Hydropower and Water Management Practices and Challenges

NSF - PIRE Kickoff Conference

Bahir Dar 11 July 2016

Paul Block University of Wisconsin - Madison



Ethiopia Weather & Climate Disasters

Ethiopia - Disaster Statistics

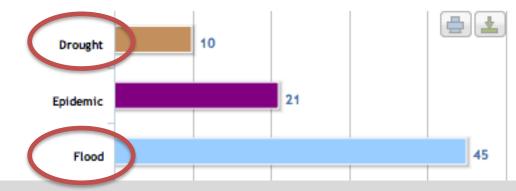
Data related to human and economic losses from disasters that have occurred between 1980 and 2010.

Natural Disasters from 1980 - 2010

Overview

No of events:	86
No of people killed:	313,486
Average killed per year:	10,112
No of people affected:	57,382,354
Average affected per year:	1,851,044
Economic Damage (US\$ X 1,000):	31,700
Economic Damage per year (US\$ X 1,000):	1,023

Natural Disaster Occurence Reported



Credit: Prevention Web

Top 10 Natural Disasters Reported

Affected People

Disaster	Date	Affected	(no. of people)
Drought	2003	12,600,000	
Drought	1983	7,750,000	
Drought	1987	7,000,000	
Drought	1989	6,500,000	
Drought	2008	6,400,000	
Drought	2009	6,200,000	
Drought	1999	4,900,000	
Drought	2005	2,600,000	
Drought	1997	986,200	
Flood	2006	361,600	

Economic Damages

Disaster	Date	Cost (US	\$ X 1,000)
Drought	1998	15,600	
Flood	2005	5,000	
Flood	1994	3,500	
Flood	2006	3,200 💳	
Flood	1999	2,700 💳	
Flood	2005	1,200 💻	
Flood	1995	500 🖡	
Epidemic	1980	0	
Epidemic	1981	0	
Flood	1981	0	

Weather vs Climate

Time scales of interest:

"Weather"

"Climate Variability"

"Climate Change" •1-10 days

•2-3 months

•6 months – 1 year

Decades

Centuries

Atmosphere-Land conditions

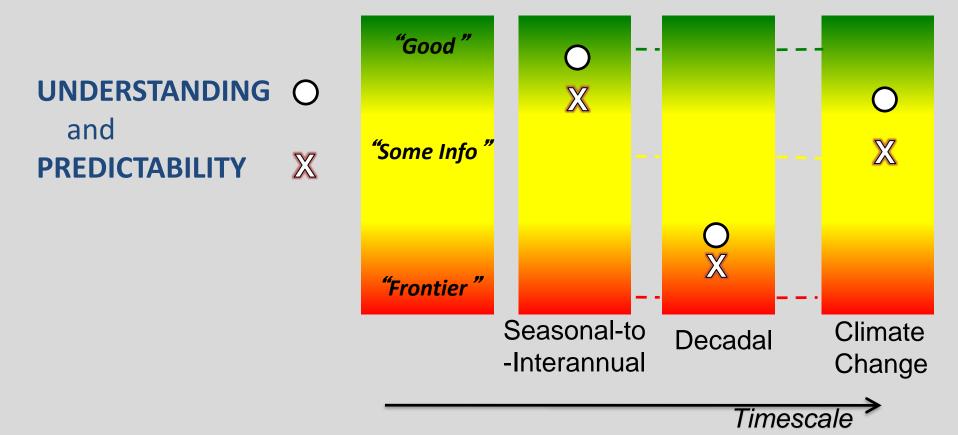
Ocean-atmosphere-land conditions; conditions vary at slower rates – leads to predictability

Several decades

Climate change: in addition to physical processes, assumptions about human behavior

Credit: S. Someshwar

Prediction: Where Are We?



From a WRM perspective, this provides prospects for predicting and managing water system risks (design, operation, allocation...)

Climate Prediction for WRM

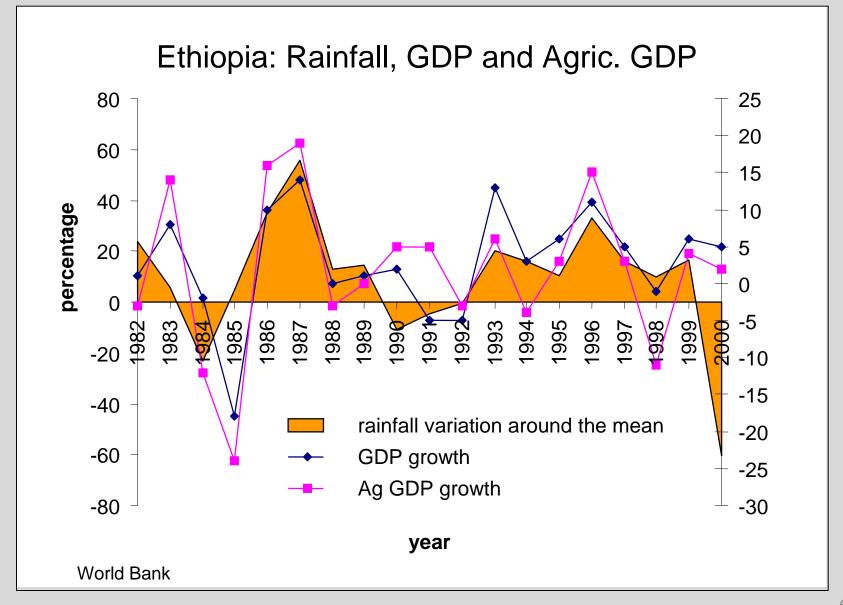
Goal

- Prepare not React
- Reduce risks
- Exploit opportunities

Why is implementation lacking?

Need Better Minister Martine Better Martine Better Minister Martine Better Bett

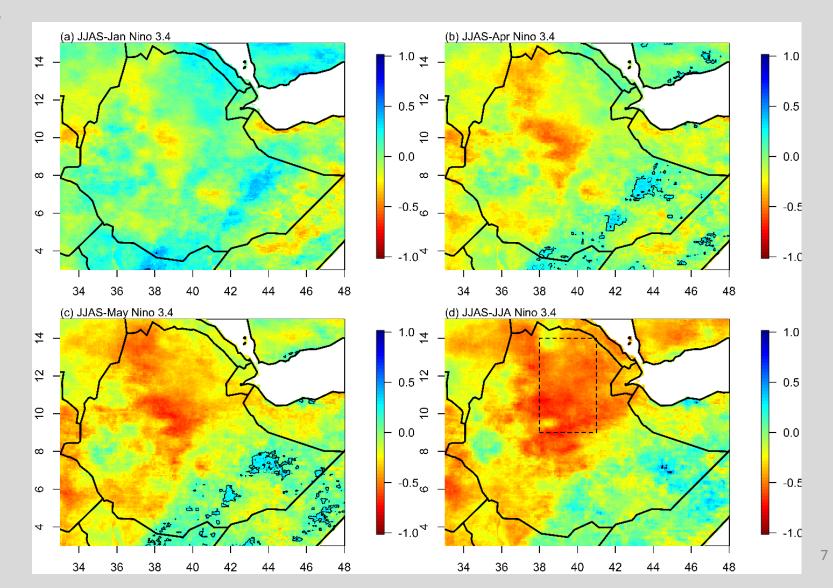
Seasonal Climate Variability



Climate Factors: ENSO

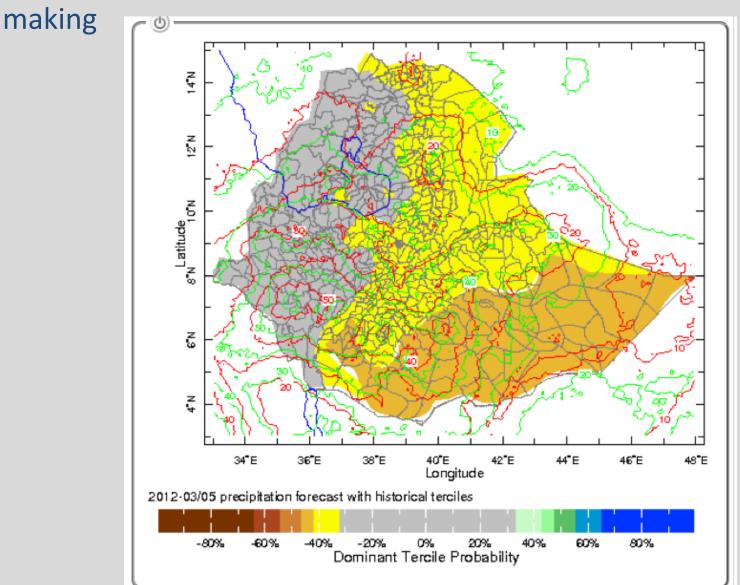
Correlation of Nino3.4 and Kiremt Precipitation (CHIRPS); 1981-

2015



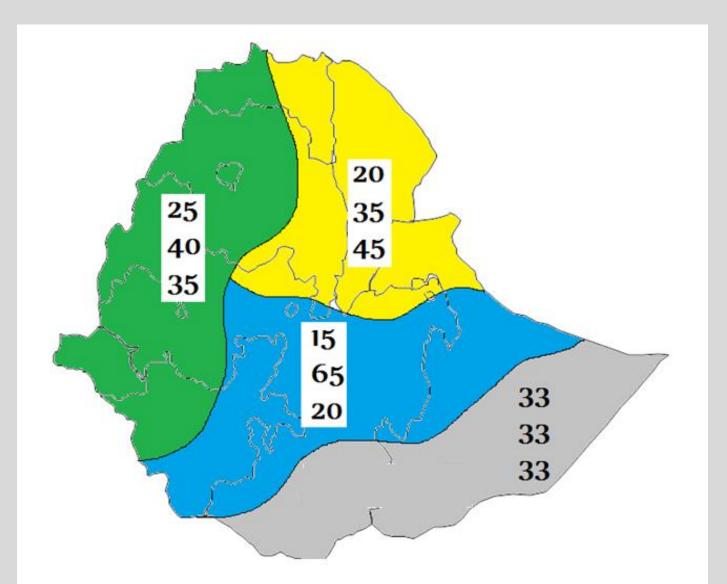
Climate Forecast Products

Advanced information that can systematically be used in decision-



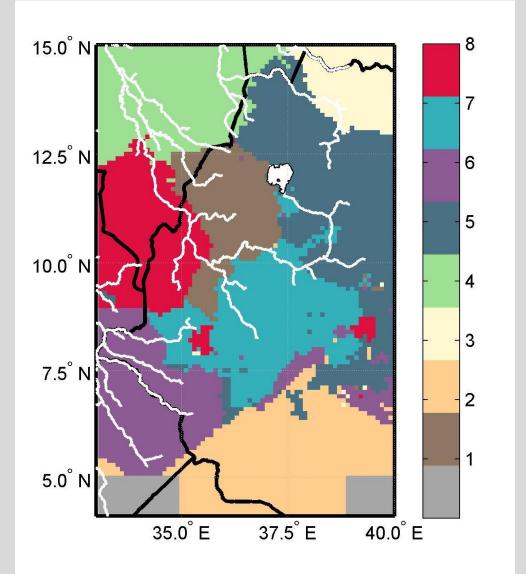
Climate Forecast Products

NMA – 2015 Kiremt Prediction; categorical. Shift toward drought

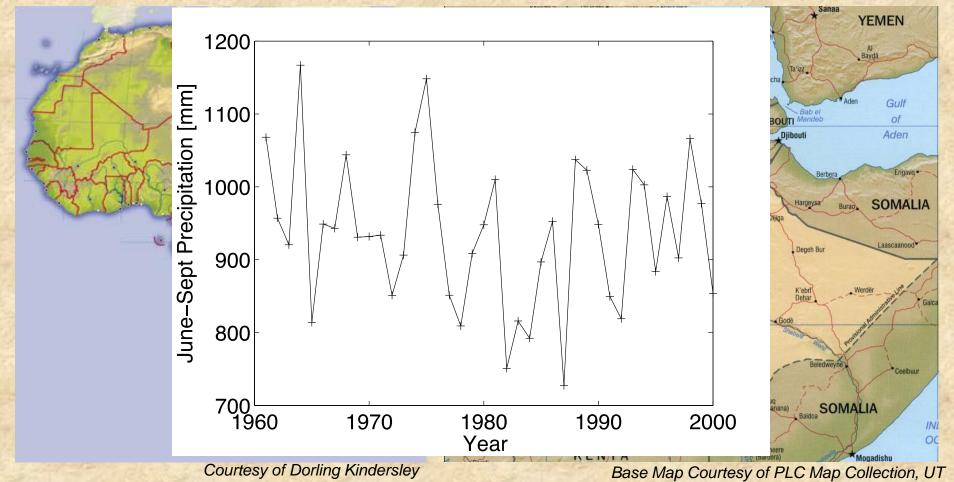


Cluster Analysis

Homogeneous Precipitation Regions (*Zhang, Moges, Block*)



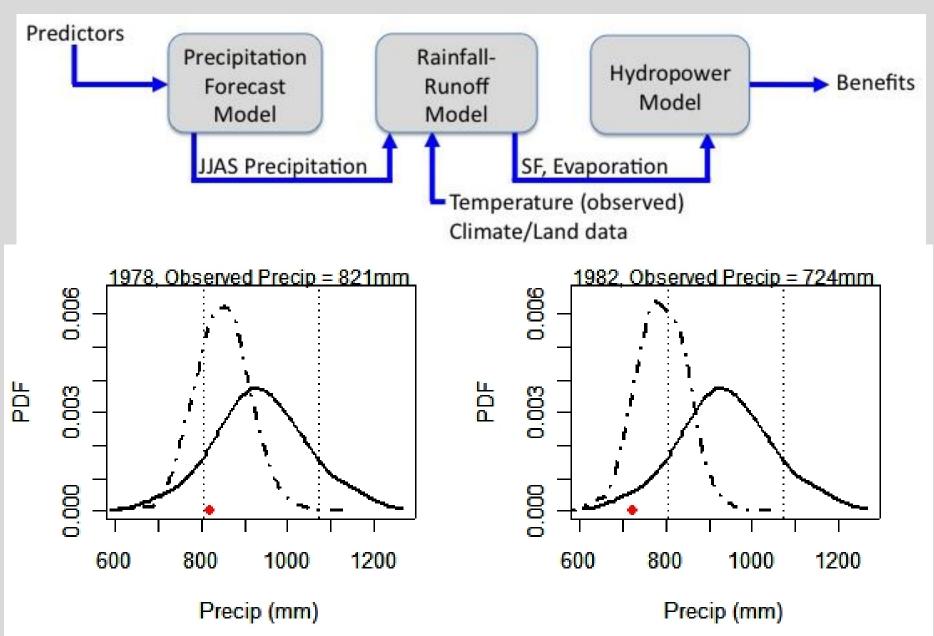
Upper Blue Nile Basin - Hydropower



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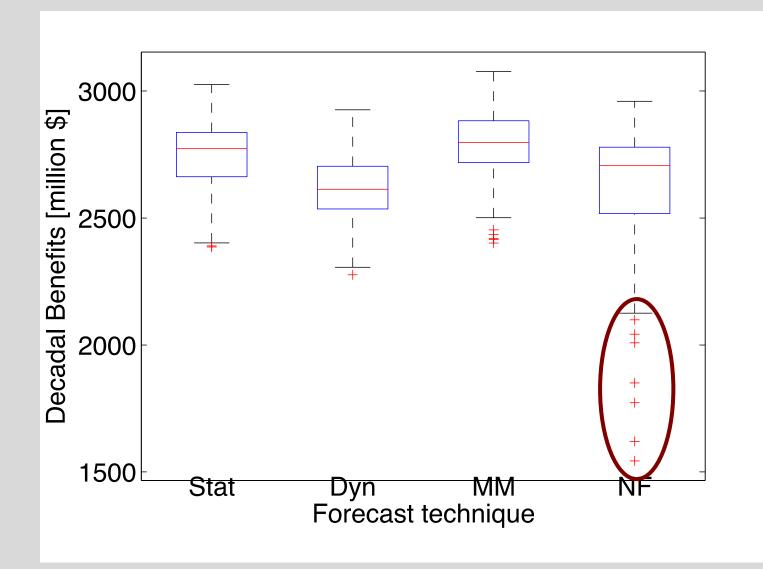
- Four large-scale dams proposed (one started)
- Could a seasonal forecast improve benefits?
- Does the prediction technique have any influence?
- Does increased prediction skill translate to greater benefits?

Linked Model System



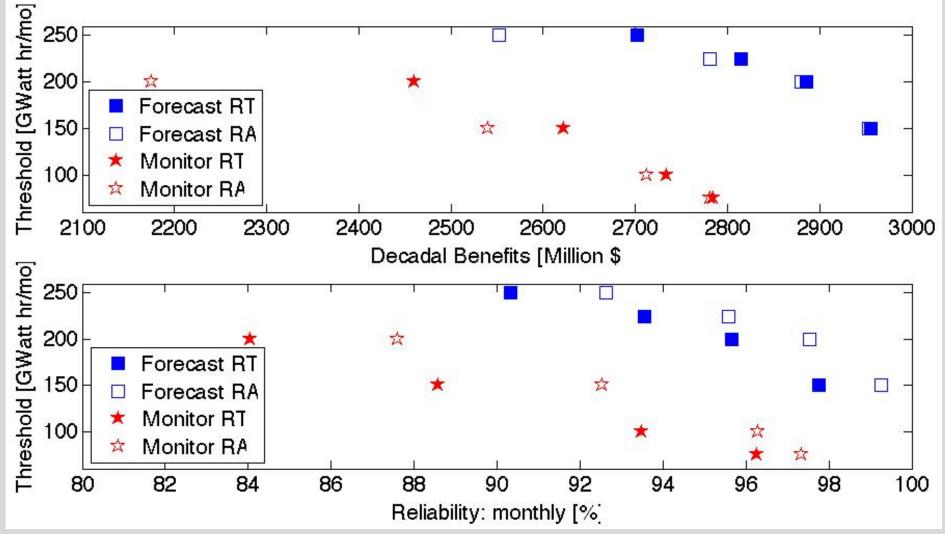
Hydropower Benefits

Median = marginal improvement; reduction in probability of low decades



Forecast Value, Reliability, Threshold

Trade-off between reliability and benefits

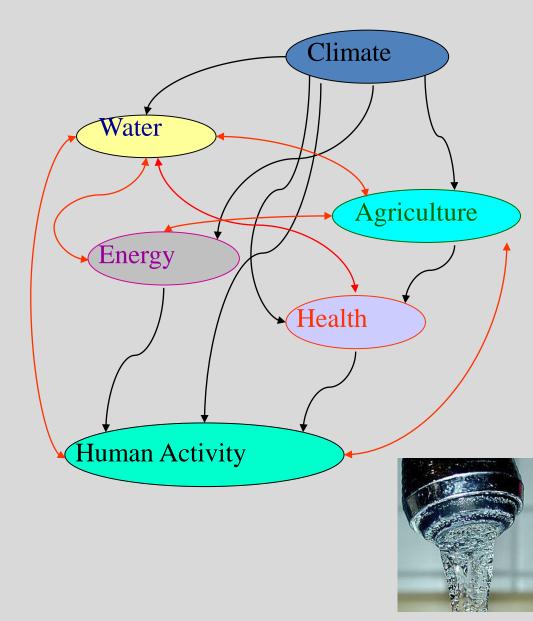


Water Management









The Challenge

How can we better inform seasonal decision-making for agriculture and water resources / hydropower management?

- Technology development
- Social Human understanding
- Institutional cooperation
- Year-to-year variability in supply; changing demands
- Extremes

National or Local Issue?

Focus on Today (security) or the Future (sustainability and resilience)?



World's Water

