



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 V1.1  
ICC-OBS Tool V1.1  
Downscaling Tool V1.1



Version 1.2  
Vienna, March 2020





This document presents the ensemble of bias-corrected climate scenarios for the Western Balkan region as well as the tools developed within the ClimaProof<sup>1</sup> 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 for download via <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 1.2, status as of March 2020). In the course of further development, modifications and changes might occur. The document will be updated accordingly.

Citation:

Formayer, H., Wind, M., König, B & Becsi, B. (2020): High Resolution Climate Change Projections. User Guide. Project ClimaProof. Version 1.2: March 2020.

Heading project coordination:

Harald Egerer, Ana Vukoje and Sonja Gebert  
Vienna Programme Office, UN Environment

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<sup>1</sup> For more information on the project please see page 5 or <http://www.climaproof.com>



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## 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.

Furthermore, it aims at raising awareness of the relevant government officials in the Western Balkan region in regards to climate change in general, and in particular on climate change impacts on road infrastructure and the specific needs of the infrastructure sectors for increased resilience..

This will 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 component 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) developed

1. an **ensemble of bias corrected climate change scenarios for the Western Balkan Region**,
2. an **easy to handle program for bias correction** for “Improving bias-corrected Climate Change scenarios with local OBServational data” (**ICC-OBS Tool**),
3. a **model selection tool**, as well as
4. a **downscaling tool**.

The climate change scenarios as well as the tools developed are freely available.

A step by step instruction on the handling of the climate change scenarios and tools is presented in this User Guide





## Ensemble of bias-corrected climate scenarios – general information

### Features

temporal resolution:	daily
spatial resolution:	0.1° or (0.01° on request)
temporal extent:	1981 – 2099/2100 (depending on the model)
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 UNSCR 1244/99

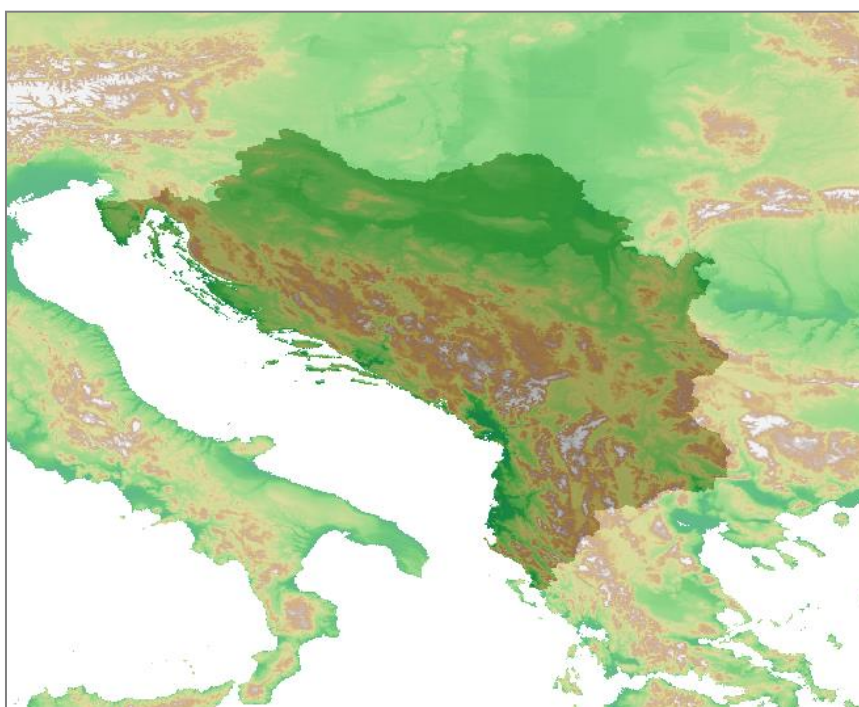


Figure 1: Map of the area covered by the ensemble of bias-corrected climate scenarios (illustrated by BOKU-Met, Datasource: ESRI, Diva-gis)

### Variables and indicators

Table 1 shows the variables included in the Climaproof data set. Apart from the standard parameters temperature and precipitation additional parameters were chosen to be included in the dataset: radiation, 10-m wind speed and relative humidity. This set of variables is adequate for calculating derived variables like evapotranspiration and providing 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 1.2 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 <sup>2</sup>	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-CORDEX<sup>2</sup> 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 set<sup>3</sup>

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.

<sup>2</sup> 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).

<sup>3</sup> 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

The bias-corrected climate scenarios developed within the ClimaProof project are **freely available** via the **CCCA Data Centre**: <https://data.ccca.ac.at/group/climaproof>

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

The scenarios are provided on regular grid with a horizontal resolution of  $0.1^\circ \times 0.1^\circ$ . They can be downloaded for the whole project area or for a specified latitude and longitude of a bounding box. If required, the downloaded scenarios can further be downscaled to a  $0.01^\circ$  grid ( $\sim 1$  km) using the ClimaProof Downscaling Tool (for more details see page 31).

Additional own (higher resolved) observational data can be used to further improve the bias-corrected dataset by using the ICC-OBS Tool developed by BOKU-Met (detailed description see page 29).

## 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 **Fehler! Verweisquelle konnte nicht gefunden werden.** give an overview on 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. 2020. Climaproof - Ensemble of Bias-Corrected Climate Change Scenarios. Methodical Background V2.1. Project ClimaProof - Deliverable 1.2.2

The document is available for download via <https://github.com/boku-met/climaproof-docs>.

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

Dataset	Variables used within the ClimaProof project	Resolution	Expansion	Download
<b>E-OBS</b> (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	<a href="https://www.ecad.eu/download/ensembles/download.php">https://www.ecad.eu/download/ensembles/download.php</a>
<b>CARPATCLIM</b> (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	<a href="http://www.carpatclim-eu.org/pages/download/default.aspx">http://www.carpatclim-eu.org/pages/download/default.aspx</a>
<b>DANUBECLIM</b> (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	<a href="http://www.carpatclim-eu.org/danubeclim">http://www.carpatclim-eu.org/danubeclim</a>
<b>ERA-5</b> (ECMWF, 2016:p.7)	sfcWind, rh	0.28° (31km)	global	<a href="http://apps.ecmwf.int/data-catalogues/era5/?class=ea">http://apps.ecmwf.int/data-catalogues/era5/?class=ea</a>
<b>CHIRPS</b> (Funk <i>et al.</i> , 2015)	pr	0.05° x 0.05°	Lat. 50°N - 50°S, Lon. 180°W - 180°E	<a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.15780/G2RP4Q">http://dx.doi.org/10.15780/G2RP4Q</a>
<b>SARAH-2</b> (Pfeiroth <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	<a href="https://doi.org/10.5676/EUM_SAF_CM/SARAH/V002">https://doi.org/10.5676/EUM_SAF_CM/SARAH/V002</a>

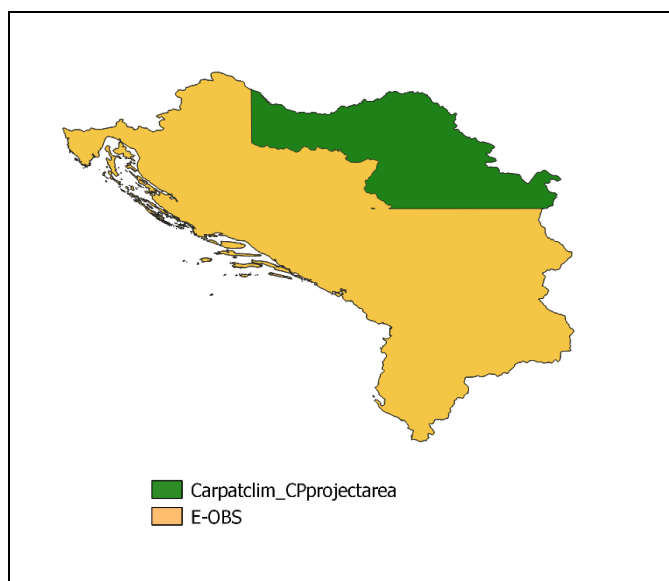


Figure 2: Observational Data used for Bias Correction of Temperature;  
(Illustrated by BOKU-Met, Datasource: Diva-gis, Carpatclim, E-OBS)

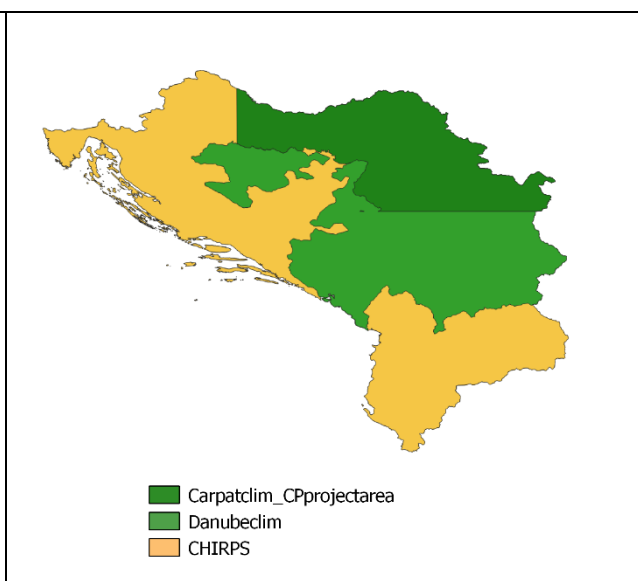


Figure 3: Observational Data used for Bias Correction of Precipitation;  
(Illustrated by BOKU-Met, Datasource: Diva-gis, Carpatclim, Danubeclim, CHIRPS)

## Installing the Python environment

The tools developed within the Climaproof project are programmed in Python.

In order to run them 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 (64-bit), macOS and Linux. Furthermore, Miniconda allows you to install everything in your home-directory without the need for administrative or root permissions.

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

Notes on the installation:

Please be aware that the Python installation requires approximately 10GB of space on your disk so choose a directory that has enough space available.

Unfortunately, the Downscaling Tool currently only works under Linux. As a workaround, Windows 10 users can run the tool through a Docker container. For this, Docker has to be installed on your Computer.

## 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 the Anaconda Prompt, 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
```

## MacOS

1. The easiest way to install Miniconda on Mac is via homebrew (see homebrew website for current changes on how to install: <https://brew.sh/>).  
You can install homebrew by opening a terminal and entering:

```
/usr/bin/ruby -e "$(curl -fsSL  
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/Homebrew/install/master/install)"
```

2. Once homebrew is installed, you can install Miniconda with

```
brew cask install miniconda
```

3. 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.

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 (1607 Anniversary update, Build 14393 or later). We currently cannot support older Windows versions.

### 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
- Add user to Docker user group
- allow virtualization in BIOS settings





## 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 data<sup>4</sup>.

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: e.g. to find 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' interface on the CCCA Data Centre website. It features a search bar at the top, followed by a 'Filter by location' section with a map of Europe. Below the map is a 'Filter by year' section with input fields for 'to' and 'from'. The 'Further Filters' section contains a list of dropdown menus for 'Keywords', 'Authors', 'Organizations', 'Licenses', 'Groups', 'Frequency', 'Model', 'Variables', and 'Formats'. Each dropdown menu has a 'Clear' button next to it.

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

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

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.ccca.ac.at/datenzentrum/>

By clicking on the “Explore” button (see Figure 6), you can get a preview of the data or download the whole dataset. In the preview you can have a quick look at single days of the dataset. Under Map Parameter you can further modify the visualization (see Figure 6 ).

If you want to download only a specific domain or timeframe of the data, you can create a spatial and/or temporal subset of the data by clicking on [+ Create Subset](#) in the top right corner of the preview page

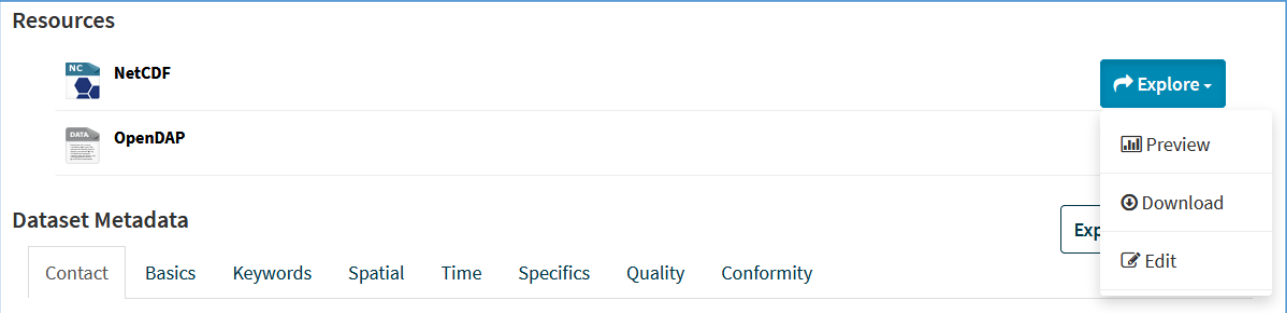


Figure 6: Screenshot Explore data on data.ccca.ac.at

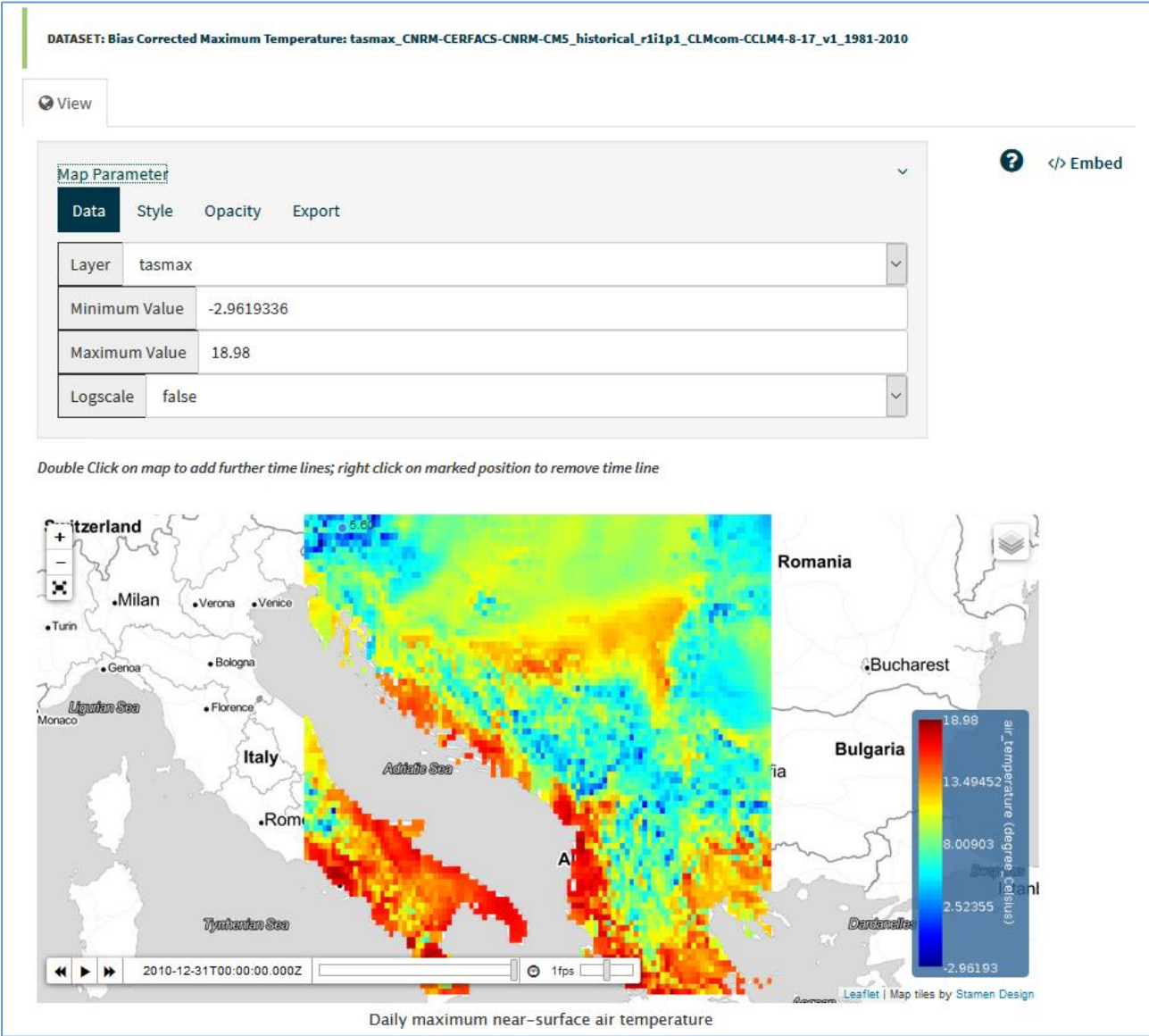


Figure 5 Screenshot Preview data on data.ccca.ac.at.

## The Model Selection Tool V1.1

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

### Linux/MacOS

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 terminal and navigate to the *climaproof-tools-master* directory

```
cd directory
```

e.g.

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

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

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

### Installation Notes for MacOS:

The package *shapely* that is installed with the conda environment *tools* can cause a known issue on MacOS systems when trying to run the ClimaProof Tools. The Python module tries to load the geos library and fails, causing an error of the form “OSError: Could not find lib c or load any of its variants []”.

If you encounter such an error, there is a workaround (reported [here](#)):

You need to set the environment variable `DYLD_FALLBACK_LIBRARY_PATH` to the standard library directories on your system. To do that, just add the line

```
export
DYLD_FALLBACK_LIBRARY_PATH=$HOME/lib:/usr/local/lib:/lib:/usr/lib:$DYLD_FALLBACK_LIBRARY_PATH
```

to your shell's configuration file (usually a “.”-file in your home directory, e.g. *.bashrc*, *.zshrc*).

Don't forget to close and reopen your terminal to make the change take effect.

To check if the environment variable has been set correctly, after reopening the terminal type:

```
echo $DYLD_FALLBACK_LIBRARY_PATH
```

The output should look like this:

```
/Users/{user}/lib:/usr/local/lib:/lib:/usr/lib:
```

### 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 “Anaconda Prompt” 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
```

## Running the Tool

### Linux/macOS

1. In your Terminal activate the conda environment:

```
conda activate tools
```

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

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

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

### Windows

1. In your “Anaconda Prompt” window activate the conda environment:

```
activate tools
```

2. 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.

## Model Selection tool - Step-by-Step guide

In your browser the Tool will look like shown in Figure 7.

**CLIMAPROOF MODEL SELECTION TOOL**

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.

Interact with the widgets on top to create the visualization. Hover over the circles to see more information about the specific model.

Download the data via [data.ccca.ac.at](http://data.ccca.ac.at)

---

Latitude (Format: [MIN, MAX]) Longitude (Format: [MIN, MAX]) Country

[39.583, 42.659] [19, 21.05] Albania

Seasonal/Annual Mean: Experiment:

annual rcp85

Update

Figure 7: Screenshot of the ClimaProof Model Selection Tool - Header

Choose the parameters required:

- 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, summer (JJA) or winter (DJF) 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 8) 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)

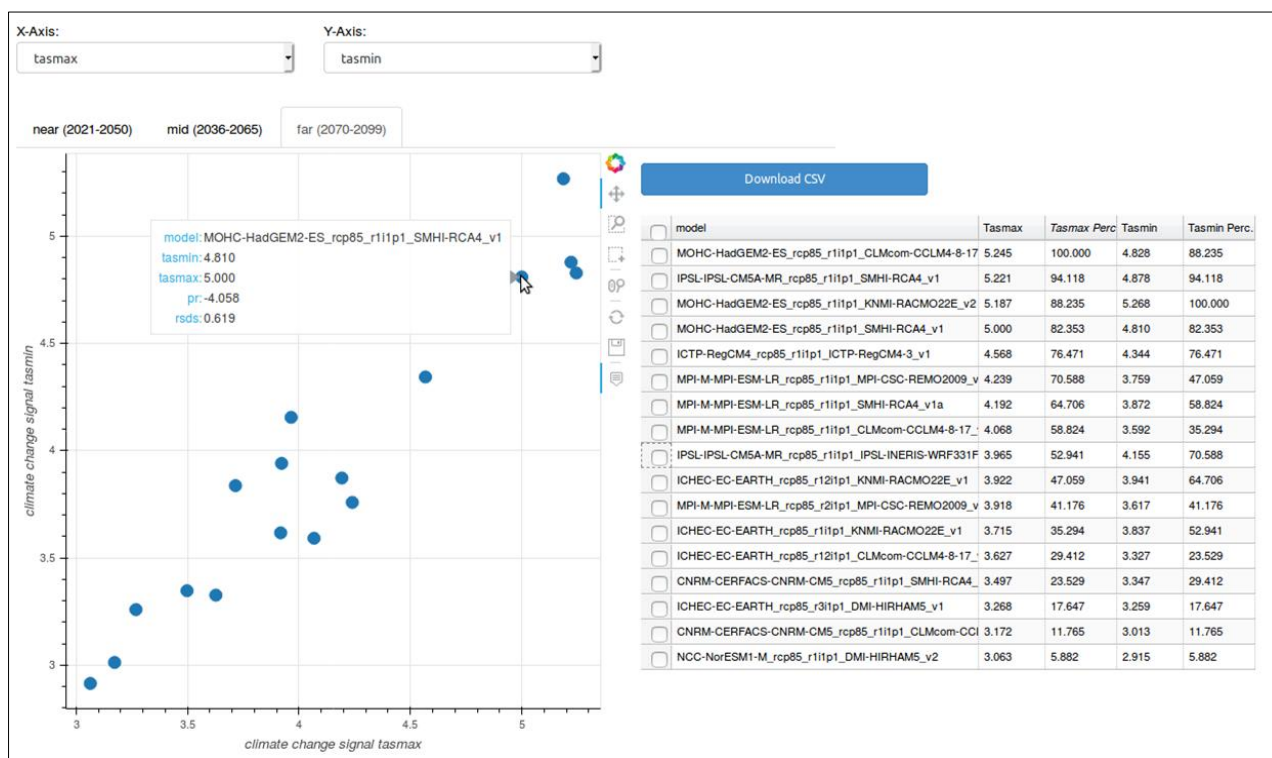


Figure 8: Screenshot of the ClimaProof Model Selection Tool - Visualization.

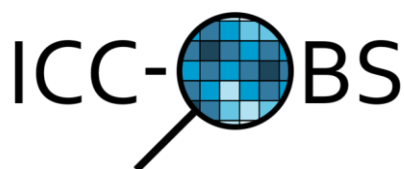
Find out more about the model and the related climate change signals by hovering over the points in the visualization. You can zoom in, select points with a custom drawn box or export the plot as a png.

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 V1.1



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

The ICC-OBS tool allows the integration of additional local observational data for further improvement of the climate change scenarios provided.

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 (download via: <https://github.com/boku-met/climaproof-docs>).

## Installation

### Linux

1. Download the ICC-OBS tool from the ClimaProof GitHub repository (<https://github.com/boku-met/ICC-OBS>) and unzip it.
2. Navigate to the ICC-OBS directory in your Terminal and create a conda environment - this automatically installs all the python packages you need to run the ICC-OBS tool:

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

3. 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-master
```



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**) - available via <https://data.ccca.ac.at/group/climaproof>
2. Gridded observations - available via <https://data.ccca.ac.at/group/climaproof>
3. Topography file - available via <https://data.ccca.ac.at/group/climaproof> (search for "Topography")
4. Station data (time series and metadata) - your own data

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 within the ClimaProof dataset, **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 (see p. 11) and created the ICC-OBS environment (see above), 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 9).

## ICC-OBS tool - Step-by-Step guide

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

**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]  
tasmax: maximum temperature [°C]  
tasmin: 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 9: Screenshot of the ICC-OBS Tool graphical user interface.

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> of January of the defined start year and ends at the 31<sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>2</sup>	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 10). 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.

<b>interpolation method</b> <small>interpolation method that should be applied to interpolate station data</small>	<b>radius of influence</b> <small>distance in km at which the weights should be zero</small>
<input type="text" value="idw"/>	<input type="text" value="100"/>
<b>min number of stations</b> <small>Minimum number of neighbors needed to perform idw-interpolation</small>	<b>variogram model</b> <small>variogram model for the kriging interpolation</small>
<input type="text" value="3"/>	<input type="text" value="gaussian"/>

Figure 10: Screenshot of the section for the advanced interpolation settings in the “Advanced” tab.

## 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 11
PLOTS	<i>param_biascorr.png</i>	Plot comparing the original (uncorrected) model data with the new bias corrected model data (mean over the bias correction period) Example: Figure 12

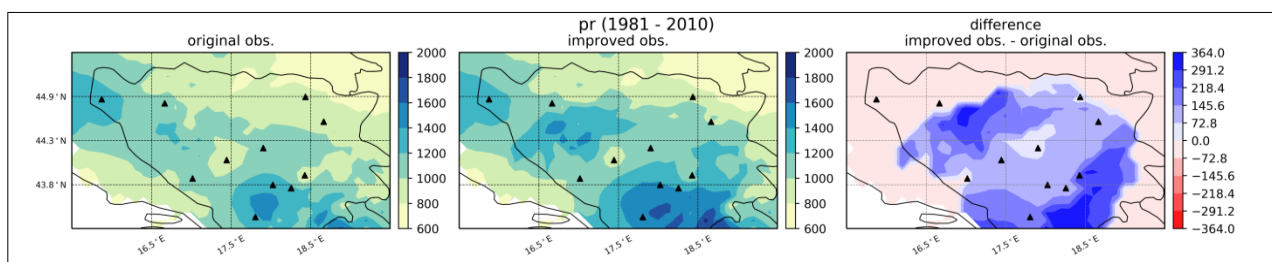


Figure 11: Example of an automatically created plot comparing original and improved gridded observations for yearly mean precipitation for the historical period 1981-2010.

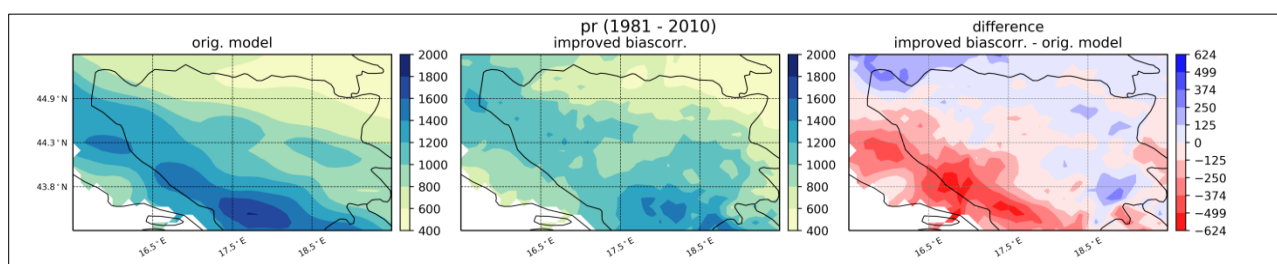


Figure 12: Example of an automatically created plot comparing original and bias corrected model data for yearly mean precipitation for the bias correction time period 1981-2010.

## 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 it's 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 V1.1

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 17.

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:

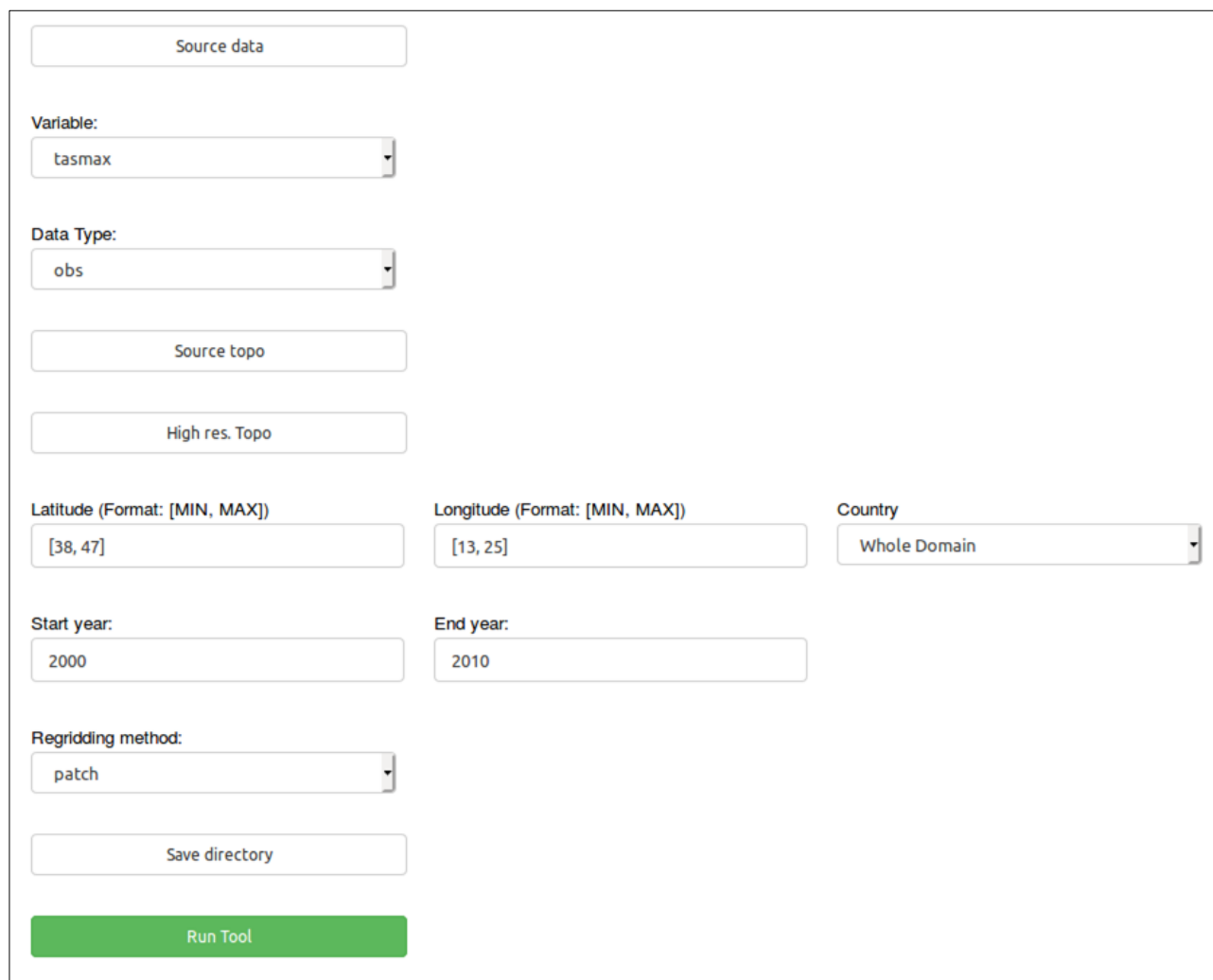
```
cd climaproof-tools
docker network create cproof
docker build --rm --network=cproof -t climaproof/tools
docker run -t -i -p 5100:5100 -v LOCAL_PATH_TO_DATA:/data climaproof/tools -
-network=cproof
```

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>

## Downscaling tool - 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 text input field.
- Variable:** A dropdown menu with "tasmax" selected.
- Data Type:** A dropdown menu with "obs" selected.
- Source topo**: A text input field.
- High res. Topo**: A text input field.
- 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 text input field.
- Run Tool**: A green button.

Figure 13: 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°). This data can be downloaded via the CCCA Data Centre (<https://data.ccca.ac.at/dataset/topography-0-1-v01>)
5. **High resolution topo:** Select the file that contains the high-resolution (0.01°) topography information. This data can be downloaded via the CCCA Data Centre (<https://data.ccca.ac.at/dataset/topography-0-01-v01>)

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.

**Note:** If you encounter an error message similar to this:

```
----- ERROR -----  
( 'Regrid(filename) requires PIO and does not work if ESMF has not been built  
with MPI support', )
```

The reason could be that the Python Package *xesmf* that contains the regridding algorithms has not been built with *MPI* support. To solve this problem, uninstall *xesmf* with

```
conda uninstall xesmf -name tools
```

then install *MPI* with

```
conda install mpi
```

while the conda environment "tools" is activated. Next, re-install *xesmf* with

```
conda install -c conda-forge xesmf
```

Lastly, update the environment "tools" with

```
conda update --all --name tools
```

The 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.

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

<b>MEDCORDEX Model (Atmosphere RCM)</b>	<b>Resolution</b>
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°
<b>MEDCORDEX Model (Fully-Coupled RCM)</b>	
MED-44i_MPI-ESM-LR_rcp85_r1i1p1_UNIBELGRADE-EBUPOM2c_v1	0.44°