

ASPIRE - Adaptive Social Protection - Information for Enhanced Resilience

Overview of lessons and activities for final year (2019)



What is Adaptive Social Protection (or ‘shock responsive social projection’)

Social protection is a way to enhance the capabilities of individuals and groups to meet the needs of everyday life. It is also a means to break down economic as well as social barriers limiting the access to services and benefits of development. Examples of social protection include mechanisms such as social assistance (e.g. cash transfers, school meals and public works programmes), insurance (e.g. maternity, unemployment or illness cover), pensions (i.e. state pensions) and labour market interventions (e.g. maternity and sickness benefits).

Adaptive social protection aims to protect poor households from climate and other shocks *before* they occur and support them *when* they occur through measures such as predictable transfers, building community assets and other coping mechanisms.

The ASPIRE project was designed to explore **how climate information can inform social protection programming in the Sahel to enable it to become adaptive.**

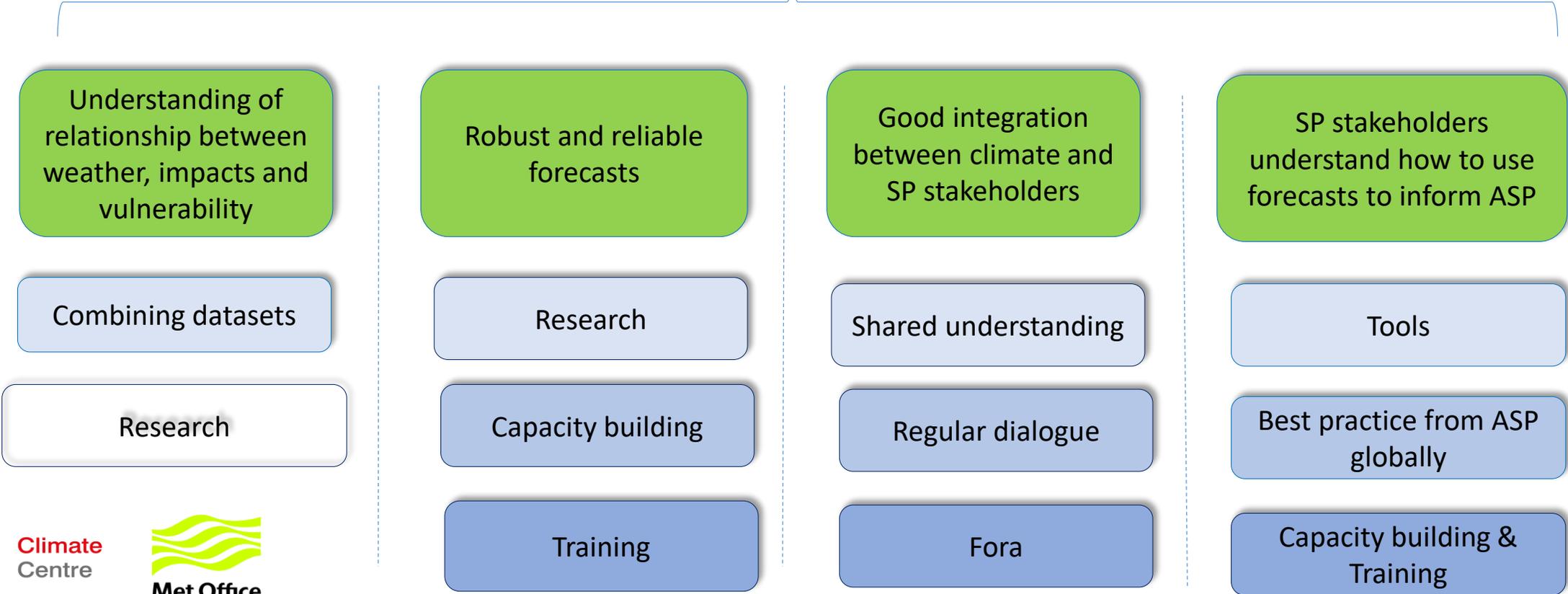
Lessons so far

Climate information (across timescales) has the potential to inform the design, targeting and scale up or out of social protection mechanisms. For example, in theory a regular cash transfer to a household could be increased if a drought is expected. **However....**

- Has been challenging to identify clear entry points for climate information to inform social protection.
- Seasonal forecasts likely to be most relevant to informing forecast based early action (including ASP) Limited understanding of **impacts** of weather (e.g. on livelihoods, food security etc)
- Limited understanding of Adaptive Social Protection and climate by SP stakeholders and vice versa.

Transformation towards a national level adaptive risk management system
(DRM, ASP, humanitarian...)

What needs to be in place
for climate information to
inform Adaptive Social
Protection



Conclusions from research (shown on slides 10 – 13)

- Analysis of PRESASS forecasts show quite good reliability – though also evidence of subjectivity and limited “boldness” that can be addressed by greater input from dynamical models
- Appears to be a low bias in ‘below normal’ category;
- Association between rainfall and crop yield in Senegal which suggests this could be forecastable

Activities for rest of project (2019)

Enhance seasonal forecasting - Regional level

1. Conduct joint research with ACMAD/AGHRYMET to identify which models have best skill where in the Sahel for rainfall and temperature;
2. Explore further the low bias in 'below normal' category...why is there reluctance to issue these forecasts when models indicate it?;
3. Make recommendations on how methodology for producing regional and national climate outlook forums can be made more objective;
4. Make recommendations on how seasonal forecasts can be better visualised and communicated to be easier to understand and more useable.

Activities for rest of project (2019)

Enhance seasonal forecasting – National level

(Senegal/Niger/Mali)

1. Work with NMS to digitise national seasonal outlooks (10 years +)
2. Conduct joint research with NMS in Senegal, Niger and Burkina Faso/Mali to assess reliability of forecasts issued to date;

Activities for rest of project (2019)

Social Protection stakeholder training (expanded on slides 14 & 15)

1. Face to face and remote training for SP stakeholders on climate information and interpretation of seasonal outlooks and build understanding of how they can use/integrate climate (monitoring and forecast) data with other data they have to inform SP decision making; *Walker led*

Explore how forecast information to support resilience mechanisms in the Sahel (joint activity with RCCC)

1. Facilitate DFID/ASPP round table to identify what food security related actions can be brought forward with forecasts and the gaps science needs to fill to achieve this. *ACMAD, AGHRYMET, FAO, WFP, ASPP, ARCC Plus, Red Cross, NGOs*
2. Identify gaps in science and where climate programs can fill these so that investments in science **support action.**;
3. Identify opportunities for data integration to support enhanced understanding of impacts.

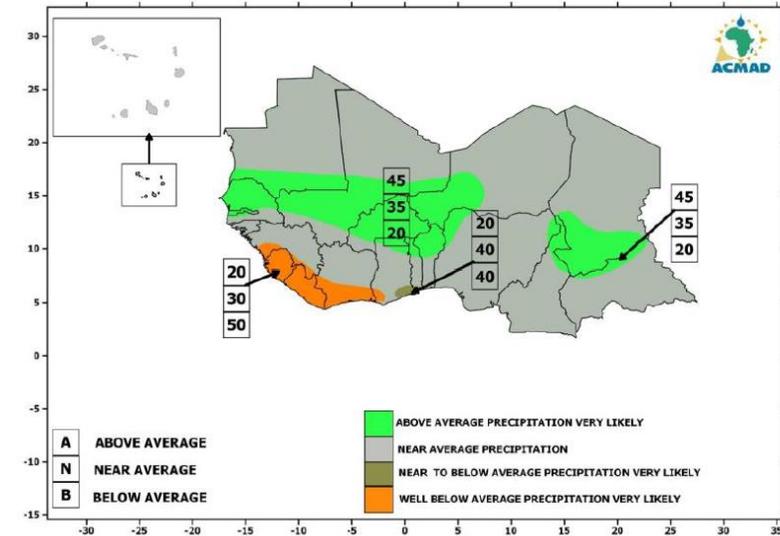
Research on seasonal forecast skill



Research : How good are seasonal forecasts for Sahelian West Africa?

Regional climate outlook forum (PRESASS) seasonal forecasts

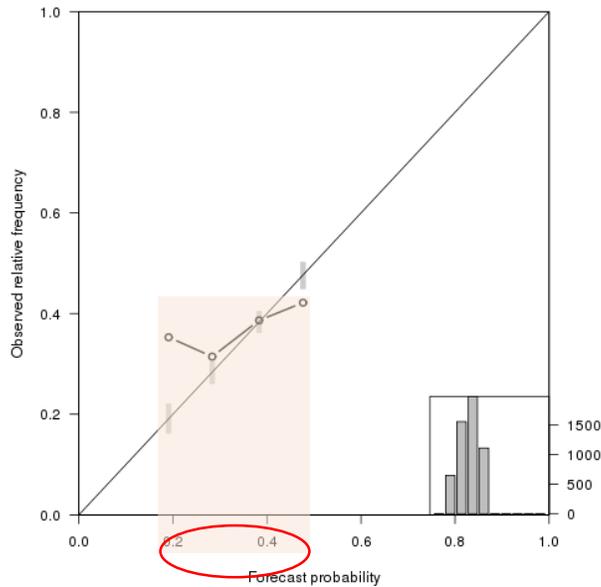
- Example “consensus” forecast
- Combines statistical methods, dynamical models, and forecaster experience
- Issued as forecast probabilities of season total precipitation falling into one of three “terciles”
- Probabilities are calculated compared to climatology - with no information, each category would be 33%



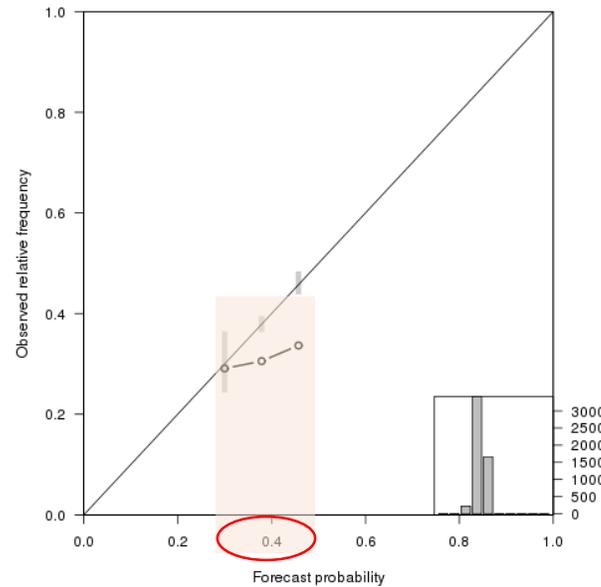
Reliability of PRESASS seasonal rainfall forecasts – July, Aug, Sep



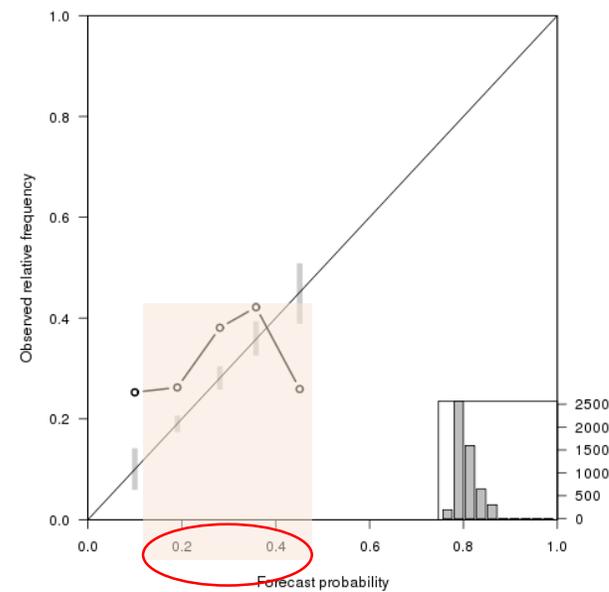
Perfect reliability = points all on diagonal line



Above Normal

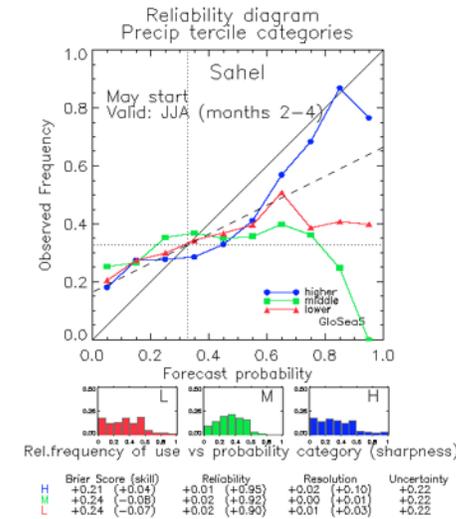
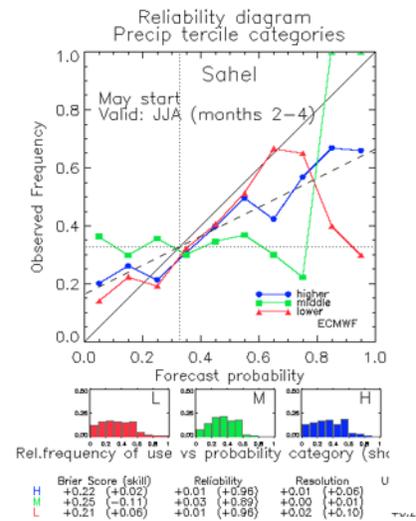
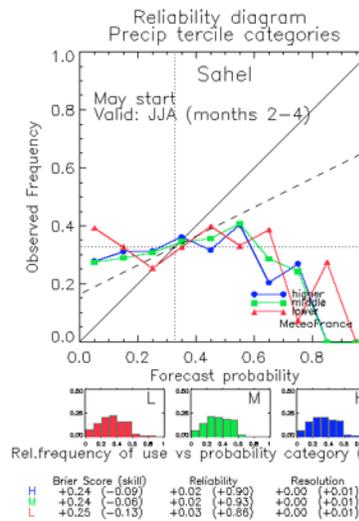
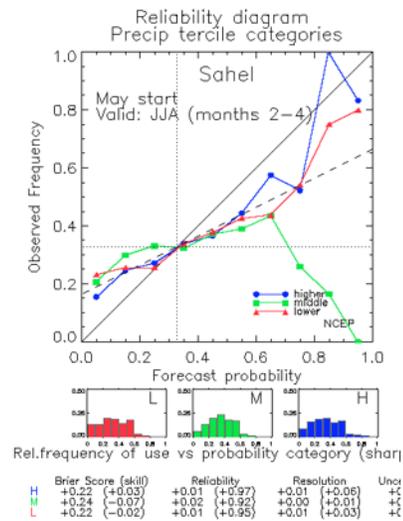


Near Normal



Below Normal

Skill of dynamical models



Rainfall/crop yield association

Indicates that crop yield could be forecast on a seasonal basis **but only** on national to sub-national scale. More local data found not to be correlated to rainfall (using FAO local data).

Who could use this information to inform food security decisions?

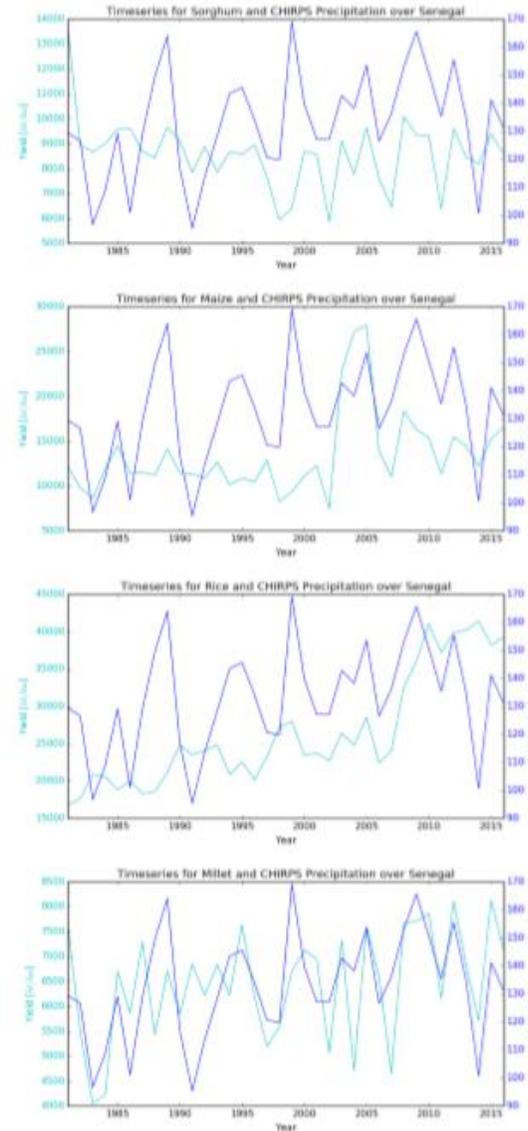


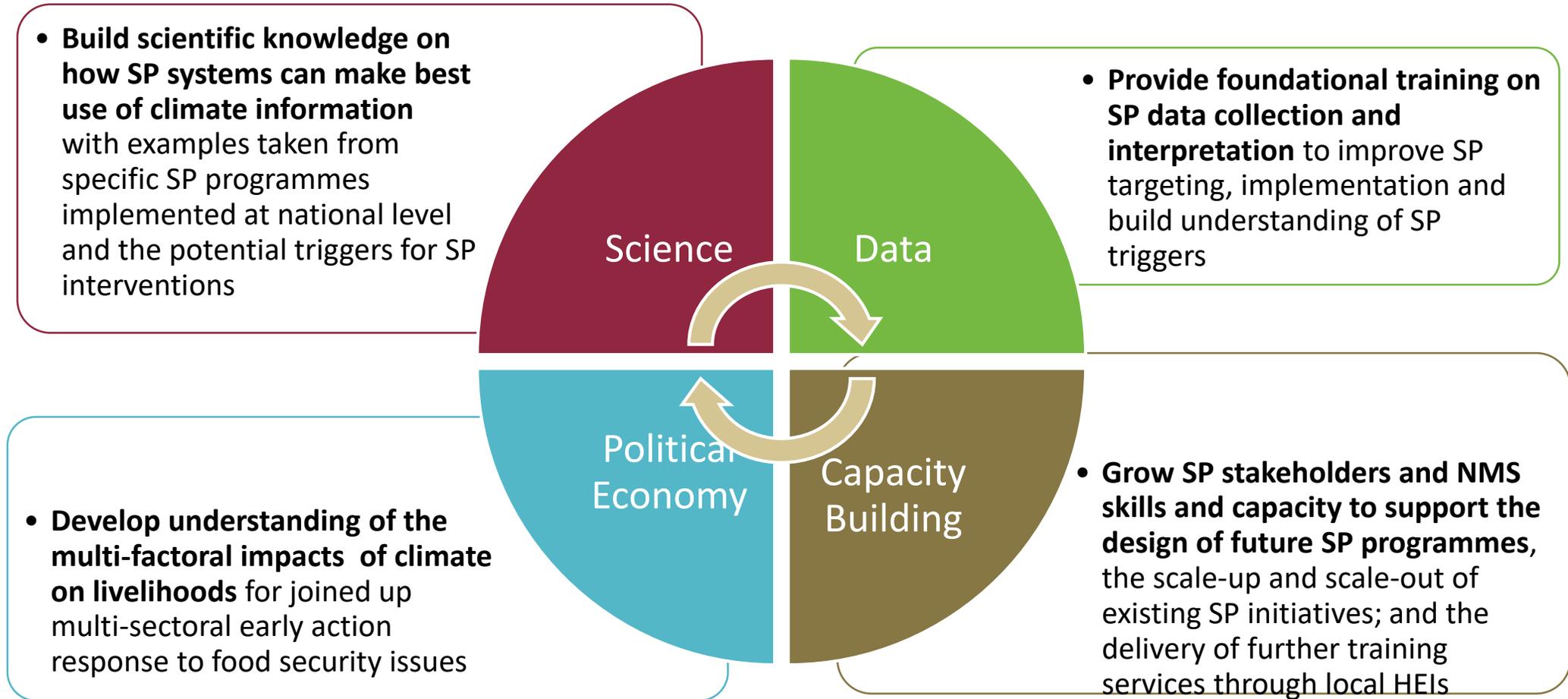
Figure 11: Time series plots that compare FAO crop yield (cyan) and CHIRPS precipitation (blue) over Senegal.



Training component



SP Training Delivery - Activities



Working together with national HEIs, regional SP stakeholders and National Met Services to grow sustainable SP systems

SP Training Delivery – Learning Outcomes / Deliverables

