



University of Natural Resources
and Life Sciences, Vienna



Ensemble of Bias Corrected Climate Change Scenarios for the Western Balkan Region

User Guide

Scenario Download
Model-Selection Tool V0.1
ICC-OBS Tool V0.1
Downscaling Tool V0.1



Version 1.0
Vienna, June 2019



This document presents the ensemble of bias-corrected climate scenarios and tools developed within the ClimaProof project. It includes:

- General information on the ensemble of bias corrected climate scenarios developed within the ClimaProof project
- Instruction on access and download of the climate scenarios
- Step-by-step instructions on the use of the tools developed within the ClimaProof Project
 - ClimaProof Model Selection Tool
 - ICC-OBS Tool for integrating own observational data
 - ClimaProof Downscaling Tool for downscaling the climate scenarios to a 0.01° grid

The scenarios are available for download via the CCCA Data Centre:

<https://data.ccca.ac.at/group/climaproof>.

The tools and documents are provided via the BOKU-Met GitHub repository:

<https://github.com/boku-met>

A document with details on the methodical background of the scenarios and tools is provided in addition to this user guide (available at <https://github.com/boku-met/climaproof-docs>).

Please note that the tools described below are in its Beta phase and therefore bugs can occur. The description presented reflects the status quo (Version 1.0, status as of June 2019). In the course of further development, modifications and changes might occur. The document will be updated accordingly.

Citation:

Formayer, H., Wind, M. & König, B (2019): High Resolution Climate Change Projections. User Guide. Project ClimaProof. Version 1: June 2019.

Heading project coordination:

Harald Egerer and Ana Vukoje
Vienna Programme Office, UN Environment

The ClimaProof project

The project “**Enhancing Environmental Performance and Climate Proofing of Infrastructure Investments in the Western Balkan Region from an EU integration perspective**”

(ClimaProof) is financed by the Austrian Development Agency and implemented by the United Nations Environmental Programme. ClimaProof will result in increased technical capacities of the relevant national authorities in the field of climate change adaptation, specifically climate proofing of road infrastructure, green infrastructure and evidence-based policy development in the field of climate change adaptation.

The implementation of this project will result in increased technical capacities of the relevant national authorities in the field of climate change adaptation, specifically climate proofing of road infrastructure, green infrastructure and evidence-based policy development in the field of climate change adaptation. Furthermore, it will result in raised awareness of the relevant government officials in the Western Balkan Region in regards to climate change impacts on road infrastructure and of the specific needs of the infrastructure sectors for increased resilience.

This would be achieved through the development of a regional strategy on climate resilient infrastructure, tailor-made training modules and development of guidelines, enhanced dialogue via regional communication tools as well as exchange of information, experiences and best practices via networking and training events.

The first components of the ClimaProof project focuses on **understanding the future climate and weather patterns in the target region**. This includes strengthening national capacities to understand climate change and climate change related risks in the region through **improvement of the information base**.

In order to do so the Institute of Meteorology and Climatology of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU-Met) evaluated available regional climate change projections (EURO-CORDEX, MED-CORDEX) compared it with observational data and generated an **ensemble of bias corrected climate change scenarios for the Western Balkan Region**. BOKU-Met further developed an **easy to handle program for bias correction** (ICC-OBS Tool) which allows the integration of additional local observations for further improvement of the scenarios on sub-regions (e.g. countries, river catchment...).

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Ensemble of bias-corrected climate scenarios – general information

Features

temporal resolution: daily

spatial resolution: 0.1°

temporal extent: 1981 – 2099

data format: netCDF

geographic extent: Western Balkan Region (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia) (see Figure 1)

* Reference to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council Resolution 1244/99

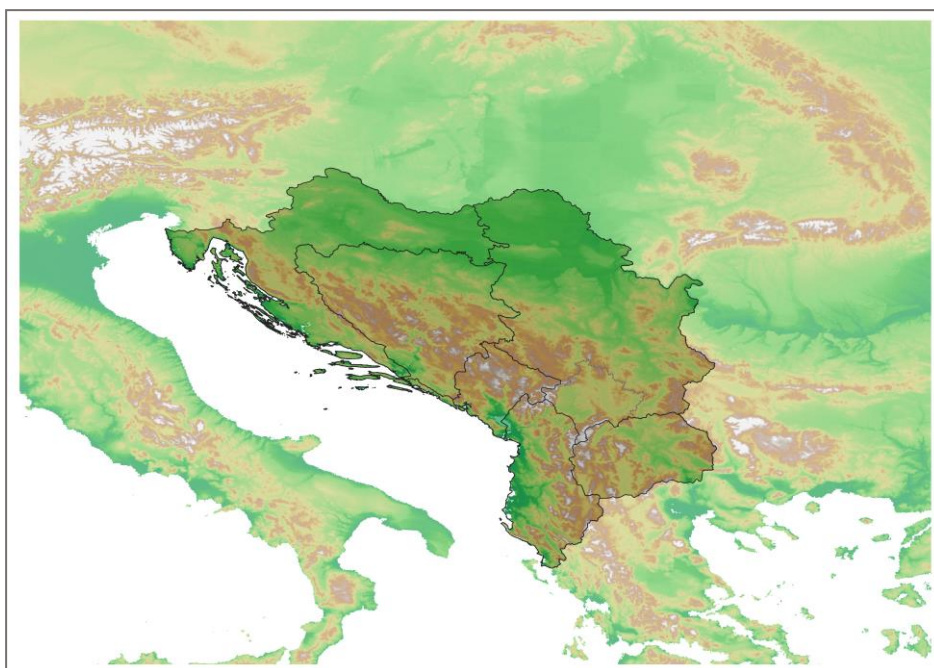


Figure 1: Map of the area covered by the ensemble of bias-corrected climate scenarios (illustrated by BOKU-Met, Datasource: ESRI, Diva-gis)

Variables and indicators

Apart from the standard parameters temperature and precipitation, radiation, near-surface wind speed and humidity are included in the dataset (see Table 1). This set of variables should be sufficient for calculating derived variables like evapotranspiration and provide necessary input to climate change impact models.

In addition to the meteorological parameters, several relevant indices (e.g. number of consecutive hot days (heat waves)) will be computed. A compilation of relevant indices will be determined in a stakeholder process with experts and authorities working in the fields of infrastructure development, planning, construction, maintaining and operating. As soon as they are available, these indices will be included in the manual.

Table 1 shows the meteorological variables available in the first version of the data set.

Table 1: climatological variables included in Version 1.0 of the bias-corrected scenarios

Variable	Unit	Description
tasmax	°C	daily maximum near-surface air temperature
tasmin	°C	daily minimum near-surface air temperature
pr	mm/day	total daily precipitation
rsds	W/m ²	daily mean surface downwelling shortwave radiation
sfcWind	m/s	daily mean near-surface wind speed
hurs	%	daily mean near-surface relative humidity

Available models

The ensemble of bias-corrected climate scenarios for the Western Balkan Region produced within the ClimaProof project is based on freely available climate model data (RCM scenarios) from EURO-CORDEX¹ and MED-CORDEX (see Ruti *et al.*, 2016) experiments. EURO-CORDEX and MED-CORDEX scenarios can be downloaded via the online platforms <http://www.euro-cordex.net/> or <https://www.medcordex.eu/>.

The models that are bias-corrected within the ClimaProof project were selected based on the following criteria

- availability (only freely available scenarios are used (status as of April 2018))
- domain (models covering the Western Balkan Region)
- horizontal grid-resolution of 0.11°

The models are run with the RCP (Representative Concentration Pathway) scenario set²

All EURO-CORDEX models used are available for the RCP 4.5 and 8.5 scenarios– five of them are additionally available for the RCP 2.6 scenario.

Of the MED-CORDEX models with a resolution of 0.11°, one model uses the RCP 4.5 scenario and two models the RCP 8.5 scenario.

A full list of the models is included in the Annex.

The datasets developed within the ClimaProof project are freely available through the **CCCA Data Centre**: <https://data.ccca.ac.at/group/climaproof>

The scenarios are provided on regular grid with a horizontal resolution of 0.1°x0.1°. They can be downloaded for the whole area or for selected areas on a sub-regional. If required the downloaded scenarios can be further downscaled to a 0.01° grid with the ClimaProof Downscaling Tool.

Every model provided was bias corrected separately and is available for download as a netCDF file.

¹ We acknowledge the World Climate Research Programme's Working Group on Regional Climate, and the Working Group on Coupled Modelling, former coordinating body of CORDEX and responsible panel for CMIP5. We also thank the climate modelling groups (listed in Table 2 of this paper) for producing and making available their model output. We also acknowledge the Earth System Grid Federation infrastructure an international effort led by the U.S. Department of Energy's Program for Climate Model Diagnosis and Intercomparison, the European Network for Earth System Modelling and other partners in the Global Organisation for Earth System Science Portals (GO-ESSP).

² van Vuuren, D.P., Edmonds, J., Kainuma, M., Riahi, K., et al. (2011) The representative concentration pathways: an overview. *Climatic Change*. [Online] 109 (1–2), 5–31. Available from: doi:10.1007/s10584-011-0148-z

Bias correction

At this point, the modelled climate projections are bias-corrected with open and freely available observational data. The selection of the data sets used is based on the criteria quality and resolution.

Table 2, as well as Figure 2 and Figure 3 give an overview of the observational data used for bias correction.

Bias correction was performed with the **Scaled Distribution Mapping (SDM)** method, described in the publication of Switanek *et al.* (2017).

A detailed information on the production of the ensemble of bias-corrected climate scenarios can be found in:

Formayer, H.; Wind, M., König, B. 2019. Climaproof - Ensemble of Bias-Corrected Climate Change Scenarios. Methodical Background V2.0. Project ClimaProof - Deliverable 1.2.2

Table 2: Data-Sets of observational data used for bias-correction

Dataset	Variables used within the ClimaProof project	Resolution	Expansion	Download
E-OBS (Haylock <i>et al.</i> , 2008; ECA&D, 2018)	tmax, tmin	0.25° x 0.25°	Lat. 25°N - 75°N Long. 40°W-75°E	https://www.ecad.eu/download/ensembles/download.php
CARPATCLIM (Szalai <i>et al.</i> , 2013; European Commission - JRC, 2013)	tmax, tmin, prec, rg (global radiation)	0.1° x 0.1 °	Lat. 44°N - 50°N, Long. 17°E - 27°E	http://www.carpatclim-eu.org/pages/download/default.aspx
DANUBECLIM (Szalai <i>et al.</i> , 2013; European Commission - JRC, 2015)	tmax, tmin, prec, rg (global radiation)	0.1° x 0.1 °	Serbia, Montenegro and the Srpska Republic	http://www.carpatclim-eu.org/danubeclim
ERA-5 (ECMWF, 2016:p.7)	sfcWind, rh	0.28° (31km)	global	http://apps.ecmwf.int/data-catalogues/era5/?class=ea
CHIRPS (Funk <i>et al.</i> , 2015)	pr	0.05° x 0.05°	Lat. 50°N - 50°S, Lon. 180°W - 180°E	http://dx.doi.org/10.15780/G2RP4Q
SARAH-2 (Pfeifroth <i>et al.</i> , 2017)	SIS (Surface incoming shortwave radiation)	0.05° x 0.05°	Lat. 65°N - 65°S, Long. 65°W - 65°E	https://doi.org/10.5676/EUM_SAF_CM/SARAH/V002



Figure 2: Observational Data used for Bias Correction of Temperature;
(Illustrated by BOKU-Met, Datasource: Diva-gis, Carpatclim, E-OBS)

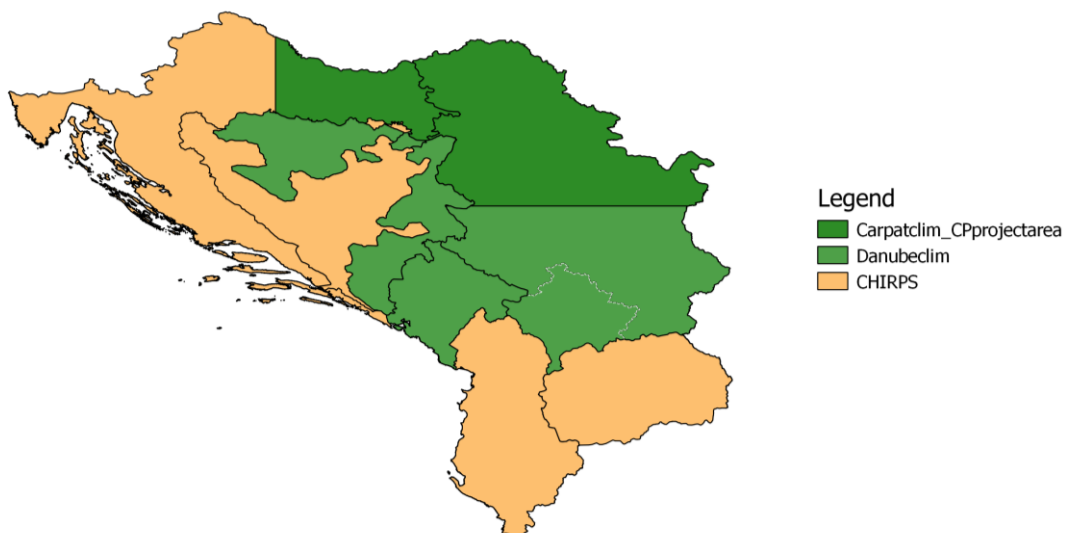


Figure 3: Observational Data used for Bias Correction of Precipitation;
(Illustrated by BOKU-Met, Datasource: Diva-gis, Carpatclim, Danubedclim, CHIRPS)

Installing the Python environment

In order to run the tools developed within the ClimaProof project on your local machine, you have to set up a Python Environment.

The easiest way to do this is via Miniconda - an open source package management system that runs on Windows, macOS and Linux. Furthermore Miniconda allows you to install everything in your home-directory without the need for administrative or root permissions.

Unfortunately, the Downscaling Tool currently only works under Linux. As a workaround, Windows users can run the Tool through a Docker container. For this, Docker has to be installed on your Computer.

To set up the Python Environment please follow the step-by-step instruction below.

Miniconda

Linux

1. Download Miniconda (Python 3) for Linux (<https://conda.io/en/latest/miniconda.html>):

You can do that manually by clicking on the link above and downloading the installer with your browser or by opening a terminal and running:

```
wget https://repo.anaconda.com/miniconda/Miniconda3-latest-Linux-x86_64.sh
```

2. Open a Terminal window, navigate to the directory containing the installation file and run:

```
bash Miniconda3-latest-Linux-x86_64.sh
```

3. Follow the instructions on the installer screens - accept defaults settings (you can change them later).
4. Close and re-open your Terminal window to make the changes take effect. To test your installation, type:

```
conda list
```

If your installation was successful, a list of installed packages appears.

5. Update Conda:

```
conda update conda
```

Windows

1. Download Miniconda (Python 3) for Windows (<https://conda.io/en/latest/miniconda.html>)
2. Start the .exe file and follow the instructions of the installer or open a cmd window, navigate to the directory containing the installation file

```
cd directory
```

e.g.

```
cd C:\Users\Me\Downloads
```

and run:

```
start /wait "" Miniconda3-latest-Windows-x86_64.exe /InstallationType=JustMe /RegisterPython=0 /S /D=%UserProfile%\Miniconda3
```

3. Open “Anaconda Prompt” – a terminal window appears. To test your installation, type:

```
conda list
```

If your installation was successful, a list of installed packages appears.

4. Update Conda

```
conda update conda
```

Docker

The installation of Docker is only necessary if you want to use the ClimaProof Downscaling Tool under Windows. For the installation you need to have administrative permissions on your computer. Docker Desktop for Windows runs on 64-bit Windows 10 Pro, Enterprise, and Education. If you have a different Windows Version, please install the Docker Toolbox.

Docker Desktop for Windows

Please follow the instructions on <https://docs.docker.com/docker-for-windows/install> to install Docker Desktop for Windows.

- Download Docker
- Install Docker (admin)
- Add user to docker user group (admin)
- allow virtualization in BIOS settings

Docker Toolbox

Docker Toolbox provides a way to use Docker on Windows systems that do not meet minimal system requirements for the Docker Desktop for Windows app.

Follow the instructions on https://docs.docker.com/toolbox/toolbox_install_windows/ to download and install the Docker Toolbox for Windows.

Download data from the CCCA Data Centre

The CCCA Data Centre – a unit of the CCCA (Climate Change Center Austria) - is the Austrian data infrastructure for climate data and information, enabling parties involved to publish and retrieve resources with respect to existing data policies. It's goal is to support interoperability and promote collaboration between different climate science and research communities, reducing data redundancy and loss of data³.

The CCCA Data Centre can be accessed online via: <https://data.ccca.ac.at/>

The ClimaProof dataset can be downloaded via the CCCA Data Centre: <https://data.ccca.ac.at/group/climaproof>

The following data sets are provided:

- bias-corrected climate change scenarios (for a full list of models see Table 5 & 6 in the Annex)
- original climate change scenarios, regridded to the common grid with 0.1° resolution (to be used within the ICC-OBS Tool)
- gridded observational data (used for bias correction)
- topography data of the common grid
- topography data for the high resolution domain (to be used with the ClimaProof Downscaling Tool)

In order to access the data you have to create an account first. To register go to: <https://data.ccca.ac.at/user/register>

You will get a confirmation email with a link to finish your registration.

Once you are logged in to the CCCA Data Centre, you can search and filter the data sets (as shown in the screenshot to the right).

Among others you can filter by:

- Domain: zoom in our out of the map or draw a rectangle on the map to filter data sets that are available in your location of interest.
- Year: to find e.g. only historical data, select 1981 to 2010.
- Groups: select the ClimaProof group to only show data from the ClimaProof project.
- Model: select a specific climate model of your choice.
- Variables: select the variable you are interested in.

The screenshot shows the 'Search and Filter' page of the CCCA Data Centre. It features a search bar at the top, followed by a 'Filter by location' section with a map of Central Europe. Below the map is a 'Filter by year' section with a date range selector. The bottom section, 'Further Filters', contains a list of dropdown menus for: Keywords, Authors, Organizations, Licenses, Groups, Frequency, Model, Variables, and Formats. Each dropdown menu has a 'Clear' link next to it.

Figure 4: Screenshot Search and Filter on data.ccca.at

When selecting a data set on the Data Centre you can explore the metadata information of the data by browsing through the metadata tabs.

Furthermore, by clicking on the “Explore” button, you can get a preview of the data. In the preview you can create a spatial and/or temporal subset.

³ <https://www.ccca.ac.at/datenzentrum/>

The Model Selection Tool V0.1

To assist with the selection of a specific climate change scenario the ClimaProof Model Selection Tool has been developed. It compares and visualizes climate change signals of the raw climate model data.

The climate change signal is calculated by subtracting the climatological mean of the historical period (1981-2010) from the future period (near, mid or far future). The climate change signal for temperature is an absolute value (in °C). For precipitation and radiation a relative climate change signal (in %) is calculated by dividing the absolute value with the historical mean.

Selection of model(s) - Help for decision making

Ensemble of models for a representative concentration pathway (RCP)

Download of all models available for the chosen RCP (see Table 2 and 3). The output contains all the data for the respective RCP.

This is the best option if you would like to compare the models and know the full range of predicted changes.

Single model

If you do not have the capacities to download and work with the full ensemble, downloading a single model is also an option.

If you already know which model you would like to download you can choose it right away or you can use the specially developed “Model Selection Tool”, that compares the models according to your parameters and can thus help you to choose the best model for your needs (step-by-step guide see below).

Installation & Running

Linux

1. Download the Climaproof Toolbox from the BOKU-Met GitHub repository. Go to <https://github.com/boku-met/climaproof-tools>, download the tools via your browser and unzip it. The Toolbox also includes the Downscaling Tool.

2. Navigate to the *climaproof-tools* directory

```
cd directory
```

e.g.

```
cd ~/user/climaproof-tools
```

3. Create a conda environment (called *tools*)

```
conda env create -f environment_tools.yml
```

4. Activate the conda environment:

```
conda activate tools
```

5. Navigate to the *climaproof-tools* directory and type in your command line:

```
cd climaproof-tools  
bokeh serve --show mst
```

This will start the Model Selection Tool in a new tab in your browser.

Windows

1. Download the Climaproof Toolbox from the BOKU-Met GitHub repository. Go to <https://github.com/boku-met/climaproof-tools>, download the tools via your browser and unzip it. The Toolbox also includes the Downscaling Tool.

2. Open a cmd window and navigate to the climaproof-tools directory

```
cd directory
```

e.g.

```
cd C:\Users\Me\climaproof-tools-master
```

3. Create a conda environment (called *tools*)

```
conda env create -f environment_tools_win.yml
```

4. Activate the conda environment:

```
activate tools
```

5. Navigate to the *climaproof-tools-master* directory and type in your command line:

```
bokeh serve --show mst
```

This will start the Model Selection Tool in a new tab in your browser.

Step-by-Step guide

In your browser the Tool will look like shown in Figure 5.

The screenshot shows the 'CLIMAPROOF MODEL SELECTION TOOL' interface. At the top, a title bar reads 'CLIMAPROOF MODEL SELECTION TOOL'. Below it, a paragraph explains: 'The Model Selection Tool compares climate change signals of different EURO-CORDEX Models used in the ClimaProof project. The climate change signals are calculated with reference to the period 1981-2010.' Another paragraph says: 'Interact with the widgets on top to create the visualization. Hover over the circles to see more information about the specific model.' Below this is a link: 'Download the data via data.ccca.ac.at'. The main form has three input fields: 'Latitude (Format: [MIN, MAX])' with the value '[39.583, 42.659]', 'Longitude (Format: [MIN, MAX])' with the value '[19, 21.05]', and a 'Country' dropdown menu showing 'Albania'. Below these are two more dropdowns: 'Seasonal/Annual Mean:' with 'annual' selected, and 'Experiment:' with 'rcp85' selected. At the bottom is a green 'Update' button.

Figure 5: Screenshot of the ClimaProof Model Selection Tool - Header

Choose the parameters required by the tool:

- Select the bounding box of the desired domain. Type in latitude and longitude (in decimal degrees) or select a country. Latitude and longitude are automatically updated if you choose a country from the drop-down menu.
- Choose if you want an annual or seasonal (summer or winter) mean of the climate change signal
- Select the RCP scenario that you are interested in (2.6, 4.5 or 8.5) - a more detailed explanation of the RCPs is provided in the Methodical Background document.
- Click on the "Update" button to create the visualization. This takes a few seconds to compute.

Once the visualization (see Figure 6) is created you can modify it according to your specific interest:

- Choose the parameters that should be shown on the X- and Y-Axis. Available parameters are:
 - precipitation (pr)
 - maximum and minimum temperature (tasmax, tasmin)
 - global radiation (rsds)
- Choose the future time frame of interest:
 - Near future (2021-2050)
 - Mid of century (2036-2065)
 - Far future (2070-2099)

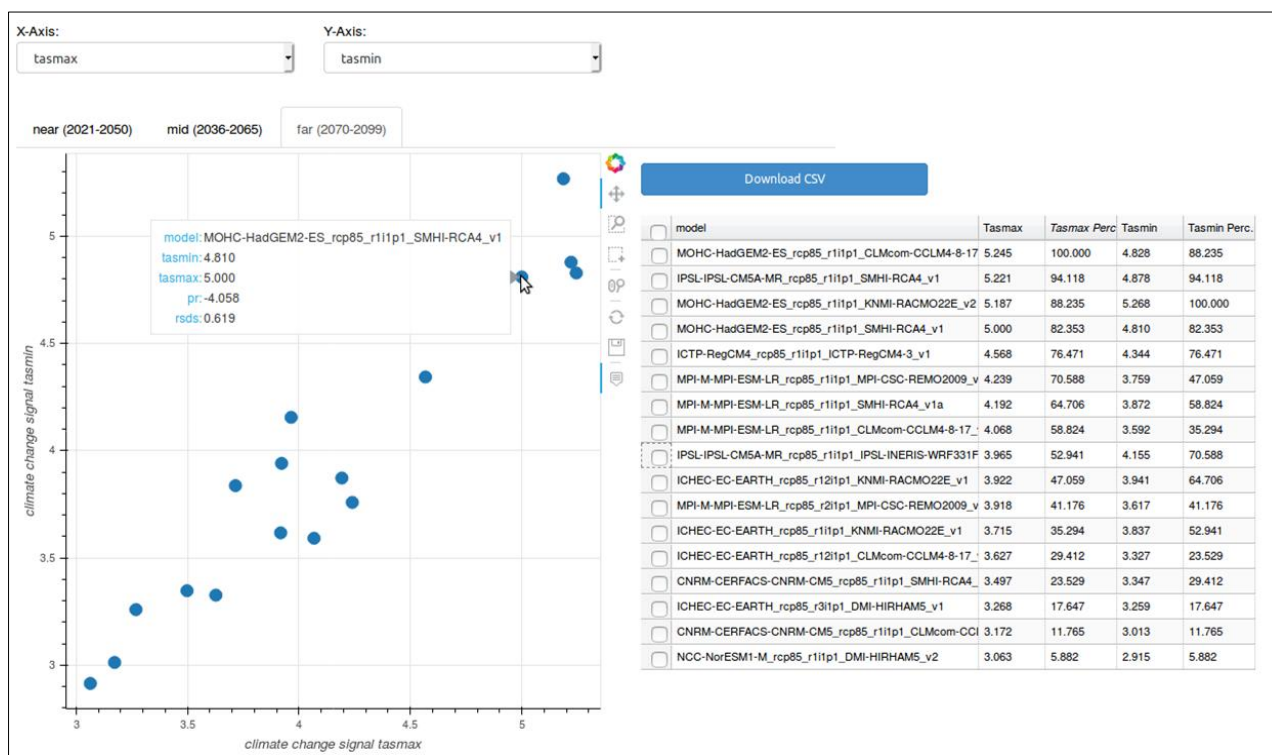


Figure 6: Screenshot of the ClimaProof Model Selection Tool - Visualization.

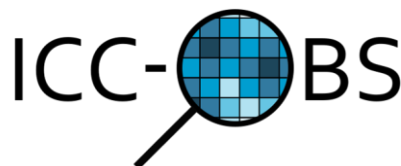
Find out more about the model and the related climate change signals by hovering over the points in the visualization. You can zoom in, select points with a custom drawn box or export the plot as a png.

As additional information, a table is created. It shows the climate change signal and the corresponding percentiles for the selected parameters.

If you want to find a model representing the median of all the models (for the specific region, time frame and variable), look up the model in the table that is nearest to the 50% percentile.

The ICC-OBS Tool V0.1

*"Improving bias-corrected **C**limate **C**hange scenarios with local **OBS**ervational data"*



The tool allows the integration of additional local observations for further improvement of the climate change scenarios provided on sub-regions (e.g. countries, river catchments).

The main steps, the ICC-OBS Tool performs are:

- Selection of the area of interest (by latitude and longitude)
- Integration of additional observational data (station data) to the existing gridded observations to improve local observation quality
- Bias correction with the improved observational dataset and saving the new bias corrected data to a CF-conform netCDF file.

The ICC-OBS tool is programmed in Python and uses netCDF as it's default file format.

A detailed description of the methods used within the tool is provided in the Methodical Background document.

Installation

Linux

1. Download the ICC-OBS tool from the ClimaProof GitHub repository (<https://github.com/boku-met/ICC-OBS>)
2. Unpack the zip-file manually or in your terminal - navigate to the directory containing the tool and type:

```
unzip ICC-OBS.zip -d ICC-OBS
```

3. Go to the ICC-OBS directory and create a conda environment - this automatically installs all the python packages you need to run the ICC-OBS tool:

```
cd ICC-OBS  
conda env create -f requirements.yml
```

4. Activate the ICC-OBS environment:

```
conda activate iccobs
```

Windows

1. Download the ICC-OBS tool from the ClimaProof GitHub repository (<https://github.com/boku-met/ICC-OBS>)
2. Unpack the zip-file.
3. Open the Anaconda Prompt and navigate to the *ICC-OBS-master* directory (the unzipped folder):

```
cd directory\to\ICC-OBS-master
```

e.g.

```
cd C:\Users\Me\ICC-OBS
```

4. Create a conda environment - this automatically installs all the python packages you need to run the ICC-OBS tool:

```
conda env create -f requirements.yml
```

5. Activate the ICC-OBS environment:

```
activate iccobs
```

6. Install additional packages (sometimes these packages fail to install in the previous steps):

```
pip install gooey=1.0.2  
pip install pykrige=1.4.1
```

Input data

In order to run the ICC-OBS Tool the following input data is needed:

1. Original climate model data (**not bias corrected**)
2. Gridded observations
3. Topography file
4. Station data (time series and metadata)

The climate model data serving as input for the ICC-OBS Tool is the **original climate model data**, regridded to the common grid with 0.1° resolution. Due to statistical issues in the bias correction algorithm, using the bias corrected model as input data can lead to wrong results.

It is important, that all gridded data (climate model data, gridded observations and topography file) are on the **same grid with the same resolution**.

Station data

In order to seamlessly use additional station data in the ICC-OBS Tool, the data has to be formatted in a specific way. First of all, metadata and station time series have to be saved in separate files. General requirements for the files are:

- Files should be in .csv (text) format (easy to export from excel) or ASCII .txt
- Decimal numbers should be separated with a dot "."
- Columns should be separated with a comma ","
- There should be one file that contains the metadata (station number and name, latitude, longitude and height) for all stations
- The time series data for each station and each variable should be stored in separate files.
- All files should contain a header (first row).

In order to get improved results compared to the bias corrected scenarios provided by default, **good quality of the station data is important**. The data should be quality controlled and cover ideally all 30 years, but at least 10 years, of the time period 1981-2010.

Metadata files

The metadata file should contain the station number (integer), name, latitude and longitude (in decimal degrees) and height (in meters) for each station.

Example (dummy data for three stations)

```
stationnr,name,lat,lon,height
123,Station_a,45.25,20.3,500
124,Station_b,45.27,21.66,120
125,Station_c,45.23,20.573,210
```

Time Series Files

The time series files should be named 'stationnumber_variable.csv' (e.g. 123_tasmax.csv') and should contain one column for date and one column for the data. Further requirements are:

- Date Format: YYYY-MM-DD
- The temporal frequency of the data should be daily.
- Missing data should be marked with "nan"

Example (dummy data for maximum temperature)

```
time,tasmax
1981-01-01,2.1
1981-01-02,2.9
1981-01-03,1.1
1981-01-04,1.2
1981-01-05,nan
1981-01-06,3.8
1981-01-07,5.2
```

Running the tool

If you successfully installed Miniconda and created the ICC-OBS environment, you can now start the tool. In order to run it you should have all the data you need already downloaded and ready to use on your local machine.

1. Navigate to the ICC-OBS folder containing the file main.py and activate the conda environment:

Linux:

```
conda activate iccobs
```

Windows:

```
activate iccobs
```

2. Start the tool by running main.py

```
python main.py
```

This will start the graphical user interface of the ICC-OBS Tool (see Figure 8).

Step-by-Step guide

Once you start the ICC-OBS Tool you can start filling out the required fields.

1. Choose the Basic or Advanced Tab.

If you choose the Basic Tab, default interpolation settings will be chosen (described below). In the Advanced tab you can modify the interpolation settings.

2. Define your domain.

Specify the latitude/longitude values (in decimal degrees) of the lower left and upper right corner of your domain. This should cover the area, for which you have additional station data. If no station data is inside the defined domain, the tool will throw an error.

3. Define the bias-correction period

Set the start and end year of the time period that should be bias corrected. The years can be chosen freely between 1981 and 2100. The correction period starts at the 1st of January of the defined start year and ends at the 31st of December of the defined end year.

The choice of the bias-correction period does not affect the historical (calibration) period, which is always 1981-2010.

The bias correction algorithm is implemented to use 30-year periods with a 10-year sliding window to correct the middle 10 years. Furthermore, the bias corrected data is stored in 10-year blocks. Hence, it is recommended to choose a time period of at least 30 years.

4. Choose the parameter for improved bias correction

Select the parameter from the parameter list that should be bias corrected. This is also the parameter for which you have additional station data. Available parameters are:

Table 3: Climatological variables included in Version 1.0 of the bias-corrected scenarios.

Variable	Unit	Description
tasmax	°C	daily maximum near-surface air temperature
tasmin	°C	daily minimum near-surface air temperature
pr	mm/day	total daily precipitation amount
rsds	W/m ²	daily mean surface downwelling shortwave radiation
sfcWind	m/s	daily mean 10-m wind speed
hurs	%	daily mean near-surface relative humidity

5. Select the topography file

Select the file containing the height information for the common grid clicking on the "Browse" Button or typing in the path to the file manually. The grid resolution of the topography has to be the same as the resolution of the climate model and the gridded observation data.

6. Define the station data directory

Define the directory (not a single file), that contains the station data time series for the parameter chosen above.

7. Define the station metadata file

Select the file that contains the metadata for all stations in the format described above.

8. Select the file containing the gridded observations for the chosen parameter.

9. & 10. Define the save directory path and folder name

Define the path and name of the directory where the newly created data should be saved. The tool automatically creates a new directory under the defined path using the save folder name and a time stamp (*name_YYYY-MM-DD_hhmm*).

11. Select historical model data

Select the historical model of your choice for the parameter defined above. For help with the selection of the right model please refer to the ClimaProof Model Selection Tool.

12. Select model scenario data

Select the model scenario (RCP) of your choice corresponding with the historical model chosen above. If you want to correct only the historical period, the tool will automatically get the data for the correction period from the historical model data.

13. Press Start to run the tool

Interpolation settings

Regarding the interpolation of the station data to the model grid, you can either stick to the recommended default settings by staying in the "Basic" tab of the tool or modify the interpolation settings by selecting the "Advanced" tab (see Figure 7). There you can choose between ordinary kriging and inverse distance weighting interpolation (IDW).

Subsettings when choosing IDW:

- Radius of influence (in km): The radius from the grid center in km, within which observations are considered and weighted.
- Minimum neighbours: The minimum number of neighbours (stations) within the defined radius needed to perform IDW interpolation for that point.

Subsettings when choosing kriging:

- Variogram model: exponential, gaussian, linear or spherical

Default settings

Default settings for precipitation:

- Interpolation method: ordinary kriging (precipitation)
- Variogram model: gaussian

Default settings for all other parameters:

- Interpolation method: inverse distance weighting interpolation
- Radius of influence: average distance between the sampled points (stations)
- Minimum neighbours: 3

Advanced Interpolation Settings	
If you choose inverse distance weights interpolation as interpolation method, you can define some additional settings here.	
interpolation method interpolation method that should be applied to interpolate station data	radius of influence distance in km at which the weights should be zero
idw	100
min number of stations Minimum number of neighbors needed to perform idw-interpolation	variogram model variogram model for the kriging interpolation
3	gaussian

Figure 7: Screenshot of the section for the advanced interpolation settings in the “Advanced” tab.

ICC-OBS Version 0.1
ICC-OBS: A tool for Improving bias-corrected Climate Change scenarios with local OBServational data

Basic | Advanced

Domain Settings
Define the bounding box of the desired domain.

lat_min	lat_max	lon_min	lon_max
latitude of the lower left corner of the	latitude of the upper right corner of the	longitude of the lower left corner of the	longitude of the upper right corner of the
43.2	45	15.7	18.8

Period and Parameter Settings
Define the time period on which bias correction should be applied (ideally a 30-year period) and the parameter that should be corrected.

start year	end year
year at which bias correction should start (min. 1981)	year at which bias correction should end (max. 2100)
1981	2010

Parameter
Choose the parameter, that should be corrected
 pr: precipitation [mm]
 tsmx: maximum temperature [°C]
 tsmn: minimum temperature [°C]
 rsds: global radiation [W/m²]
 sfcWind: wind speed at 10m [m/s]
 hurs: relative humidity [%]
 Select Option

Files and Directories
Define where to find the files and directories needed

topography data
file containing the height information of every grid point
 /path/to/topo_file Browse

station data
directory of the station data time series for the chosen parameter
 /directory/of/stationdata_files/ Browse

station metadata
file containing the metadata information for each station
 name_of_station_metadata Browse

gridded observations
file containing the gridded observations for the chosen parameter
 /path/to/gridded/observations Browse

save directory
directory where the new data should be stored
 /directory/to/save/data/ Browse

save folder name
name of the new folder, that will be created automatically under the directory chosen above using the specified name and a time stamp
 new_data

historical model data
file(s) containing the historical model data (years 1981-2010)
 /hp5/Climaproof/MOD/FINAL/01DEG/ORIGINAL/pr_MOHC-HadGEM2-ES_historical_r1i1p1_CLMcom-CCLM4-8-17_v1_1981-2010_original.nc Browse

model scenario data
file(s) containing the model data of the period that should be bias corrected
 -the years needed for bias correction, selected above, will be cut out automatically
 /hp5/Climaproof/MOD/FINAL/01DEG/ORIGINAL/pr_MOHC-HadGEM2-ES_rcp85_r1i1p1_CLMcom-CCLM4-8-17_v1_2011-2100_original.nc Browse

Cancel Start

Figure 8: Screenshot of the ICC-OBS Tool graphical user interface.

Output Data

Once the ICC-OBS tool successfully finished, you can start exploring the output data. All the newly created data is stored in a separate folder created automatically by the tool using the "save folder name" you specified in the graphical user interface (GUI) and a time stamp (e.g. testdata_2019-04-03_1030). You can find the new folder under your specified save directory.

The new files and subdirectories that are created within the new folder are listed and described in Table 4. The italic parts of the filename are substituted by the respective parameters defined by the user via the GUI.

Table 4: Subdirectories and files created by the ICC-OBS Tool.

Subdirectory	Filename	Description
	<i>param_merged_observations_1981-2010.nc</i>	Improved observational data for the historical time period (1981-2010) and the specified parameter (pr, tasmax, tasmin, rsds, sfcWind, hurs)
TMP	<i>param_original_gridded_obs.nc</i>	Subset of the original gridded observations, cut out to the specified domain
TMP	<i>param_model_historical_subset_1981-2010.nc</i>	Subset of the original historical model data, cut out to the specified domain
TMP	<i>param_model_bc_period_subset_YYYY.nc</i>	Subset of the original model data for the defined bias correction period (start year - end year), cut out to the specified domain
BIASCORR_TS	<i>param_y*_x*.nc</i>	Grid point time series of bias corrected model data. For every grid point in the domain a separate file will be created.
BIASCORR	<i>param_model_YYYY.nc</i>	Improved bias corrected model data for the selected model and time period (saved in 10-year blocks)
PLOTS	<i>param_interpolationmethod.png</i>	Plot comparing the original and improved (with station data) observational data (mean over the historical period 1981-2010), that is created using the interpolation method defined in the GUI. Example: Figure 10
PLOTS	<i>param_biasecorr.png</i>	Plot comparing the original (uncorrected) model data with the new bias corrected model data (mean over the bias correction period) Example: Figure 9

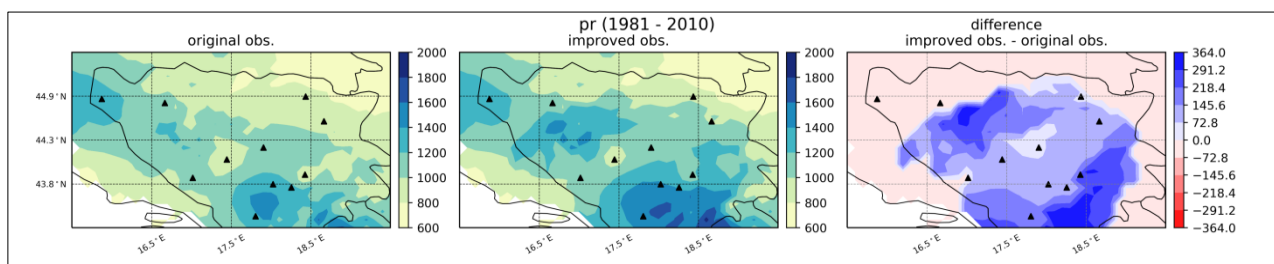


Figure 10: Example of an automatically created plot comparing original and improved gridded observations for yearly mean precipitation for the historical period 1981-2010.

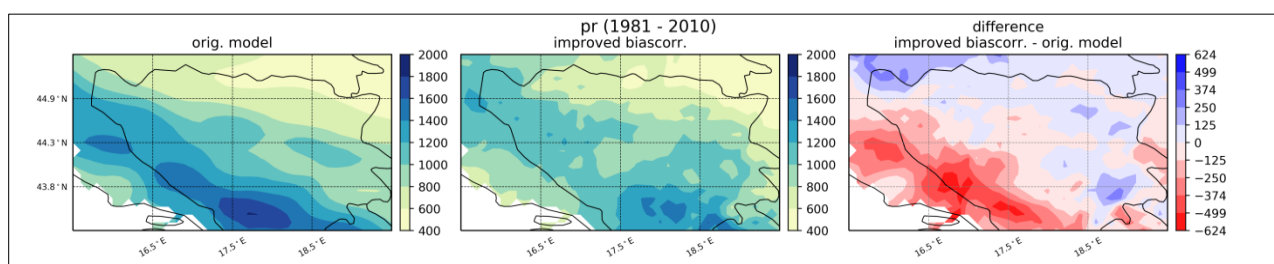


Figure 9: Example of an automatically created plot comparing original and bias corrected model data for yearly mean precipitation for the bias correction time period 1981-2010.

Notes

- Since the procedure is computationally expensive, the processed area should be as small as possible and only cover an area, where additional data is available.
- **The more stations, the better** the localization of the observational data. Especially when using kriging, a high number of stations is necessary for a good estimation of the variogram model and hence a reasonable interpolation.
- **Good quality of station data** is important. If the quality of the additional data is low, there won't be any improvement of the final dataset.
- Please check your data carefully for erroneous values before using it within the tool.
- The tool is still in its beta phase and therefore errors can occur. If you find a bug, please report back to us and we will try to fix it.

The ClimaProof Downscaling Tool V0.1

For applications, that require a higher resolution than the 0.1° resolution that is available by default via the CCCA data server, the ClimaProof Downscaling Tool was developed. To run the tool, the following input data is required:

1. Gridded data at 0.1° resolution that should be downscaled (either model or observational data)
2. Coarse topography file (0.1°)
3. High resolution topography file (0.01°)

The tool can only process one file at a time - if multiple files should be downscaled, you have to run the tool for each file separately.

A detailed description of the methods used within the tool is provided in the Methodical Background Document (<https://github.com/boku-met/climaproof-docs>)

Running the tool

Linux

The installation process for the ClimaProof Downscaling Tool is analogous to the installation of the ClimaProof Model Selection Tool (the two tools are provided in one package). If you already installed the Model Selection Tool as described above, you can directly start the Downscaling Tool. If not, please refer to the installation guide of the Model Selection Tool on Page 15.

To start the tool, navigate to the *climaproof-tools* directory, activate the conda environment and start the tool:

```
cd climaproof-tools
conda activate tools
bokeh serve --show dst
```

This will start the Downscaling Tool in a new tab in your browser.

Windows

If you want to run the Downscaling Tool under Windows, you have to install Docker first (see Page 13). Once Docker is installed and running, navigate to the *climaproof-tools* directory and run the following commands in the command line:

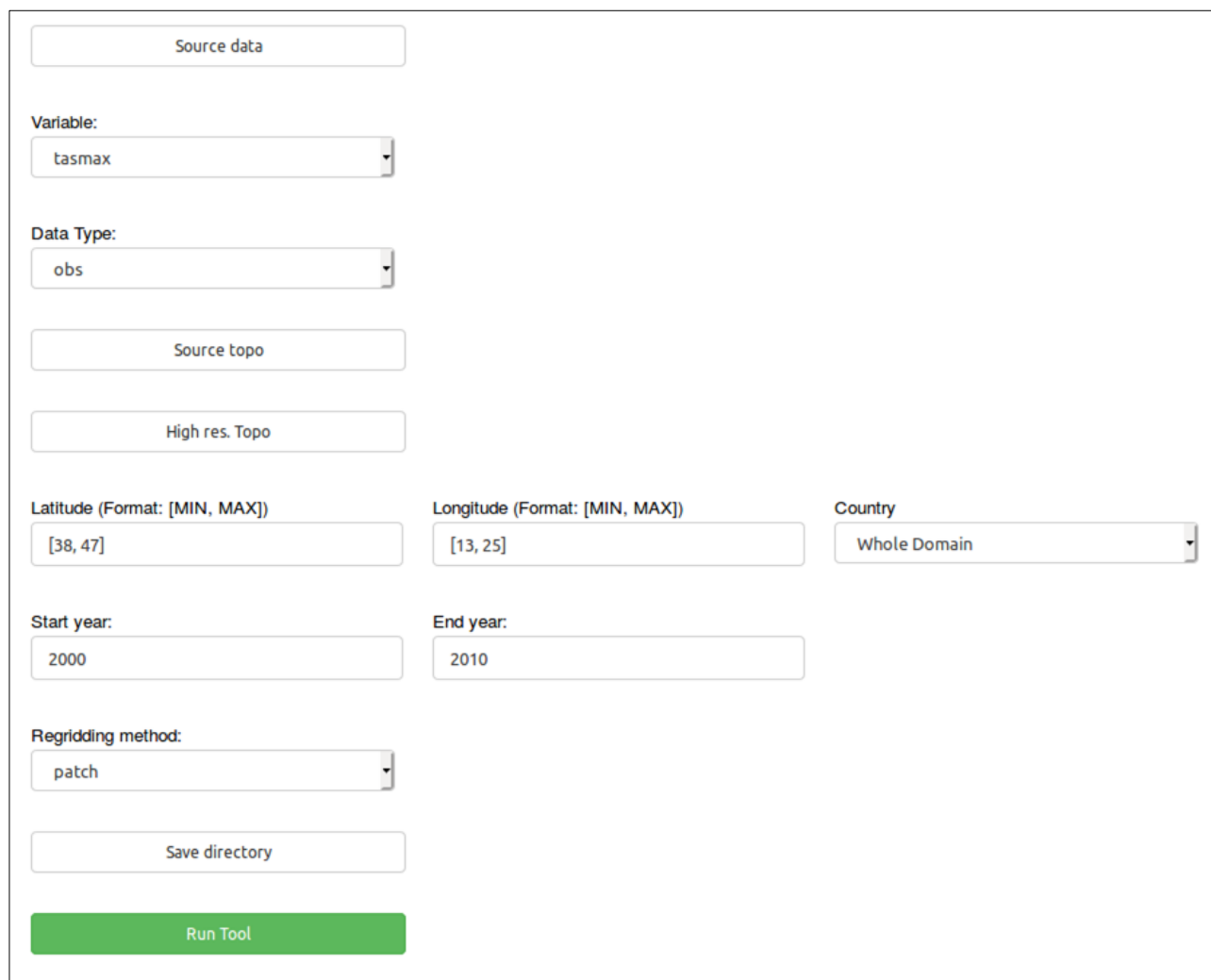
```
cd climaproof-tools
docker network create cproof
docker build --rm --network=cproof -t climaproof/tools
docker run -t -i -p 5100:5100 -v LOCAL_PATH_TO_DATA:/data climaproof/tools -
-network=cproof
```

The LOCAL_PATH_TO_DATA is your personal path to the data that you want to downscale (no subdirectories are allowed).

Then open your browser (e.g. Firefox) and go to the following address: <http://127.0.0.1:5100/dst>

Step-by-Step guide

In your browser the Downscaling Tool will look like this:



The screenshot displays the Downscaling Tool interface with the following elements:

- Source data**: A button at the top.
- Variable:** A dropdown menu with "tasmax" selected.
- Data Type:** A dropdown menu with "obs" selected.
- Source topo**: A button below the Data Type dropdown.
- High res. Topo**: A button below the Source topo button.
- Latitude (Format: [MIN, MAX])**: A text input field containing "[38, 47]".
- Longitude (Format: [MIN, MAX])**: A text input field containing "[13, 25]".
- Country**: A dropdown menu with "Whole Domain" selected.
- Start year:** A text input field containing "2000".
- End year:** A text input field containing "2010".
- Regridding method:** A dropdown menu with "patch" selected.
- Save directory**: A button below the Regridding method dropdown.
- Run Tool**: A prominent green button at the bottom.

Figure 11: Screenshot of the Downscaling Tool.

To get the downscaled data, the following steps are needed:

1. **Source data:** Select the data file that should be downscaled to 0.01° resolution
2. **Variable:** Select the appropriate variable from the drop-down menu.
3. **Data Type:** Select whether the source data is observational (obs) or climate model data (model)
4. **Source topo:** Select the topography file that corresponds to the source data (0.1°).
5. **High resolution topo:** Select the file that contains the high-resolution (0.01°) topography information.
6. **Select the bounding box of the desired domain.** Type in latitude and longitude (in decimal degrees) or select a country. Latitude and longitude are automatically updated if you choose a country from the drop-down menu.

7. Define the time frame for which the downscaling should be done by typing in start- and end-year (the end year is always included in the computation).
8. Choose between the regridding methods "patch" and "bilinear" (more information on the methods can be found in the Methodical Background document or under <https://xesmf.readthedocs.io/en/latest/index.html>).
9. Save directory: Define the directory where the final data should be stored.
10. Press the "Run Tool" button to start the computation.

The downscaling algorithm is computationally very expensive. Older machines or machines with small memory can run into memory errors. If this happens, please try to select a smaller domain or a shorter time frame.

Output

Once the computation is finished, visualization is created automatically below the input fields (not available when running the Tool with Docker). The plot compares the coarse data (at 0.1° resolution) with the newly created downscaled data (at 0.01° resolution). You can furthermore choose the season you want to display and zoom into a specific area you are interested.

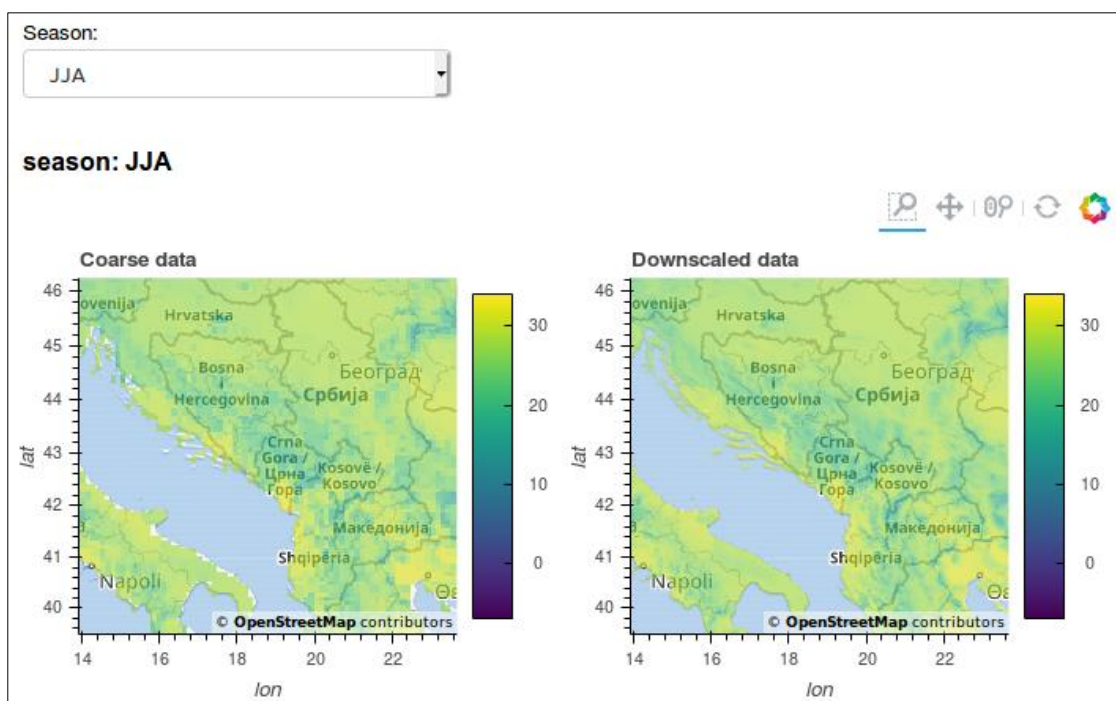


Figure 12 Screenshot of the visualization in the ClimaProof Downscaling Tool

Additionally, the output data is stored under the specified save directory as a netCDF file. The naming convention for the data is: *variable_datatype_startyear-endyear.nc* (e.g. *tasmax_observations_1981-1990.nc*)

Annex

Table 5: List of EURO-CORDEX models compiling the bias-corrected ensemble

EURO-CORDEX Models	Resolution
CNRM-CERFACS-CNRM-CM5_rcp26_r1i1p1_CNRM-ALADIN53_v1	0.11°
CNRM-CERFACS-CNRM-CM5_rcp45_r1i1p1_CNRM-ALADIN53_v1	0.11°
CNRM-CERFACS-CNRM-CM5_rcp85_r1i1p1_CNRM-ALADIN53_v1	0.11°
CNRM-CERFACS-CNRM-CM5_rcp45_r1i1p1_CLMcom-CCLM4-8-17_v1	0.11°
CNRM-CERFACS-CNRM-CM5_rcp85_r1i1p1_CLMcom-CCLM4-8-17_v1	0.11°
CNRM-CERFACS-CNRM-CM5_rcp45_r1i1p1_SMHI-RCA4_v1	0.11°
CNRM-CERFACS-CNRM-CM5_rcp85_r1i1p1_SMHI-RCA4_v1	0.11°
ICHEC-EC-EARTH_rcp26_r12i1p1_CLMcom-CCLM4-8-17_v1	0.11°
ICHEC-EC-EARTH_rcp45_r12i1p1_CLMcom-CCLM4-8-17_v1	0.11°
ICHEC-EC-EARTH_rcp85_r12i1p1_CLMcom-CCLM4-8-17_v1	0.11°
ICHEC-EC-EARTH_rcp26_r12i1p1_KNMI-RACMO22E_v1	0.11°
ICHEC-EC-EARTH_rcp45_r12i1p1_KNMI-RACMO22E_v1	0.11°
ICHEC-EC-EARTH_rcp85_r12i1p1_KNMI-RACMO22E_v1	0.11°
ICHEC-EC-EARTH_rcp45_r1i1p1_KNMI-RACMO22E_v1	0.11°
ICHEC-EC-EARTH_rcp85_r1i1p1_KNMI-RACMO22E_v1	0.11°
ICHEC-EC-EARTH_rcp26_r3i1p1_DMI-HIRHAM5_v1	0.11°
ICHEC-EC-EARTH_rcp45_r3i1p1_DMI-HIRHAM5_v1	0.11°
ICHEC-EC-EARTH_rcp85_r3i1p1_DMI-HIRHAM5_v1	0.11°
IPSL-IPSL-CM5A-MR_rcp45_r1i1p1_IPSL-INERIS-WRF331F_v1	0.11°
IPSL-IPSL-CM5A-MR_rcp85_r1i1p1_IPSL-INERIS-WRF331F_v1	0.11°
IPSL-IPSL-CM5A-MR_rcp45_r1i1p1_SMHI-RCA4_v1	0.11°
IPSL-IPSL-CM5A-MR_rcp85_r1i1p1_SMHI-RCA4_v1	0.11°
MOHC-HadGEM2-ES_rcp26_r1i1p1_SMHI-RCA4_v1	0.11°
MOHC-HadGEM2-ES_rcp45_r1i1p1_SMHI-RCA4_v1	0.11°
MOHC-HadGEM2-ES_rcp85_r1i1p1_SMHI-RCA4_v1	0.11°
MOHC-HadGEM2-ES_rcp45_r1i1p1_CLMcom-CCLM4-8-17_v1	0.11°
MOHC-HadGEM2-ES_rcp85_r1i1p1_CLMcom-CCLM4-8-17_v1	0.11°
MOHC-HadGEM2-ES_rcp45_r1i1p1_KNMI-RACMO22E_v2	0.11°
MOHC-HadGEM2-ES_rcp85_r1i1p1_KNMI-RACMO22E_v2	0.11°
MPI-M-MPI-ESM-LR_rcp45_r1i1p1_CLMcom-CCLM4-8-17_v1	0.11°
MPI-M-MPI-ESM-LR_rcp85_r1i1p1_CLMcom-CCLM4-8-17_v1	0.11°
MPI-M-MPI-ESM-LR_rcp45_r1i1p1_MPI-CSC-REMO2009_v1	0.11°
MPI-M-MPI-ESM-LR_rcp85_r1i1p1_MPI-CSC-REMO2009_v1	0.11°
MPI-M-MPI-ESM-LR_rcp45_r2i1p1_MPI-CSC-REMO2009_v1	0.11°
MPI-M-MPI-ESM-LR_rcp85_r2i1p1_MPI-CSC-REMO2009_v1	0.11°
MPI-M-MPI-ESM-LR_rcp26_r1i1p1_SMHI-RCA4_v1a	0.11°
MPI-M-MPI-ESM-LR_rcp45_r1i1p1_SMHI-RCA4_v1a	0.11°
MPI-M-MPI-ESM-LR_rcp85_r1i1p1_SMHI-RCA4_v1a	0.11°
NCC-NorESM1-M_rcp45_r1i1p1_DMI-HIRHAM5_v2	0.11°
NCC-NorESM1-M_rcp85_r1i1p1_DMI-HIRHAM5_v2	0.11°

Table 6: List of MED-CORDEX models compiling the bias-corrected ensemble

MEDCORDEX Model (Atmosphere RCM)	Resolution
MED-11_ICTP-RegCM4_rcp85_r1i1p1_ICTP-RegCM4-3_v1	0.11°
MED-11_CNRM-CM5_rcp45_r8i1p1_CNRM-ALADIN52_v1	0.11°
MED-11_CNRM-CM5_rcp85_r8i1p1_CNRM-ALADIN52_v1	0.11°
MEDCORDEX Model (Fully-Coupled RCM)	
MED-44i_MPI-ESM-LR_rcp85_r1i1p1_UNIBELGRADE-EBUPOM2c_v1	0.44°