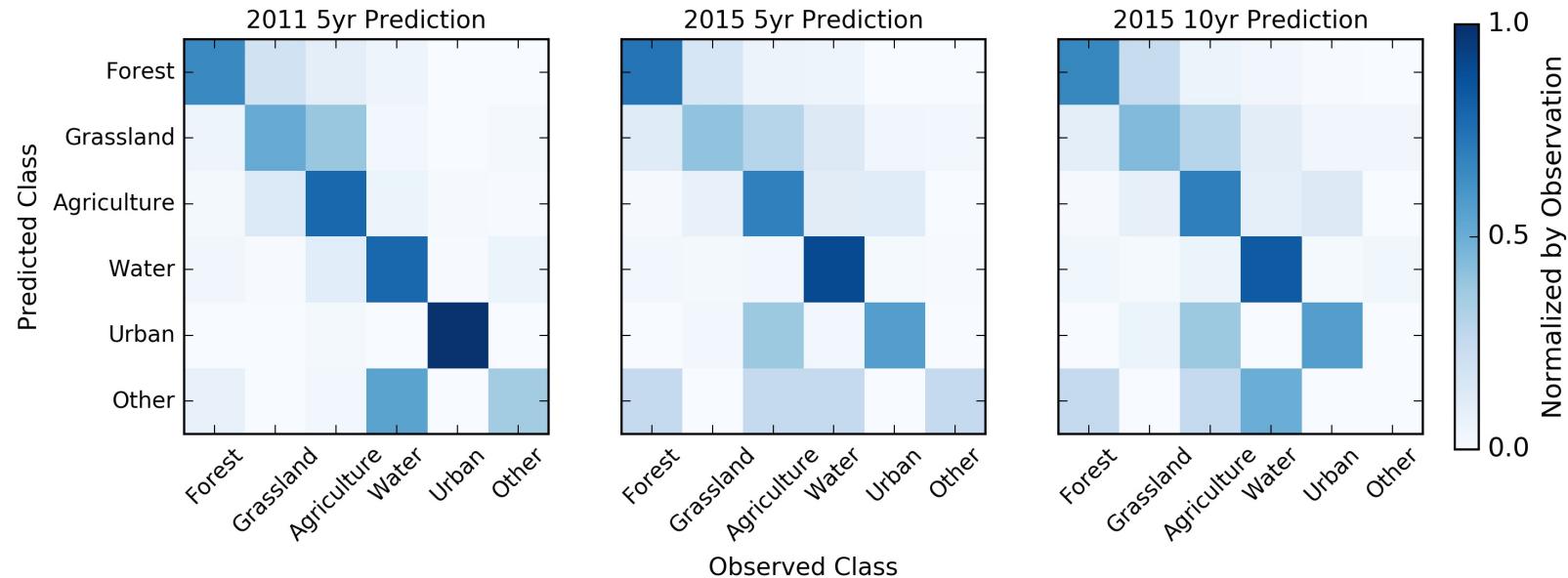
LAND COVER CHANGE MODEL

- Current model is based on six land cover classes from Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) land cover classification
 - Consistent with other climate modeling efforts
 - Limits the complexity of the modeling approach leading to fewer misclassifications



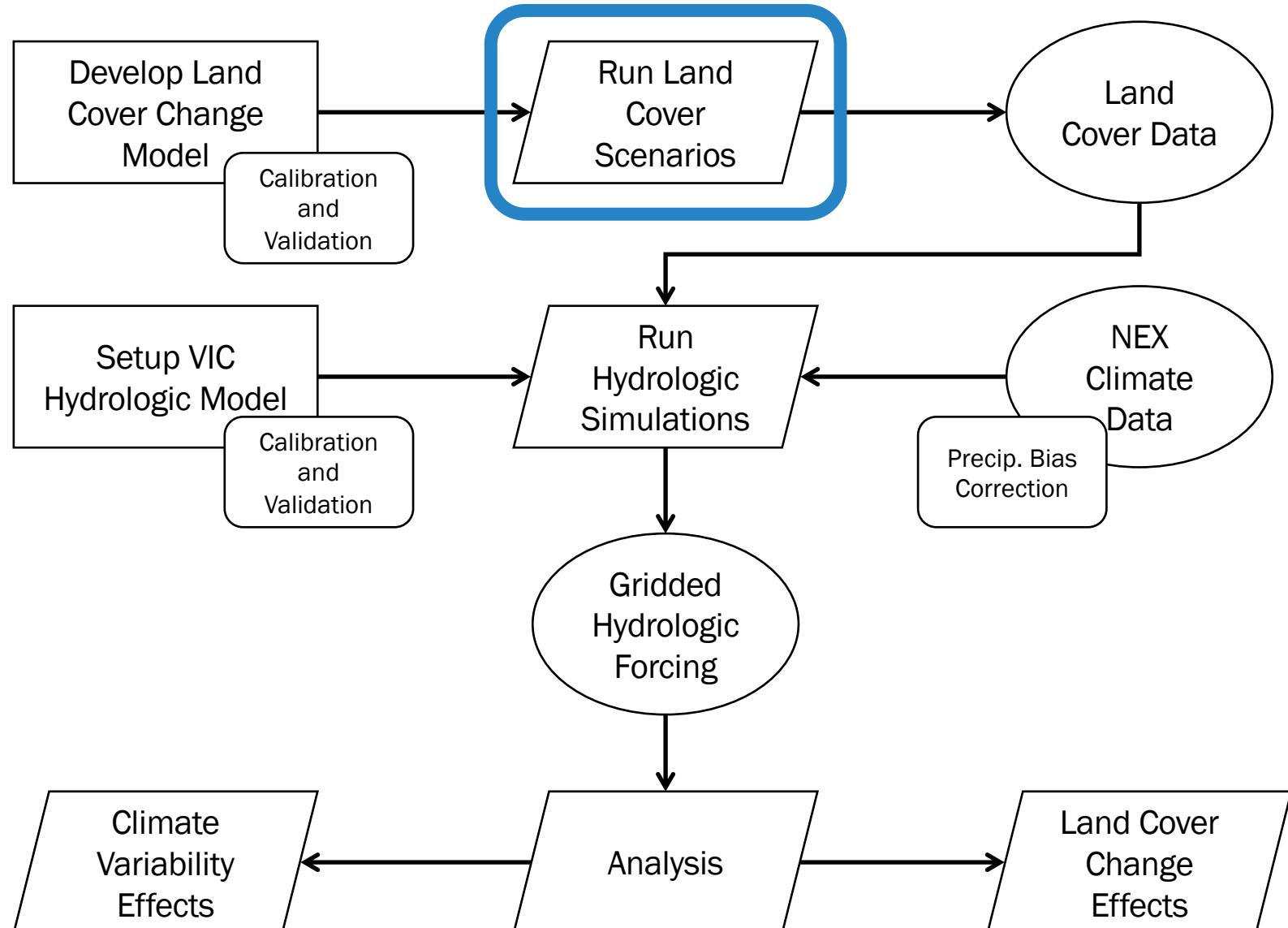
LAND COVER MODEL PERFORMANCE

- Stratified random sample to compare predicted vs observed land cover for 2011 and 2015 (n = 740)



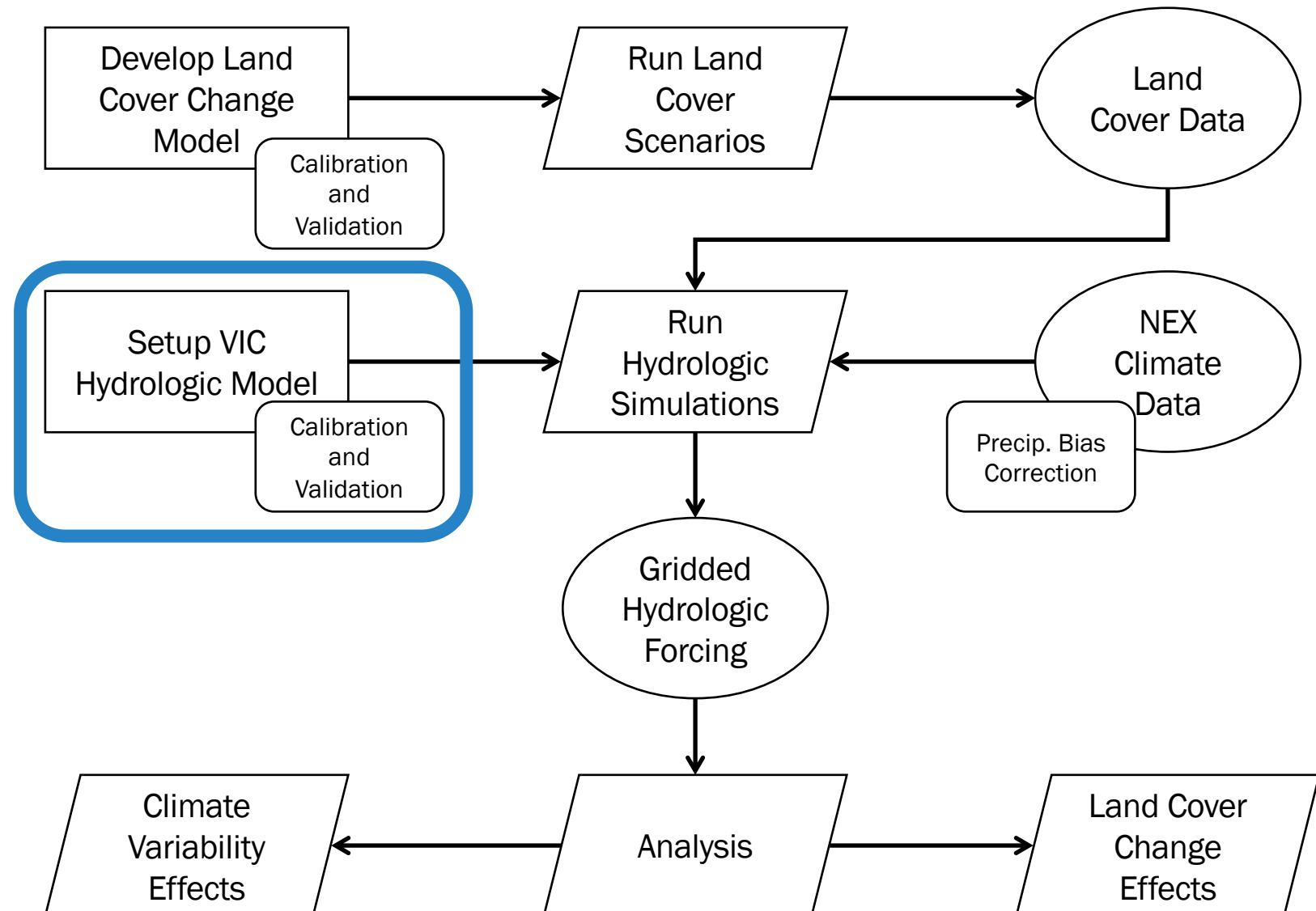
Simulation Year	Overall Accuracy	Producer's Accuracy	User's Accuracy	Kappa Statistic
2011	71.95 %	68.00 %	70.61 %	0.64
2015 (5 yr.)	67.97 %	59.10 %	55.30 %	0.57
2015 (10 yr.)	66.08 %	53.40 %	51.32 %	0.55

LAND COVER SIMULATIONS



- Multiple land cover scenarios were simulated by altering the demand rates for individual classes
 1. Baseline scenario: all land cover demands used were from past trends
 2. Forest +5%: forest demand was set to increase by 5% each step, all other demands were from baseline
 3. Forest +10%: forest demand was set to increase by 10% each step, all other demands were from baseline
 4. Agriculture +5%: agriculture demand was set to increase by 5% each step, all other demands were from baseline
 5. Agriculture +10%: agriculture demand was set to increase by 10% each step, all other demands were from baseline

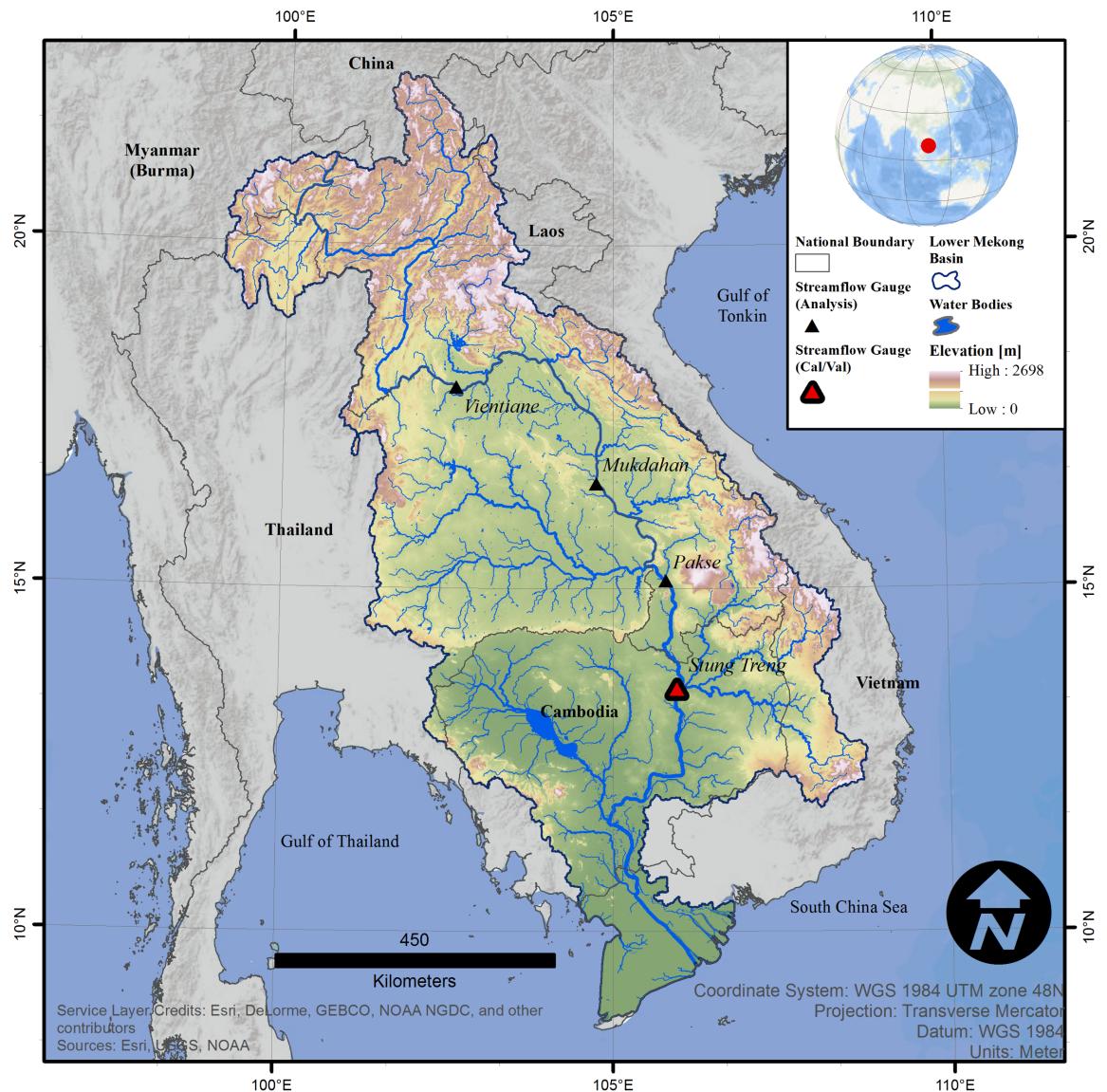
HYDROLOGIC MODEL



- Simulations were run at 0.1° (~ 10 km) resolution for only the Lower Mekong Basin
- Data inputs are ERA-Interim Reanalysis and CHIRPS precipitation dataset
- Set one year model spin-up time and daily time step
- Used spatial variability in elevation and areal precipitation within a grid cell
 - More accurately simulates the effects of topographic variations within a grid cell
- Coupled with the streamflow routing model from *Lohmann et al.* [1996a,b]

CALIBRATION/VALIDATION

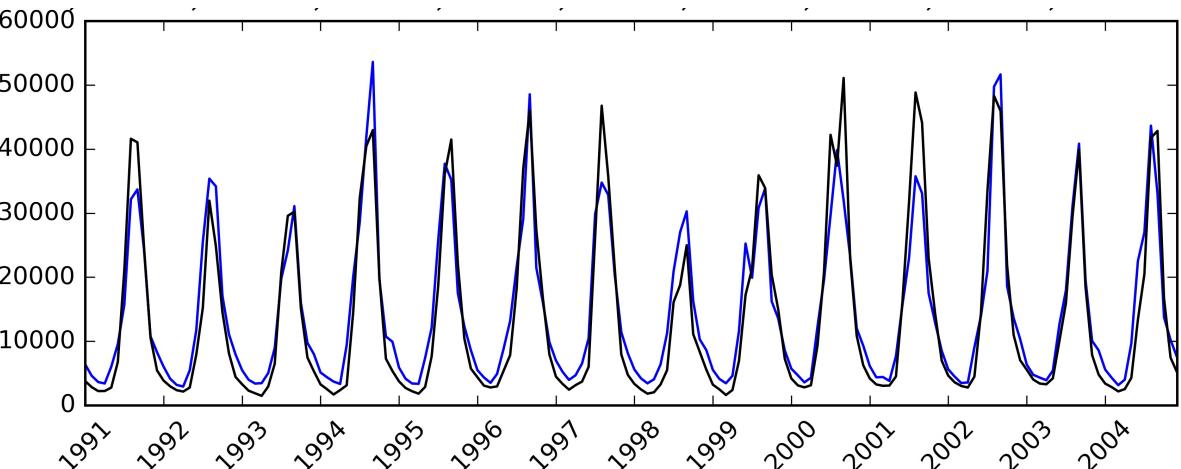
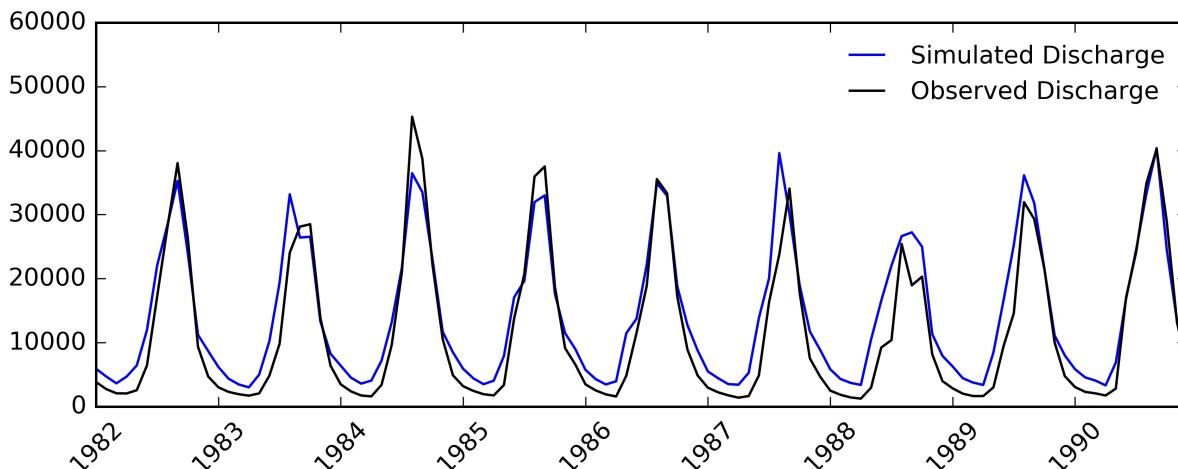
- Model was run for 1981-2010
 - Create a climatological dataset for the hydrology variables
- Calibrated/Validated model at Stung Treng station
 - Calibration period: 1981-1990
 - Validation period: 1991-2005
- Manual calibration



SIMULATION RESULTS

- Followed similar model accuracy guidelines as *Moriasi et al.* [2007]
- Model was found to perform very well for both periods

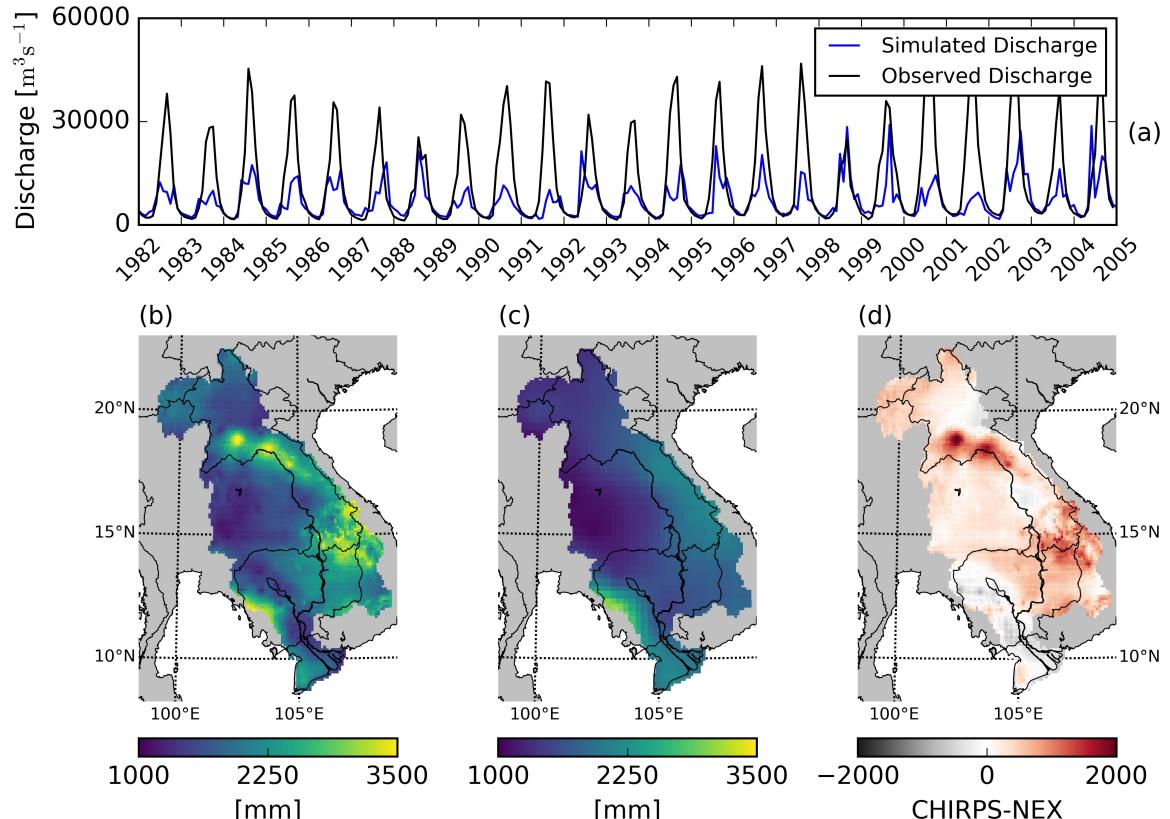
Statistic	R [-]	NSE [-]	PBIAS [%]	RSR [-]	MRE [%]
Calibration	0.96	0.87	-20.70	0.28	68.13
Validation	0.95	0.89	-7.40	0.24	41.95



- Model is calibrated with an observed dataset, however, a climate dataset is used to estimate the effects of climate variability on the LMB hydrology
- How much uncertainty is there when using the climate dataset as an input into the hydrologic model?
 - Simulated calibration and validations periods using the climate reanalysis dataset

INPUT DATA UNCERTAINTY

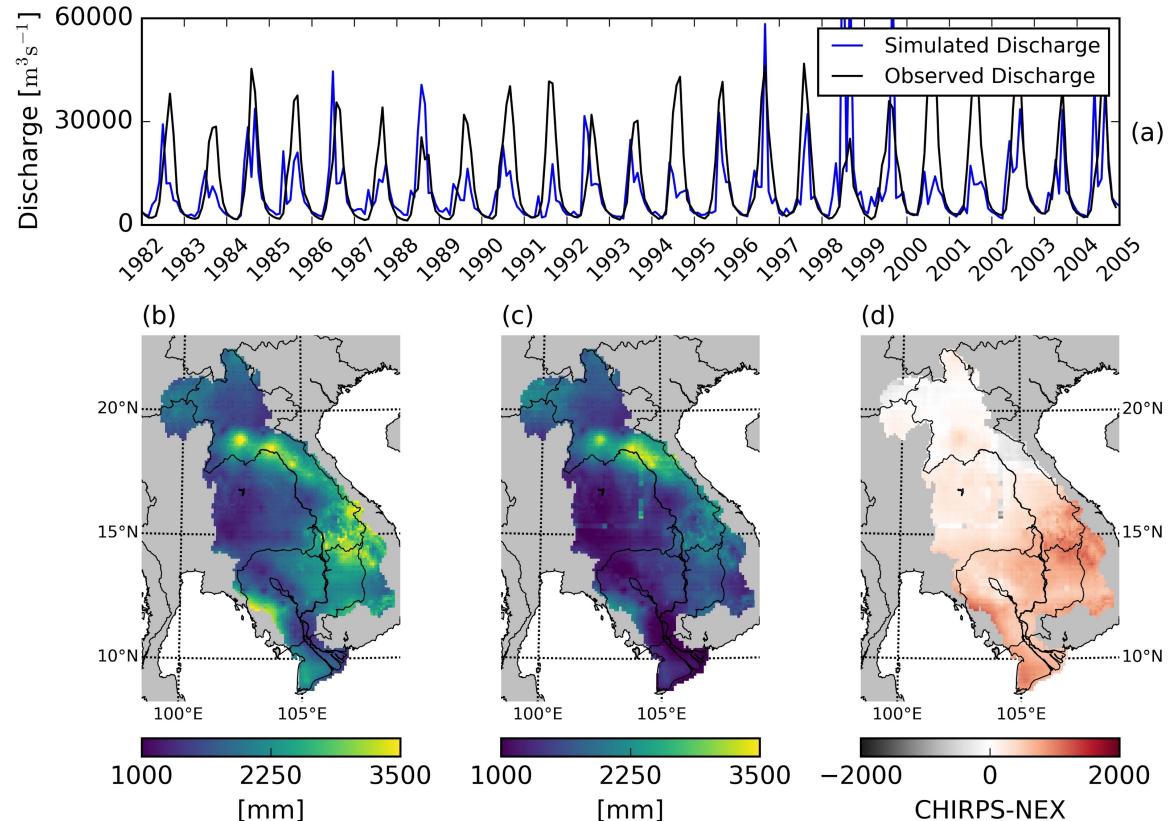
- The NEX climate reanalysis data greatly under predicts precipitation and consequently runoff
- Climate dataset is at a coarser resolution (0.25°) which fails to capture intense rainfall events [Le et al., 2014]



Statistic	R [-]	NSE [-]	PBIAS [%]	RSR [-]	MRE [%]
Calibration	0.67	0.17	-44.28	0.55	44.74
Validation	0.57	0.11	-45.05	0.55	38.56

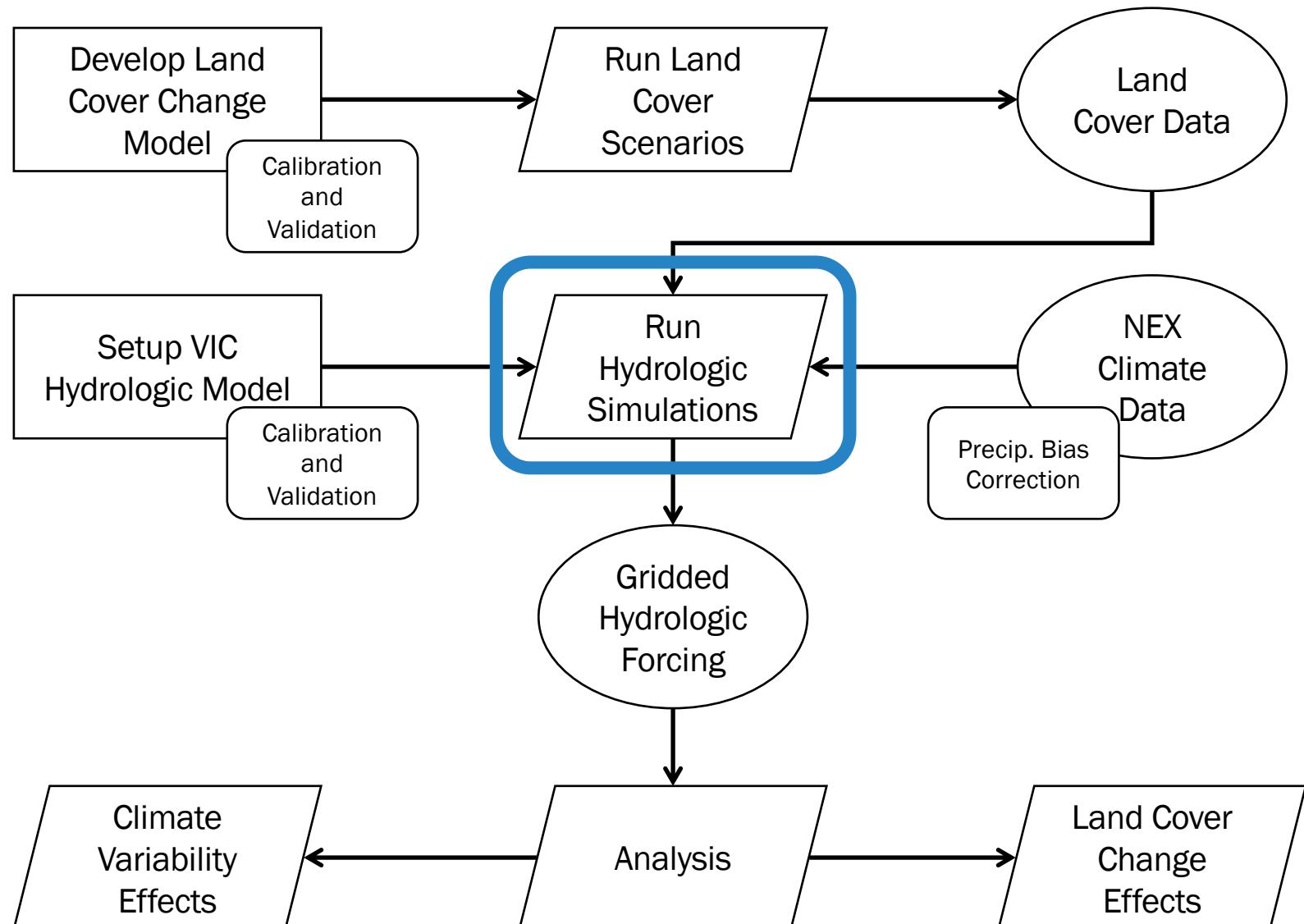
BIAS CORRECTION OF CLIMATE PRECIPITATION

- Used the power transformation bias correction technique
[Leander and Buishand, 2007; Leander et al., 2008]
 - Non-linear correction using an exponential form
- Slightly improved precipitation inputs
 - Results not as accurate as needed



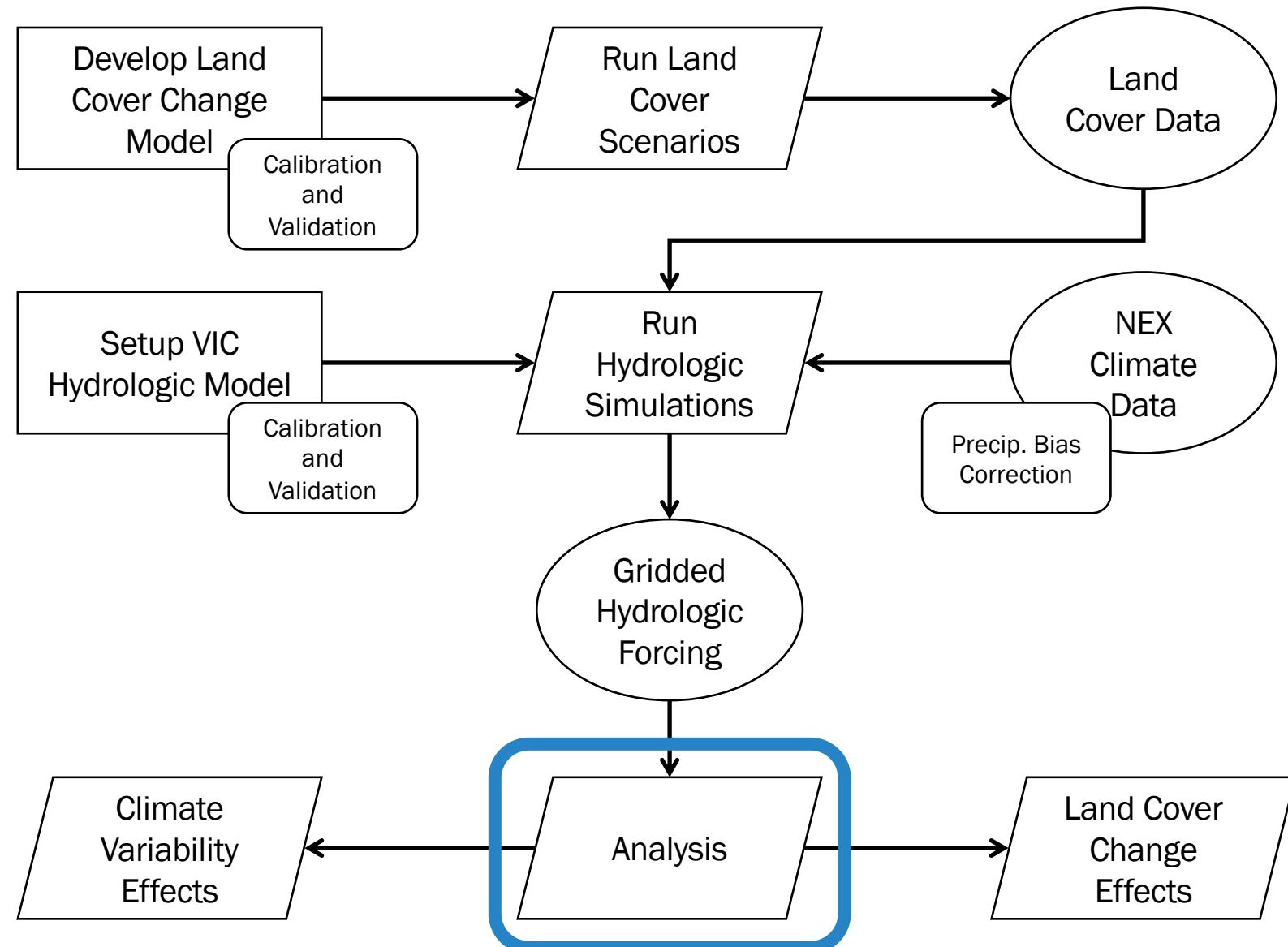
Statistic	R [-]	NSE [-]	PBIAS [%]	RSR [-]	MRE [%]
Calibration	0.67	0.17	-44.28	0.55	44.74
Validation	0.57	0.11	-45.05	0.55	38.56

ERRORS AND UNCERTAINTIES



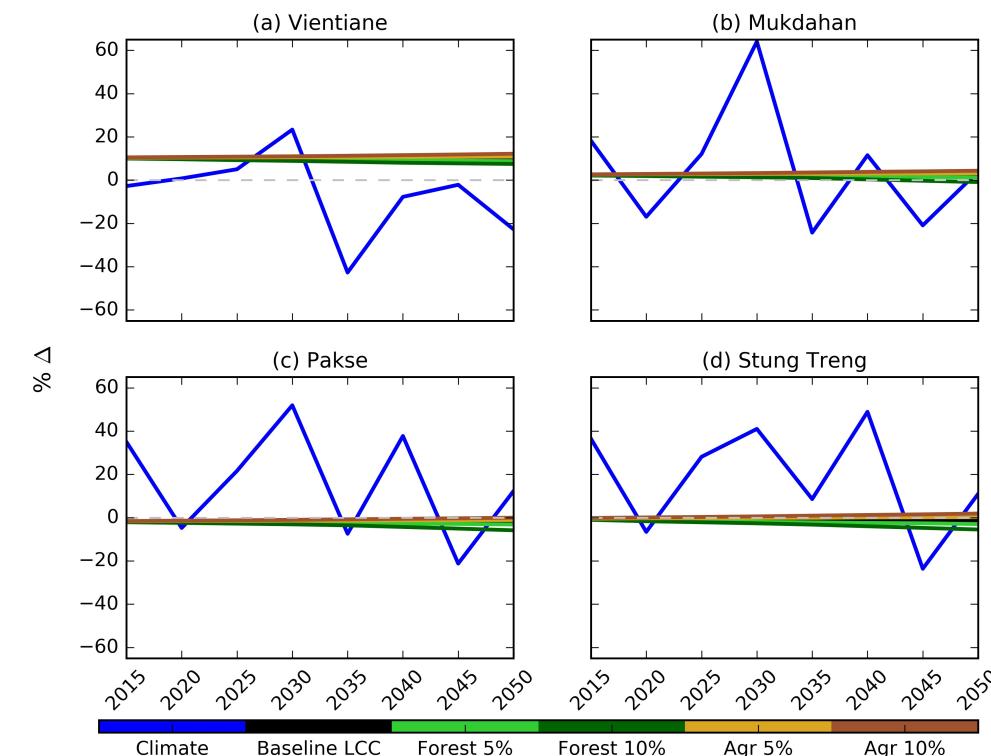
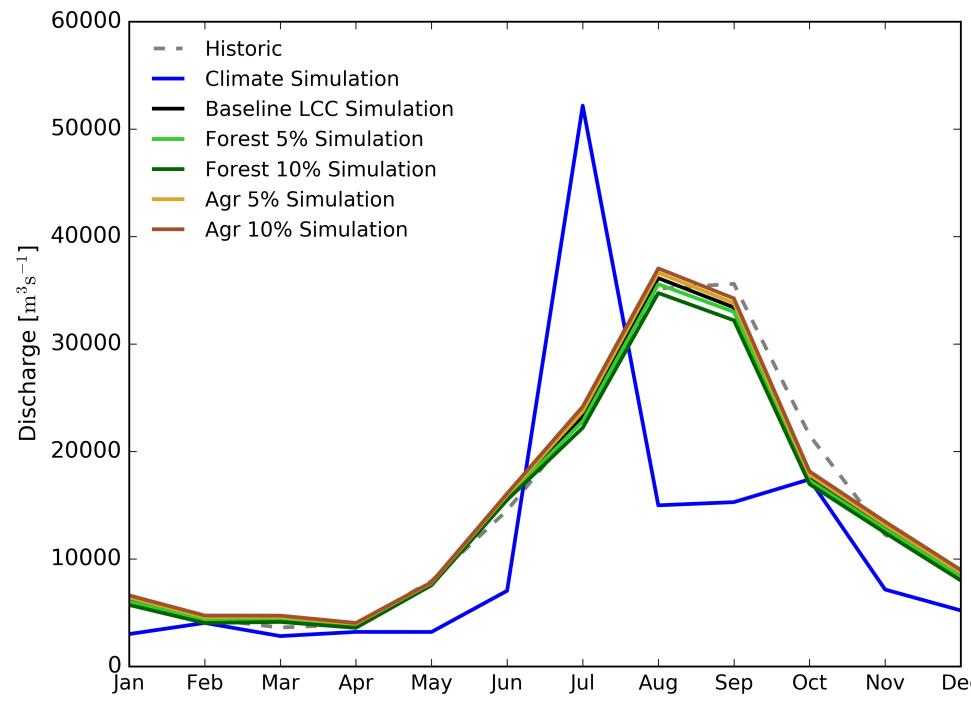
- Two sets of simulations were run for this study each changing a specific input in the hydrologic model
 1. Climate scenario: Simulation run with climate projection data. Land cover data for 2001 was kept constant
 - Both raw climate data and bias corrected data was analyzed
 2. Land cover scenario: Simulation run with land cover projection data. Metrological data for 2001 was kept constant
 - All land cover scenarios were used (baseline, forest +5%, forest +10%, agriculture +5%, and agriculture +10%)

HYDROLOGIC CHANGE ANALYSIS



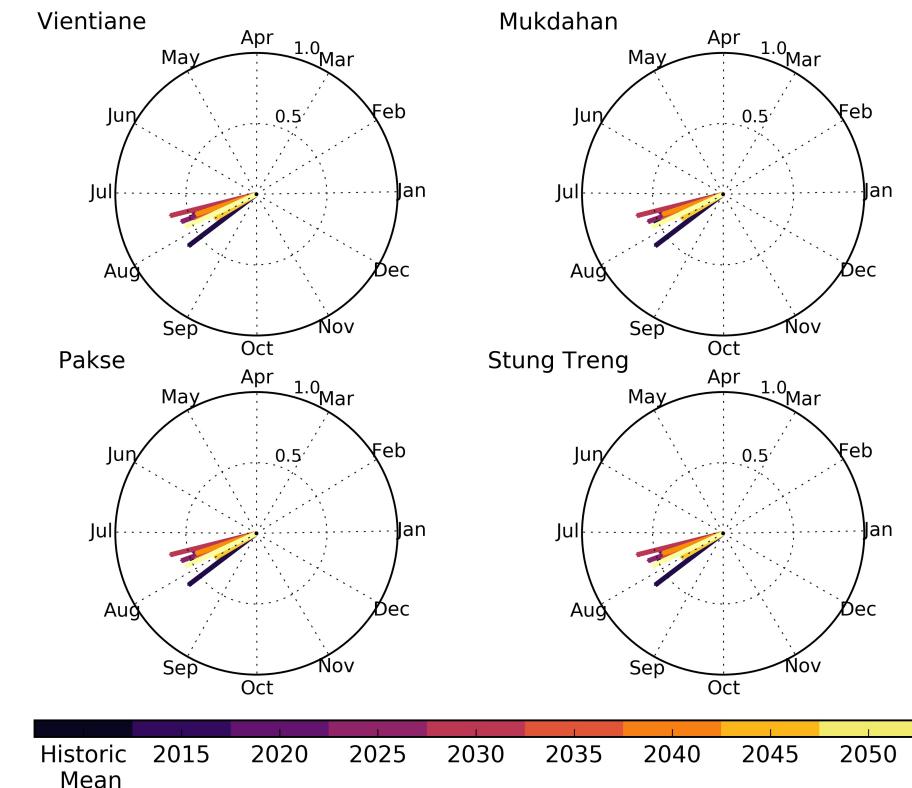
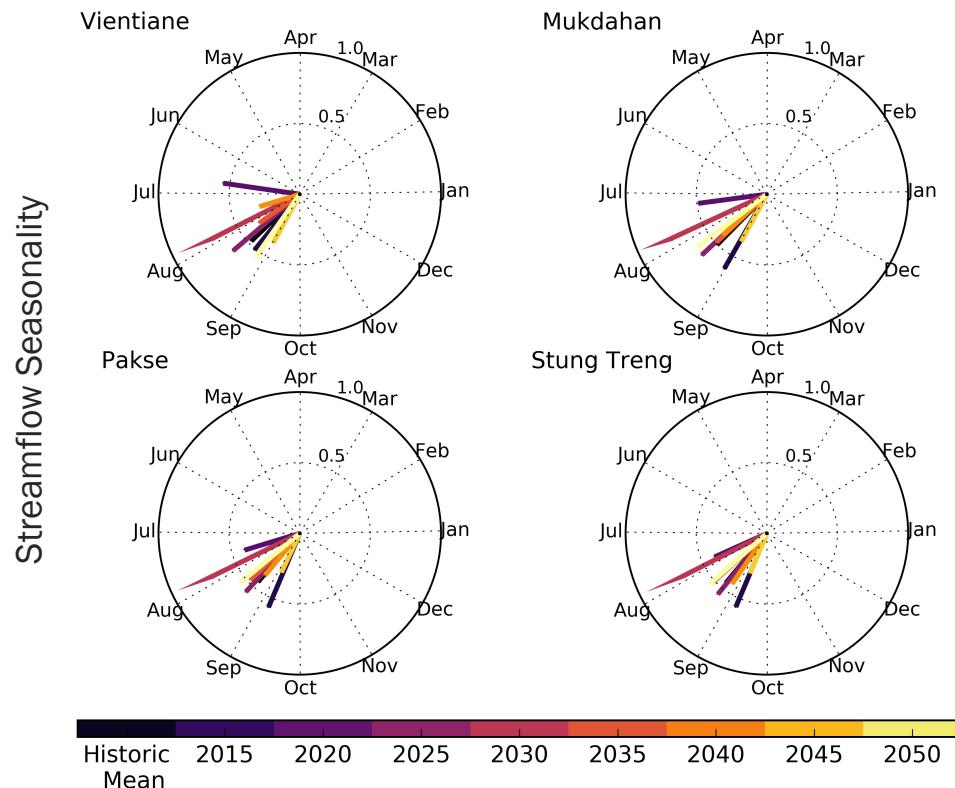
DISCHARGE CHANGES

- Climate variability will make discharge inconsistent through time
- Land cover will only slightly alter discharge
 - Increase in forest results in decreases in discharge
 - Increase in agriculture results in increases in discharge



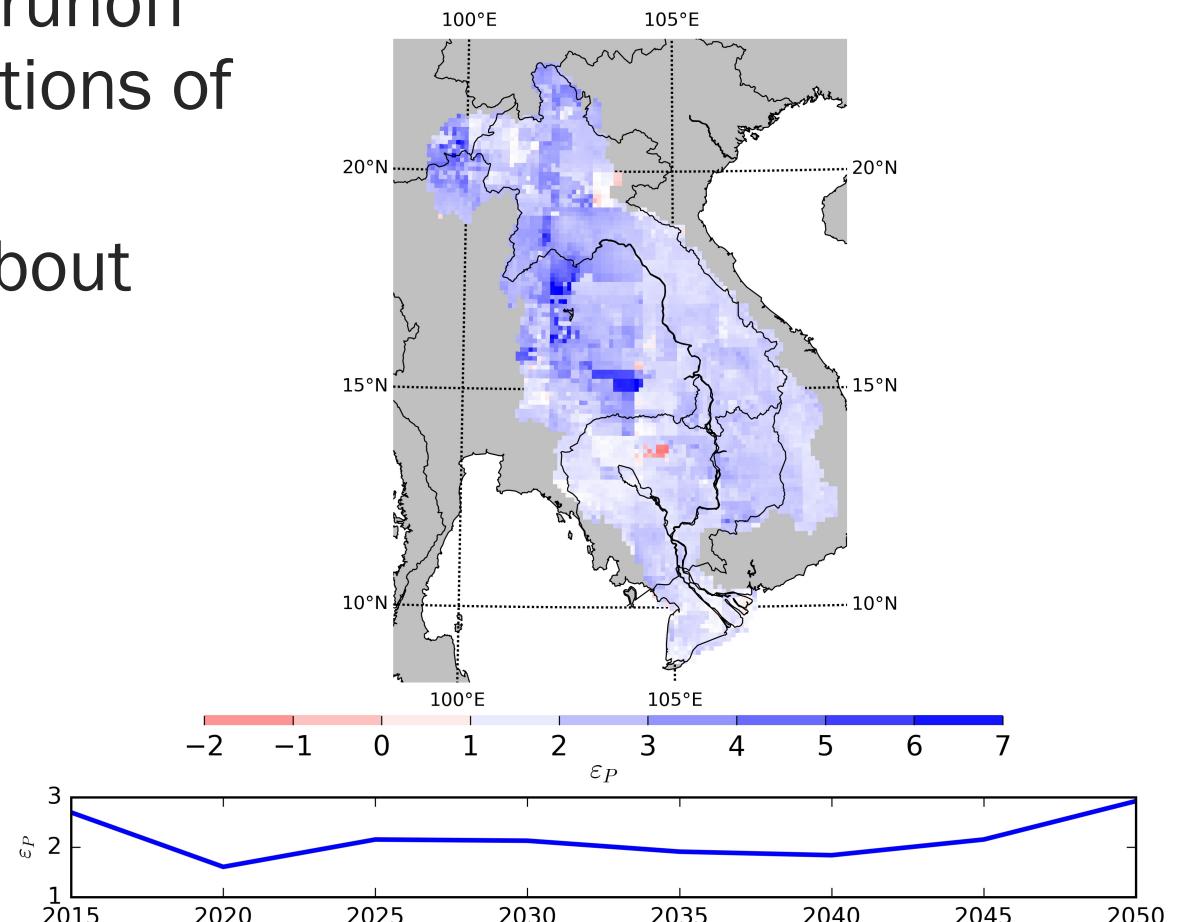
SEASONALITY

- Modeled streamflow shows greater variability in seasonality and intensity when compared to historic observations
- Precipitation seasonality shows less variability
 - Earlier dates for the peak season in both streamflow and precipitation



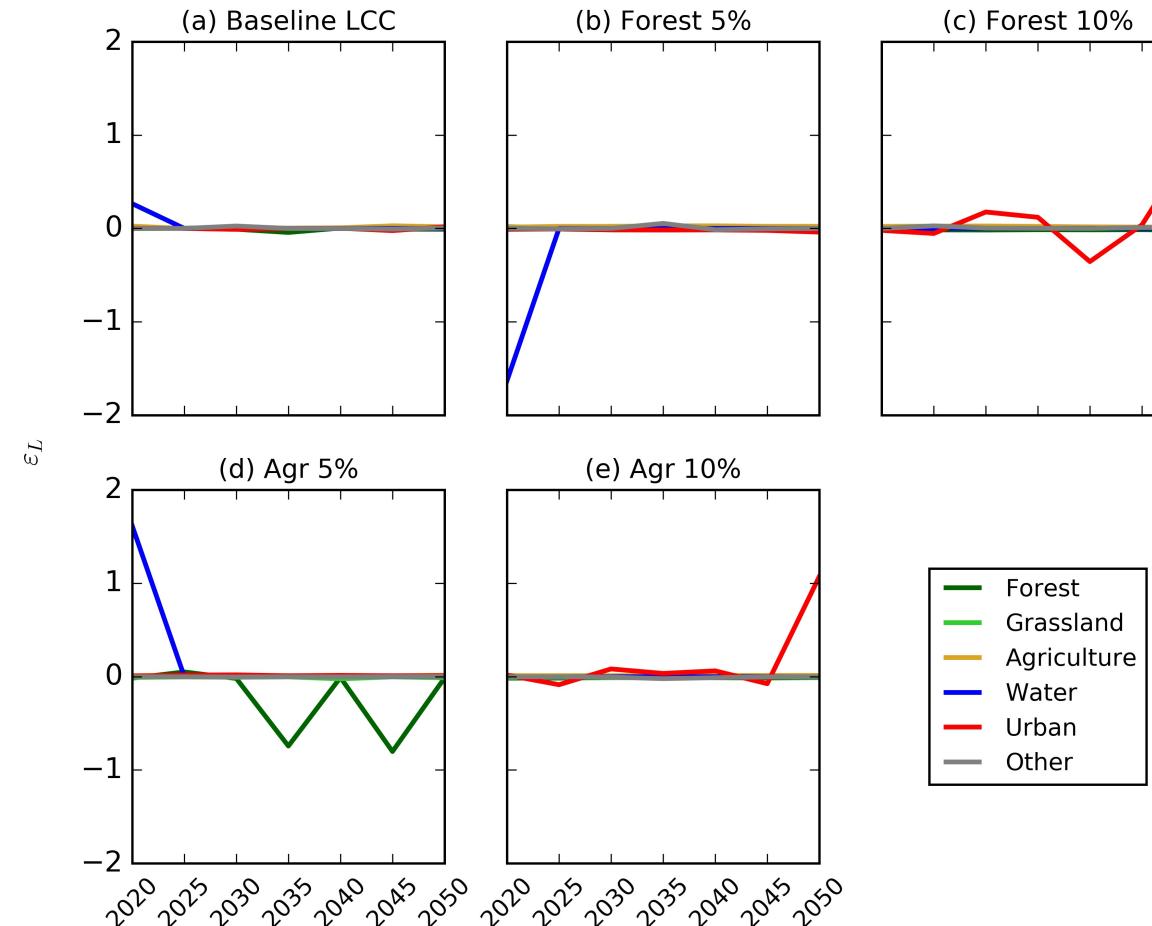
RUNOFF ELASTICITY

- Runoff elasticity analysis shows there will be increases in runoff with increases in precipitation throughout the basin
- There will be greater increases in runoff in the northern and western portions of the basin
- On average, runoff will increase about twice as much (~2% increase) compared to precipitation
 - Little variability throughout time



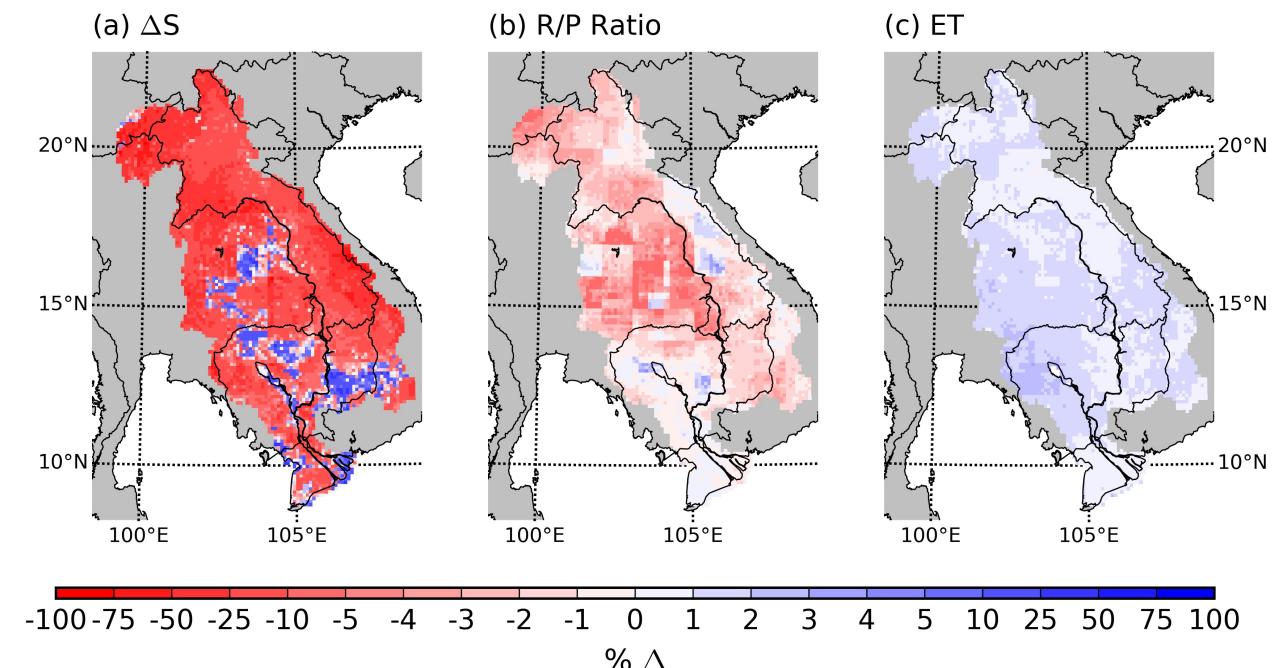
RUNOFF ELASTICITY

- Runoff will have almost no change when compared to changes in land cover classes
- Small changes occur for urban, forest, and water classes
 - These changes are so small (< 1%) that they will have minimal effects on the environment



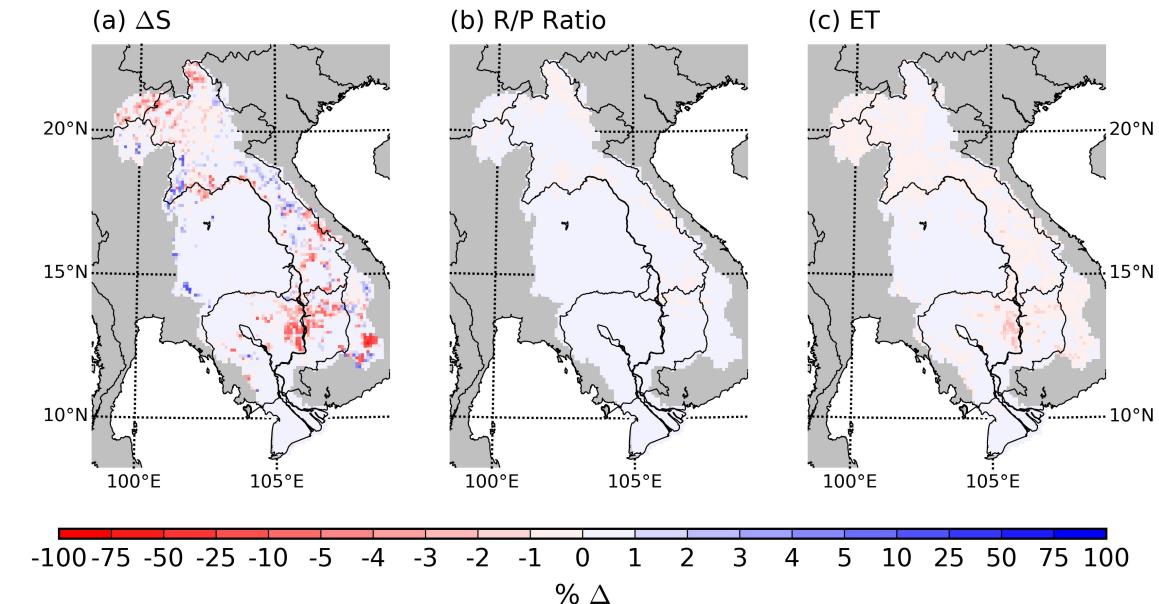
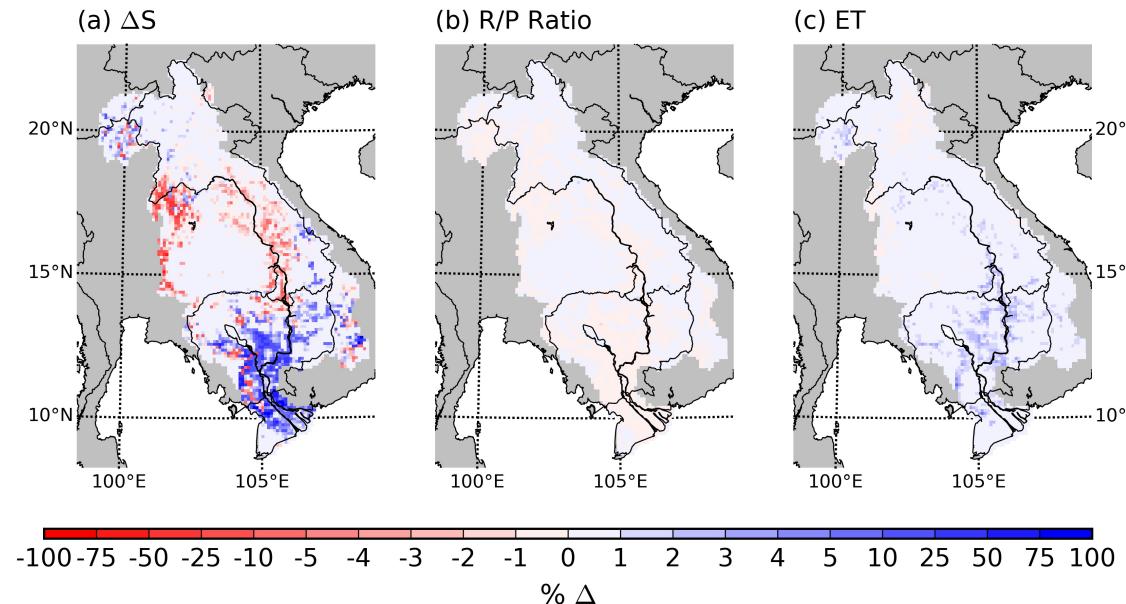
SPATIAL TRENDS

- Water storage shows a decreasing trend across the majority of the basin due to climate variability
 - Less water stored in soil and trees
- There is a decreasing trend in the runoff/precipitation (R/P) ratio
 - Lower percent of precipitation contributing to runoff
- Small increasing trend in evapotranspiration



SPATIAL TRENDS

- Small scale changes in water storage due to land cover change
 - Increase due to increases in forest, decrease due to increase in agriculture
- Little changes in evapotranspiration due to land cover change
- Almost no changes in the amount of precipitation that is converted to runoff

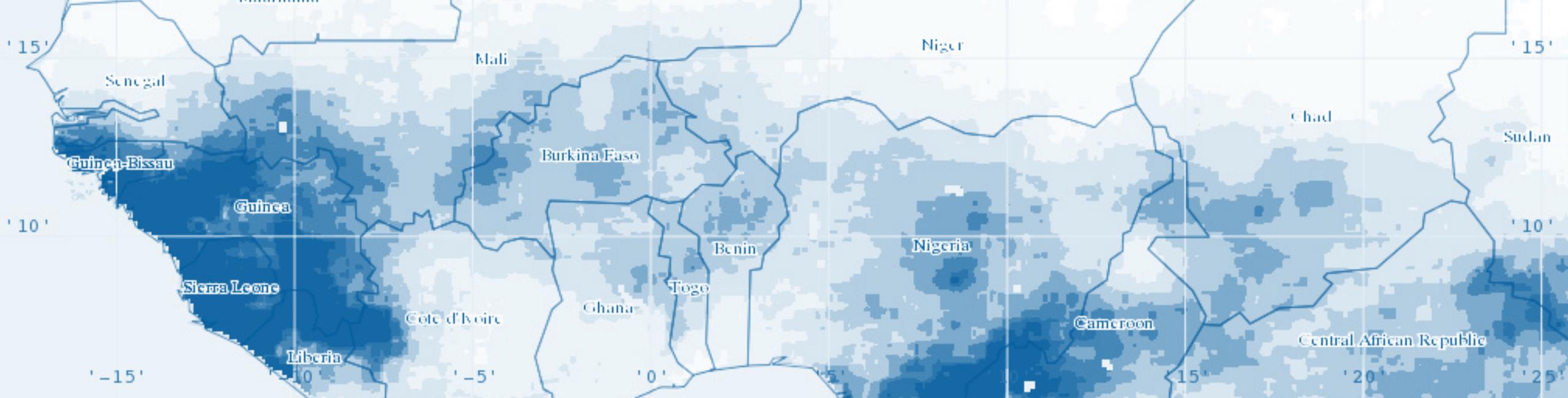


- Study has the possibility of providing information and data can be used by water resource managers to form new policies
 - Fits into water resource framework by characterizing status as is and simulating what will happen due to changes
- Need to have extremely **accurate data inputs and calibrations for accurate actionable information**
- By providing this information, decision makers can have a understanding of policy changes on the effect of hydrology
 - For example: reforestation policy can lead to a decrease in streamflow
- Information from this study has too much uncertainty for accurate decision making

- This study was conducted to investigate the spatial and temporal changes to the LMB hydrologic system due to climate variability and land cover change
- A calibrated and validated land cover change model and hydrologic model along with a large hydrologic dataset is a result from work
- Future work will have implications for long-term water resource management
 - More accurate climate and land cover data inputs can improve results
 - Basin wide policy can be formulated to help promote development during changes in the system

REFERENCES

- D. Dudgeon (2000) Large-scale Hydrological Changes in Tropical Asia: Prospects for Riverine Biodiversity. *Bioscience* **50**, 793-806.
- Le T. B., et al. (2014) Hydrologic simulation driven by satellite rainfall to study the hydroelectric development impacts of river flow. *Water* **6**, 3631-3651.
- Leander, R. and T. A. Buishand (2007), Resampling of regional climate model output for the simulation of extreme river flows, *J. Hydrol.*, **332** (3-4), 487–496.
- Leander, R., T. A. Buishand, B. J. J. M. van den Hurk, and M. J. M. de Wit (2008), Estimated changes in flood quantiles of the river Meuse from resampling of regional climate model output, *J. Hydrol.*, **351** (3-4), 331–343.
- Liang, X., et al., (1994) A simple hydrologically based model of land surface water and energy fluxes for general circulation models. *J. Geo. Res.* **99**, 14415-14428.
- Lohmann, D., et al., (1996) A large-scale horizontal routing model to be coupled to land surface parameterization schemes. *Tellus* **48**, 708-721.
- Lohmann, et al., (1998) Regional scale hydrology: I. Formulation of the VIC-2L model coupled to a routing model, *Hydrol. Sci. J.*, **43**, 131-141.
- Mancosu, N., et al. (2015) Water scarcity and future challenges for food production. *Water* **7**, 975-992
- Moriasi, D. N., et al. (2007) Model evaluation guidelines for systematic quantification of accuracy in watershed simulations. *Transactions of the ASABE* **50**, 885-900.
- Poulsen, A. F., et al. (2002) Fish migrations of the Lower Mekong River Basin: implications for development, planning and environmental management. MRC Technical Paper 8, Mekong River Commission, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 1683-1489.
- Sakamoto T., et al. (2006) Spatio-temporal distribution of rice phenology and cropping systems in the Mekong Delta with special reference to the seasonal water flow of the Mekong and Bassac rivers. *Remote Sensing of Environment* **100**: 1-16.
- Verburg, P. H., et al. (2002) Modeling the spatial dynamics of regional land use: The CLUE-S Model. *Env. Management* **30**, 391-405



THANK YOU

Kel Markert

kel.markert@nasa.gov

VIC/BCSPP Training
Huntsville, AL



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



ICIMOD

adpc

