

# Cycle de l'Eau et Changement Climatique (CECC)

CECC deals with the impact of climate change on the water cycle in dry/semi-arid tropical regions, with two targets - the **West-African Sahel** and the **tropical Andes** - and two main concerns: **droughts** and **floodings**

It is not a classical research project : it mainly aims at **capitalizing** recent scientific advances into operational tools made available for practitioners, water resources managers and planners

July 2021 – July 2025

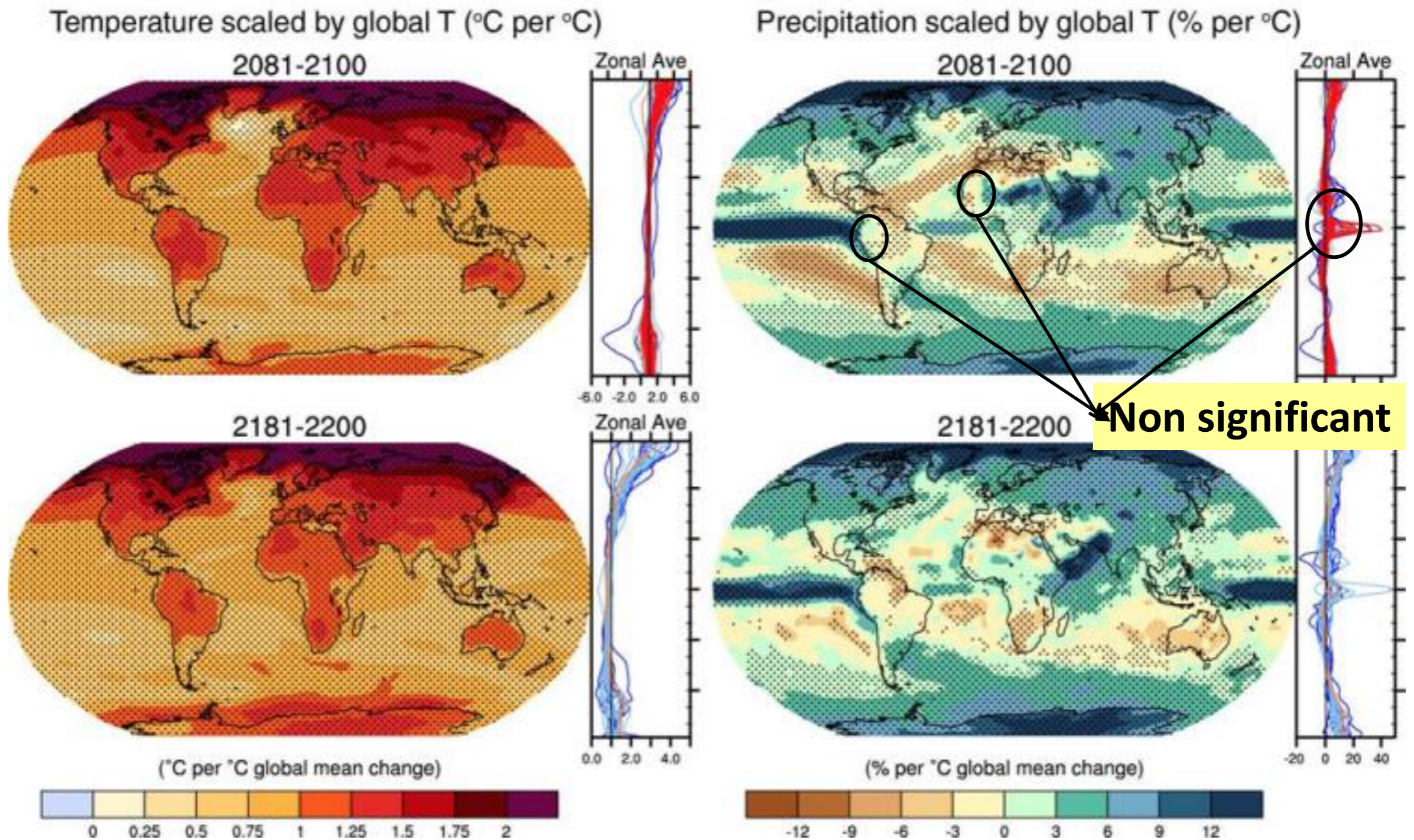
<http://www.projet-cecc.org/>

# Water cycle: crucial stakes in an era of global change

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- 1. Global warming but, regional to local impacts (as underlined in the various IPCC reports of the 6th evaluation cycle); especially true for everything linked to the water**
- 2. Water is a key issue for the intertropical zone, especially for semi-arid regions (resources and floods)**
- 3. Large uncertainties regarding the evolution of precipitation as compared to that of temperatures**
- 4. New hydroclimatic trajectories → adaptation**

# 1. Water cycle: which trajectory ?



A much warmer planet...

... with a very contrasted rainfall signal

Same tendencies and uncertainties in CMIP5 and CMIP6 simulations

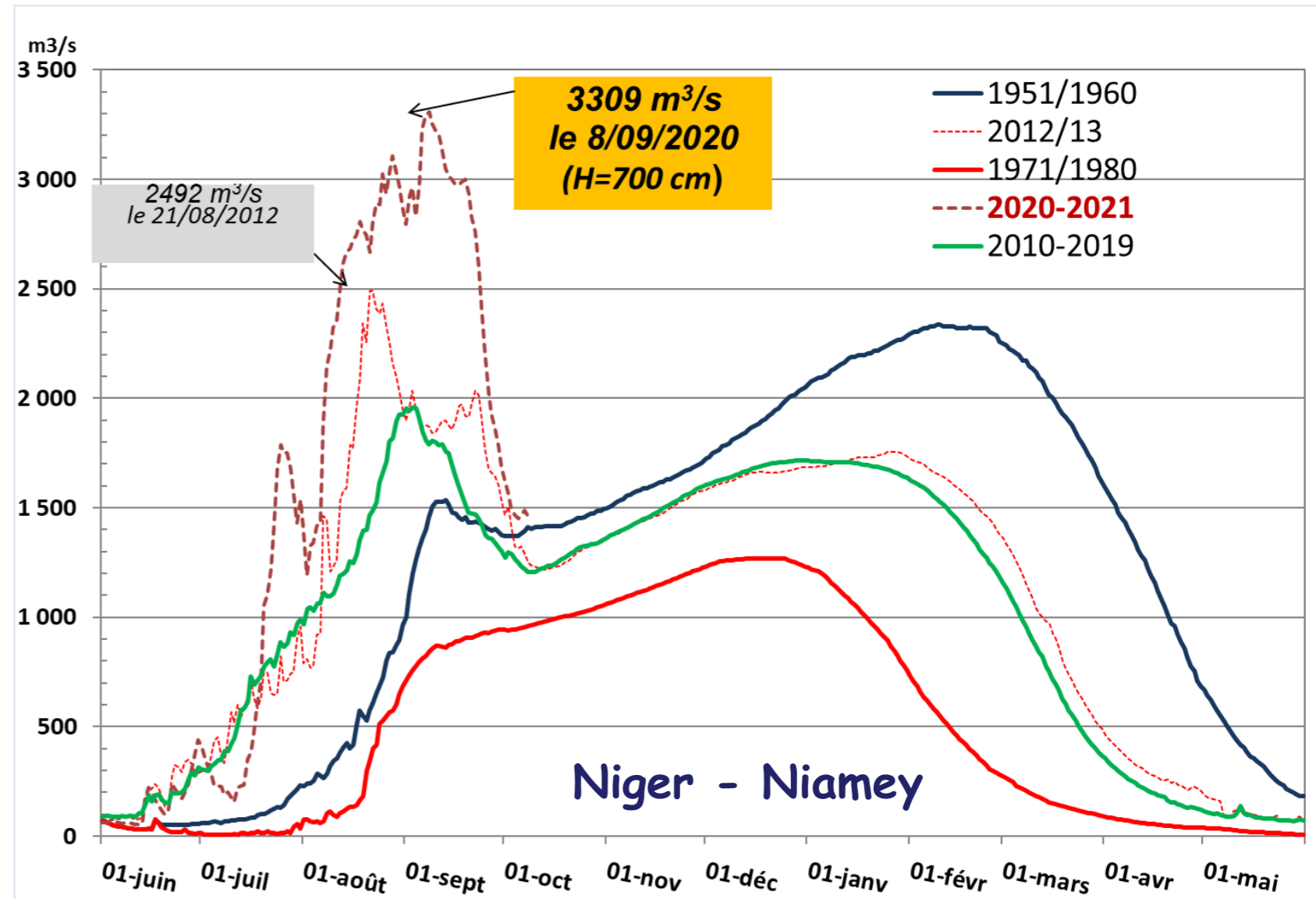
# 2. Water is a key component of the Earth Climate system

## 2 key factors of the climate engine

- Water vapor :
  - A warmer atmosphere contains a greater quantity of water vapor (Clausius Clapeyron :  $7\%/^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) → water cycle intensification ; however not uniform over the large range of spatial and temporal scales to be considered as far as impacts and vulnerabilities are concerned : energetics adjustments, feeding of convective systems, modification of regional circulations)
- Atmospheric circulation and the coupling of the energy transfers in the atmosphere and at the surface with the water :
  - Convection and equilibrium between global dynamics and local physics (Hadley cell, ITCZ, Monsoons, feedbacks)
  - Oceanic Circulation

# 3. A new hydro-climatic era ?

- In West Africa, recurrent droughts but, at the same time, more frequent and devastating floodings---> how to decipher the respective roles of climate warming, Land Use changes and demographic dynamics ?



- Major changes in the hydrologic regimes---> a new hydro-climatic era ?

- How are these changes perceived by the local actors; how can they adapt to this new hydrologic landscape ?

# 4 key points

Perception by decision makers, planners, and the population at large of the *hydrological* impacts (actual/potential) of climate change ?

**Trajectories** of the various components (rainfall, surface water, ground water, evaporation) of the hydrologic cycle at regional scale

---> Identifying the impacts of these trajectories on the well-being of populations

**Supporting tools for public policies (planning, management, adaptation)**

---> Tools for taking into account these trajectories and their associated scenarios of impacts

