

Conference Organization

The different sessions will promote multidisciplinary approaches to address the geophysical and societal dimensions of AMMA's major scientific objectives. Mornings will be dedicated to plenary sessions accessible to a wide audience and will include solicited and contributed oral presentations. In the afternoons, parallel sessions will be dedicated to more focused issues and to discussions. Oral presentations will be given either in English or in French. Simultaneous translation will be available during plenary sessions only.

Special emphasis will be given to poster sessions which will be used to motivate discussion in the conference. The poster exhibition will be installed all week long to host more focused sessions.

Acknowledgment and Conference Sponsoring

Based on a French initiative, AMMA has been built up by an international scientific group and is currently financed by a large number of agencies, particularly from Africa, European Union, France, United Kingdom and United States.

AMMA is endorsed by WCRP (CLIVAR and GEWEX) and IGBP (IGAC and ILEAPS). AMMA also develops cooperation with ICSU and WMO, in particular with WWRP, THORPEX, GCOS and GOOS.

Full details on the scientific coordination and financing are available from the AMMA International site:

www.amma-international.org

All agencies supporting the conference by direct or indirect sponsoring are listed on the conference web site.

After the selection date of on-line submitted abstracts, a call will be announced by email for supporting young African scientists.

Pre-registration and Submission of Abstracts

Pre-registration and abstracts submission are to be done online following specifications given on the conference web site:

<http://amma-conf2012.ipsl.fr/home/>

Abstracts must be submitted by **11th March 2012**. If you do not submit any abstract you can still pre-register by 11th March ; after 11th March you will go directly to the registration step.

Registration

The online conference registration will be opened on **26th March 2012**. The registration fees will be charged to cover the conference expenditures. The details on the fees amount and payment methods will be provided on the conference web site.

Summary of Important Dates

27th January 2012	Abstracts submission and pre-registration open
11th March 2012	Deadline to submit abstracts
25th March 2012	Acceptance/rejection of abstracts
26th March 2012	Registration opens
31st May 2012	Conference program announced

Conference Venue

Meteo France International Conferences Center (www.meteo.fr/cic/)
The Meteo France International Conferences Center of Toulouse will host the conference. Located right on the doorstep of Toulouse, just 8 km from its international airport, it lies at the very heart of Europe's leading meteorology Centre.
Discover the charms of Toulouse, the "Ville Rose", a southern city with Spanish accents and Italian facades. Though it carefully cultivates its Occitan identity, its reputation for cultural treasures, art of living and technological prowess goes far beyond the seas and oceans !

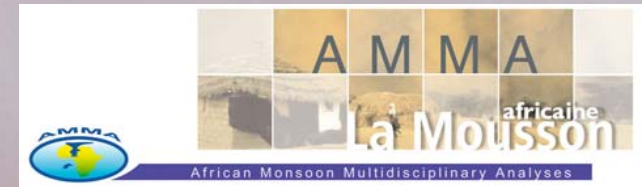
Accommodation

The Conference Centre is located in the suburbs of Toulouse but is easily reachable by metro and bus; we recommend selection of a hotel downtown. A list of hotels is provided on the conference web site.

Information and Contacts

Conference web site
<http://amma-conf2012.ipsl.fr/home/>

Organisation Committee
amma-conf2012@ipsi.jussieu.fr



AMMA

African Monsoon Multidisciplinary Analyses

4th International Conference

Toulouse, France

2nd – 6th July 2012

Second announcement
and
Call for abstracts

Background

The African Monsoon Multidisciplinary Analyses (AMMA) programme, launched in Niamey in 2002, is an international research programme concerned with the variability of the West African Monsoon (WAM) and its impacts on communities and natural resources in that region. In addition to continued efforts to enhance our fundamental understanding of the WAM, AMMA strives to “pull through” knowledge gained to improve our understanding of interactions between WAM variability and society, to improve our ability to predict the WAM at a range of timescales, and to increase our confidence in climate change scenarios.

Phase 2 of AMMA

This conference takes place at an important time for AMMA. The second International Science Plan has recently been launched (http://www.amma-international.org/IMG/pdf/ISP2_v2.pdf), and efforts must be made to build on the knowledge learned in the first phase in order to tackle the key scientific and societal problems that remain. These efforts will be achieved through international collaboration that includes AMMANET, the African network of researchers, engineers and technicians from various countries and various disciplines, national and regional operational services, and universities. Together with end-users and decision-makers, AMMA aims at elaborating tailored tools and products to cope with hydro-meteorological and climate hazards, and on enhancing capacity building and training efforts in the context of climate and environmental changes. Together with geophysical research, the research on the human dimension is key to drive adaptation and mitigation efforts, quantify the local and regional impact of human activities, and evaluate the contributions and limits of climate information in front of needs and livelihood strategies.

Conference Objectives

The 4th AMMA International Conference will take place at the International Conferences Centre in Toulouse, France, between the 2nd and 6th July, 2012. The conference aims to bring together researchers from the AMMA community, research groups sharing common objectives with AMMA, operational services, donors and regional economic organizations. The objectives of the conference are: (i) to promote the work done in exploiting AMMA field data and models in terms of processes, predictability and climate change issues, and society-environment-climate interactions; (ii) to introduce and enhance links with projects sharing common objectives with AMMA; (iii) to present and discuss tools and product development for use by operational services; and (iv) to elaborate on the observational network integration responding to the societal needs and operational concerns of African institutions.

Conference Themes

(A) Society, Environment and Climate Interactions

Presentations are encouraged that are concerned with the broad theme of the interactions between society, environment and climate in West Africa including:

- natural and water resources, agriculture and livestock: climate and socio-economic constraints and opportunities
- health, environment and social vulnerability
- vulnerability and adaptive strategies of West African societies facing African monsoon variability and climate change
- policies for climate change and adaptation, mitigation and management of renewable resources in West African countries.

(B) Predictability and Prediction of the West African Monsoon and its Impacts

Four time scales are highlighted: weather (less than 10 days), intraseasonal (10-90 days), interannual-to-multidecadal, and climate change. Presentations in this theme are expected to be somewhat applied and should be concerned with:

- evaluation and improvement of processes and feedbacks in regional and global models
- skill and bias evaluation in forecasting tools
- predictability studies
- operational prediction activities
- assimilation of newly available observations
- impact-oriented prediction tools.

(C) The West African Monsoon System

Presentations in this theme are encouraged that improve our understanding of the nature and variability of the WAM system at the same timescales emphasized in theme B above. Emphasis should be given to:

- feedback loops: convection - environment, atmosphere - aerosols, land surface - atmosphere, ocean - atmosphere
- water and energy cycles and links with continental and ocean surface and sub-surface
- WAM variability and teleconnections.

Transverse Themes

In addition to having presentations that contribute to these three themes the conference will include time to discuss:

- multidisciplinary aspects of the WAM like intraseasonal and monsoon onset predictability, decadal predictability, high-impact weather events
- development and enhancement of tailored tools and products to support development activities
- future AMMA research initiatives including enhanced links with on-going projects (e.g. CMIP5, CORDEX Africa,...) and future field campaigns sharing common objectives with AMMA
- integrated observation network and links with other regional efforts.

Overall Committee

S. Janicot (Chair), E. Afiesimama, F. Beaud, A. Diedhiou, C. Flamant, A. Gaye, F. Guichard, A. Longrez, C. Michaut, D. Parker, J.L. Redelsperger, B. Sultan, C. Thorncroft

Scientific Committee

C. Thorncroft (Chair), A. Diedhiou, S. Janicot, C. Mbow, B. Sultan, A. Tompkins, R. Washington, E. Afiesimama, A. Amani, A. Attane, A. Boone, P. Brandt, A. Diongue-Niang, B. Fontaine, F. Gangneron, L. Genesio, F. Guichard, F. Hourdin, M. Kadi, H. Karambiri, F. Karbou, A. Konare, A. Ndiaye, J.A. Ndione, C. Peugeot, S.B. Traore

Local Organisation Committee

S. Bolland, S. Barbaric, F. Beaud, F. Guichard, S. Janicot, A. Longrez, C. Michaut, B. Moutiers, M. Ouasti, O. Roussot, I. Varin