

Programme of the WCRP/APARC School on “AI for Climate & Weather Forecast”

Day 1 Convener: Dr. Mohamadou A. Diallo

Monday, 24th November 2025		
Time (UTC/GMT)	Title	Speakers
Introductory Session		
08:45 - 09:00	Arrival & Registration	All
09:00 - 09:05	General opening of the AI4Climate’ Purpose, prospective outcomes & schedule	Dr. Mohamadou A. Diallo (FZJ, Germany)
09:05 - 09:10	Welcome Words	Prof. Mohamed M. Fall (AIMS, Senegal)
09:10 - 09:30	Introduction to World Climate Research Programme (WCRP)	Dr. Hindumathi K. Palanisamy (WMO/WCRP, Switzerland)
09:30 - 09:50	Introduction to Atmospheric Processes and their Role in Climate (APARC)	Prof. Amanda Maycock (University of Leeds, UK)
09:50 - 10:10	Introduction to Forschungszentrum Jülich	Prof. Michaela I. Hegglin (FZJ, Germany & UREAD, UK)
10:10 - 10:30	Introduction to AIMS Senegal	Dr. Coura Balde (AIMS, Senegal)
10:30 - 11:00	Short tea and coffee break	
Climate Services and Information Session		
11:00 - 11:25	Overview Climate Change, Hazards and Extreme events	Dr. Victor Ongoma (University Mohammed VI Polytechnique, Morocco)
11:25 - 11:50	Climate Services and Successful stories of Early Warnings in Africa	Dr. Masilin Gudoshava (IGAD/ICPAC, Kenya)
11:50 - 12:15	ESP/UCAD intro+African Climate Dynamic and Monsoon Circulation	Prof. Dahirou Wane (ESP/UCAD, Senegal)
12:15 - 12:35	Towards green hydrogen development in Africa: potentials, opportunities and challenges	Dr. Solomon N. Agbo (FZJ, Germany)

08:45 - 09:00	Arrival & Registration	All
Panel Discussion		
12:35 - 13:15	1. Capacity building for climate services: Successful stories of Early Warnings, 2. Lessons learned from Global North to foster partnership with Global South	Dr. Masilin Gudoshava Prof. Amadou T. Gaye Dr. Victor Ongoma Dr. Solomon N. Agbo
13:15 - 14:45	Lunch break	
Hands-on Python for Mini-projects		
14:45 - 16:30	Presentation of Hands-on Python using case studies on jupyter-notebook for the Mini project throughout the whole week: A. Downscaling using Deep learning B. Short Range prediction using convolutional and Graph Neural Networks C. African Monsoon onset & Dynamics D. Origin of Climate Change from Paleo-to-present day climate	Prof. Robert Mbiake (University of Douala, Cameroon) Prof. Maria Molina (University of Maryland, USA) Prof. Jonathon S. Wright (Tsinghua University, China) Dr. Redouane Lguensat (IPSL/IRD, Sorbonne University, France)
16:30 - 17:00	Short tea and coffee break	
17:00 - 18:00	Self-introduction of the Trainees	In-person Trainees
18:00	End of the Day 1 and Bus to the Hotel	

Day 2 Convener: Prof. Bertrand Tchanche/Mansour Dia

Tuesday, 25th November 2025		
Time (UTC)	Title	Speakers
Networking-Insights		
09:00 - 10:00	Global South Inclusion Task team (GSITT) in WCRP	Dr. Anna Sorensson (University of Buenos Aires, Argentina)
Weather and Climate Modeling Session		
10:00 - 10:30	Introduction to Climate System Modelling	Prof. Hyacinth Nnamchi (GEOMAR, Germany)

10:30 - 11:00	Atmospheric Reanalysis Products: What They Are and How to Use Them	Prof. Jonathon S. Wright (Tsinghua University, China)
11:00 - 11:30	Short tea and coffee break	
Climate, Weather and Air Quality Session		
11:30 - 12:10	From Air pollution to Climate change: Same sources	Prof. Robert Mbiake (University of Douala, Cameroon)
12:10 - 12:35	Ozone impact on the environment and society in the context of climate change.	Prof. Michaela I. Hegglin (FZJ, Germany & UREAD, UK)
12:35 - 12:55	Atmospheric Pollution, Observations and Health Risk Assessment of Exposure to Fine Particles	Dr. Bertrand Tchance Fankam (Alioune Diop University, Senegal)
12:55 - 13:15	Forecasting and Reanalysis from the NASA Global Modeling and Assimilation Office: available products, data access, and use cases for AI/ML	Dr. Carl A. Malings (NASA/Morgan State University, USA)
13:15 - 14:45	Lunch break	
Panel Discussion		
14:45 - 15:30	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Observational Gap, Current limitations & future needs for constraining weather and climate data that aids for informed decision-making for societal benefits How climate change is impacting Africa and its air quality (aerosols, O₃, dust gusts,...) ? 	Prof. Jonathon S. Wright Prof. Hyacinth Nnamchi Dr. Masilin Gudoshava Prof. Robert Mbiake Prof. Bertrand T. Fankam Dr. Carl A. Malings Dr Eric Nizeyimana (Univ. Rwanda)
Evaluation Tools		
15:30 - 16h30	ESMValTool for Climate Model Visualization	Dr. Birgit Hassler (DLR, Germany)
16:30 - 17:15	Short tea and coffee break	
Talk + Hands-on Python for Mini-projects		

17:15 - 18h00	ESMValTool for Climate Model Visualization	Dr. Bettina Gier (University of Bremen, Germany)
18:00	End of the Day 2 and Bus to the Hotel	

Day 3 Convener: Prof. Maria Molina

Wednesday, 26th November 2025		
Time (UTC)	Title	Speakers
Predictability and Regional Attribution Session		
09:30 - 10:00	Weather and Climate Predictability and Prediction	Dr. Marisol Osman (University of Buenos Aires, Argentina)
10:00 - 10:30	Overview of Artificial Intelligence for Weather and Climate Prediction: Advantages and Limitations	Prof. Maria Molina (University of Maryland, USA)
10:30 - 11:00	Short tea and coffee break	
Hazards and Extreme Events Session		
11:00 - 11:30	AI-driven Weather Forecasting and Climate Projections: Example Applications	Prof. Maria Molina (University of Maryland, USA)
11:30 - 12:00	Monitoring and Subseasonal predictability of heat waves in West African cities over recent decades.	Dr. Cedric Garcial Lange (LSCE, France)
12:00 - 12:30	African Monsoon Circulation: Processes and impacts on society	Dr. Cheikh N. Fall (ESP/UCAD, Senegal)
Panel Discussion		
12:30 - 13:15	3. Current challenges in predicting African monsoon 4. Record breaking weather extremes in recent climate: causes and impacts (How climate change is impacting Africa Sub-daily to decadal variability: causes and impacts on regional climate (MJO, ENSO, QBO, PDO, IPO, extremes etc.))	Prof. Maria Molina Prof. Jonathon S. Wright Dr. Cedric Garcial Lange Dr. Cheikh N. Fall
13:15 - 14:45	Lunch break	

Hands-on Python for Mini-projects		
14:45 - 16h15	Mini project: Hands-on Python on jupyter-notebook with a case study	Prof. Jonathon S. Wright (Tsinghua University, China)
16:15 - 16:45	Short tea and coffee break	
16:45 - 18h00	Mini project: Hands-on Python on jupyter-notebook with a case study	Dr. Redouane Lguensat (PSL/IRD, Sorbonne University, France)
18:00	End of the Day 1 and Bus to the Hotel	

Day 4 Convener: Prof. Hyacinth Nnamchi/XX YY Online

Thursday, 27th November 2025		
Time (UTC)	Title	Speakers
ML/AI for Weather & Climate Prediction Session		
09:30 - 10:15	Climate storylines for actionable regional climate information (Data & methods)	Prof. Theodore G. Shepherd (UREAD/FZJ, UK)
10:15 - 11:00	Advanced and Applied Neural Networks in weather and climate forecasting	Prof. Maria Molina (University of Maryland, USA)
11:00 - 11:30	Short tea and coffee break	
Climate Services and Information Session		
11:30 - 12:00	Statistical Downscaling: Methods and Latest Advances (incl. AI or not?)	Dr. Redouane Lguensat (PSL/IRD, Sorbonne University, France)
12:00 - 12:30	Introduction to Artificial Integrated Forecast System model (Anomoi): Cases study on medium-range forecasting (AIFS), regional modelling (stretched vs. Lam), and probabilistic models (crps & diffusion).	Mr. Mario Santa Cruz López (ECMWF, Reading)
Panel Discussion		
12:30 - 13:15	5. Is Africa well prepared in terms of capacity building (i.e. infrastructure, cloud, GPU, strong academic ecosystem, training, legislations) to ensure it does not miss out on the AI revolution?	Prof. Theodore G. Shepherd Prof. Maria Molina (Moderator)

	<p>6. What role should young people play and what strategy should they adopt to meet the high demand for local AI-based solutions (health, agriculture, energy, climate, fintech)?</p> <p>7. Introduction to tools for larger data gathering & manipulation (Shell, Python, jupyter, NCO libs, ecodec-python, xarray,...)</p> <p>8. Data acquisition (SPARC Data, CMIP6, CCM12, Reanalyses, Observations) and Regional downscaling efforts for Africa (e.g. CORDEX?)</p> <p>9. Introduction to Data analysis tools (Pangeo, ESMValTool (Birgit Hassler), Google Earth Engine, AI/ML for downscaling)</p>	<p>Dr. Redouane Lguensat</p> <p>Dr. Mohamadou Diallo</p> <p>Dr. Bettina Gier</p> <p>Mr. Mario Santa Cruz López</p> <p>Dr. Birgit Hassler</p> <p>Ms. Hannah Wangari Kimani (Kenya Meteorological Department)</p>
13:15 - 14:45	Lunch break	
Hands-on Python for Mini-projects		
14:45 - 16:15	Neural Network Mini project: Hands-on Python on jupyter-notebook with a case study	Prof. Maria Molina (University of Maryland, USA)
16:15 - 16:45	Short tea and coffee break	
16:45 - 18h00	Neural Network Mini project: Hands-on Python on jupyter-notebook with a case study	Prof. Maria Molina (University of Maryland, USA)
18:00	End of the Day 1 and Bus to the Hotel	

Day 5 Convener: Prof. Maria Molina

Friday, 28th November 2025		
Time (UTC)	Title	Speakers
Panel Discussion		
09:30 - 10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - African perspective of gender balance and equity in Climate Science - Climate Change, impact and resilience measures - Food-energy nexus 	<p>Dr. Joyce Jelagat (Gender and Climate Expert (NORCAP), Kenya)</p> <p>All participants</p>

	- Which other discussion topics would participants like to provide as an input on?	
10:30 - 11:00	Short tea and coffee break	
Presentation of Mini-Projects		
11:00 - 13:15	Mini-Projects & Wrap-up	All Trainees
13:15	End of the Day, Lunch Break & Free time	