

1 **Projected Changes in the Near-Future Mean Climate and Extreme Climate Events in**
2 **Northeast Thailand**

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4 Dibesh Khadka^{a*}, Mukand S. Babel^a, Matthew Collins^b, Sangam Shrestha^a, Salvatore G.P.
5 Virdis^c, Albert S. Chen^b

6
7 ^a Water Engineering and Management, School of Engineering and Technology, Asian Institute
8 of Technology, Thailand

9
10 ^b College of Engineering, Mathematics and Physical Sciences, University of Exeter, UK

11
12 ^c Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems, School of Engineering and
13 Technology, Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand

14
15
16 ***Corresponding Author:**

17
18 Dibesh Khadka

19
20 Water Engineering and Management, School of Engineering and Technology, Asian Institute
21 of Technology, P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathum Thani 12120, Thailand

22
23 Email: dibesh.khadka@ait.asia

24
25 Tel.: +66-81-348-8530

26

27 **Abstract**

28

29 This study provides an assessment of changes in mean and extreme climate in northeast
30 Thailand, focusing on the near-future period (2021-2050). Spatiotemporal changes in climate
31 extremes and return values are investigated compared to 1981-2010. Climate model-related
32 uncertainties are quantified using 14 models from the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project
33 phase five (CMIP5) and 8 models from phase six (CMIP6). CMIP6 models have a higher
34 sensitivity to external forcings as the CMIP6 ensemble suggests an increase in maximum and
35 minimum temperatures by 1.45°C (0.8-1.9°C) and 1.54°C (1.1-1.9°C) under the high emission
36 scenario, which is greater than by CMIP5 ensemble: 1.10°C (0.5-1.7°C) and 1.13°C (0.7-
37 1.6°C) respectively. No significant changes in annual rainfall are projected, although it will be
38 temporally more uneven with decreases (6-11%) during the pre-rainy season (March-May)
39 and increases (2-8%) during the rainy season (June-October). The bootstrap technique shows
40 the inter-model uncertainties for rainfall projections in CMIP6 have reduced by 40% compared
41 to CMIP5. The annual number of hot days will increase more than twofold and warm nights,
42 more than threefold. Near-future will experience an increase in the rainfall intensity, a
43 decrease in the number of rainy days, and an increase in the 20-year return values of annual
44 maximum 1-day rainfall and consecutive 5-days rainfall (>30%). In addition, the rainy season
45 will be shortened in the future as onset and retreat are delayed, which may have implications
46 in agricultural activities in the basin since cultivation is primarily rainfed. These findings
47 suggest that anthropogenic activities will significantly amplify the climate extremes. The study
48 results will be useful for managing climate-related risks and developing adaptation measures
49 to improve resilience towards potential climate hazards.

50

51 **Keywords:** Climate change, climate extremes, uncertainties, HighResMIP, Thailand

52

53 1. Introduction

54

55 Anthropogenic activities are major drivers of long-term changes in the earth's climate system.
56 These changes have manifested as rises in global temperature, prolonged heat spells, altered
57 precipitation patterns, increased magnitude and frequency of extreme climatic events, rapid
58 decline of the cryosphere, sea-level rise, etc. (IPCC, 2013). 2015-2019 was the warmest 5-
59 year period in recorded history: it was 1.1 ± 0.1 °C warmer than the per-industrial era (1850-
60 1900) and 0.20 ± 0.08 °C warmer than the 2011-2015 period (WMO, 2019). The estimated
61 rate of temperature increase is currently about 0.2°C (between 0.1°C-0.3°C) per decade due
62 to past and ongoing greenhouse gas emissions (IPCC, 2018). Global warming is expected to
63 further intensify the global water cycle, exacerbate extreme events, and lead to a global
64 redistribution of water resources at multiple temporal and spatial scales (Chen *et al.*, 2017).
65 Warming over the period of several decades has been attributed to changes in large-scale
66 hydrological cycles such as atmospheric water vapor content and changes in rainfall pattern,
67 which ultimately lead to increased flood and drought events (Bates *et al.*, 2008). At the global
68 scale, atmospheric warming and extreme events have been found to have a positive
69 correlation with one another (Alfieri *et al.*, 2017). The impacts of climate change, particularly
70 manifested as increased frequency and severity of extreme hydro-meteorological events, will
71 challenge the reliability of water management systems globally (Quevauviller and Gemmer,
72 2015).

73

74 Extreme climatic events are getting more intense and frequent in recent decades and are likely
75 to worsen under climate change scenarios. Extreme rainfall events are one of the most
76 devastating climate extremes, and they have severe implications for the environment and
77 society (Ohba and Sugimoto, 2019; Kim *et al.*, 2020). With increased temperature, air can
78 hold more moisture and energy, and along with changes in large-scale atmospheric circulation
79 patterns (Schiermeier, 2018), storms are likely to get stronger in the future. Climate change
80 has been reported to contribute to many of the recent extreme events. Burke and Stott (2017)
81 analyzed the data on the East Asian summer monsoon domain from 1960 to 2015 and
82 concluded that anthropogenic climate change has led to a decrease in the summer monsoon
83 rainfall, though most extreme rainfall events are getting more intense and shorter. Sun and
84 Miao (2018) reported that anthropogenic climate change contributed about 35% to extreme
85 precipitation in Yangtze-Huai, China, in June-July 2016. Kew *et al.* (2019) found the probability
86 of heatwaves in southern Europe, similar to that of 2017 is at least 3.5 times higher now
87 compared to 1950. Funk *et al.* (2019) found that an increase in sea surface temperatures due
88 to human activities contributed to the East African drought of 2017. In the case of the South
89 Asian summer monsoon, peak seasonal rainfall is found to have decreased over the period of

90 1951-2011; alongside, there was an increase in the variability of daily-scale rainfall, the
91 frequency of dry spells, and the intensity of wet spells (Singh et al., 2014). In India, the length
92 of dry spells and the total number of dry days have been increasing, along with an increase in
93 short spell heavy rainfall events in recent decades (Mishra and Liu, 2014; Dash and Maity,
94 2019).

95

96 Several recent studies have projected an increase in the frequency and magnitude of extreme
97 rainfall in the future (Hui et al., 2018; Ohba and Sugimoto, 2019; Adeyeri et al., 2019; Di Luca
98 et al., 2020; Kim et al., 2020). A study by Hosseinzadehtalaei et al. (2020) in Europe projected
99 that sub-daily extreme rainfall for 50- and 100-year return periods would be tripled by the end
100 of the 21st century under the high emission scenario. Similarly, Wang et al. (2020) estimated
101 that a rise in global warming by 1.5°C and 2.0°C would increase the 5-day maximum rainfall
102 by 4.0% and 7.6%, and the rainfall in very wet days by 17.4% and 34.4%, respectively. Ali et
103 al. (2019) found that increasing trends in temperature extremes will be higher than the trends
104 of average temperature under all future scenarios in Pakistan. A study conducted by
105 Pendergrass and Knutti (2018) found that almost half of the annual precipitation occurs in the
106 12 wettest days of the year globally, and this uneven temporal distribution will be amplified in
107 the future.

108

109 Thailand is also not immune to extreme climate events as the country frequently experiences
110 floods and droughts. Notably, the recent drought of 2015-17 resulted in an estimated damage
111 of 3.3 billion USD (EM-DAT, 2019) and the catastrophic flooding of 2011/12, prompted by
112 exceptional rainfall events (Limsakul and Singhruck, 2016), caused damages worth
113 approximately 45.7 billion USD (DDPM, 2015). Climate change projection studies in Thailand
114 have shown that temperature will continue to increase in the future; however, projections about
115 rainfall are not unanimous (Babel et al., 2011; Pholkern et al., 2018; Shrestha et al., 2018).
116 Some past studies show that extreme rainfall events in the future are likely to increase
117 (Singhrattna, 2011; Komori et al., 2018; Supari et al., 2020). The assessment of mean climate
118 for the future can provide a broad overview of climate change; however, there are also
119 significant socio-economic impacts on society and the ecosystem due to changes in extreme
120 events, resulting in heatwaves, droughts, storms, and floods (Swain et al., 2020; Tegegne et
121 al., 2020). Thus, it is imperative to assess climate change beyond projected changes in the
122 mean and emphasize changes in extreme events.

123

124 Improving projections and understanding future extremes form the basis for formulating
125 policies and addressing climate-related risks. At present, no such detailed assessment of
126 climate extremes is available for northeast Thailand. The present study attempts to fill the

127 knowledge gap by providing a comprehensive assessment of climate projections in terms of
128 changes in mean and extreme events in northeast Thailand. The near-future period (2021-
129 2050) is focused on because of its relevance to adaptation planning and action.
130 Spatiotemporal changes in/of these extreme events are investigated using temperature and
131 rainfall-based indices. In addition, projected shifts in the rainy season in the near-future are
132 also investigated. To reduce uncertainties and provide a robust future projection, a subset of
133 the climate models from the fifth and sixth phases of Coupled Model Intercomparison Project
134 (CMIP), which have proven to be better at simulating the regional climate of the study area,
135 are utilized. The finding of this study will be useful for updating disaster mitigation plans and
136 policies based on projected changes in climate extremes. It will also have relevance in disaster
137 risk reduction and disaster preparedness, infrastructure planning, and developing adaptation
138 measures for the basin to cope with changes in climate extremes in the future.

139

140 **2. Study Area and Data**

141

142 **2.1. Study area**

143

144 The Mun River Basin (shown in Fig. 1) is the largest in northeast Thailand and has a catchment
145 area of about 53,800 km². It is part of the Korat plateau, where the elevation varies between
146 64 masl in the central region to 1,351 masl in the surrounding hills in the southwest. The basin
147 comprises four provinces, namely Nakhon Ratchasima, Buriram, Surin, Si Sa Ket, and partially
148 another four (Roi Et, Maha Sarakham, Khon Khen, and Ubon Ratchathani). The Mun River is
149 one of the main tributaries of the Mekong River, which originates in the Khao Yai National
150 Park in the Nakhon Ratchasima province. Located between 14.1 to 16.0°N latitudes and 101.2
151 to 104.9°E longitudes, the basin experiences a tropical climate with three distinct seasons.

152

153 The rainy season typically lasts from June till October, when 80% of the annual rainfall occurs.
154 The southwest monsoonal winds from the Indian Ocean and the Intertropical Convergence
155 Zone (ITCZ) are the main drivers of the rainy season (Singhrattna *et al.*, 2012). However, the
156 rainfall anomaly associated with ITCZ represents only 10% of the total rainfall that typically
157 occurs during the monsoon season (Waliser and Jiang, 2015). Byrne *et al.* (2018) assessed
158 the impacts of climate change on ITCZ characteristics using the CMIP5 models and projects
159 no significant change in its location in the 21st century. However, 22 out of 32 models
160 suggested ITCZ will be narrowed in the future by -0.52%/K, and its strength will reduce by
161 0.69%/K warming. These findings show that the southwest monsoon will dominate the
162 projected change in the rainfall in the region under climate change with little impact from a
163 changing ITCZ. Similarly, the winter season in the basin occurs due to the northeast monsoons

164 bringing in cool and dry winds from November to February, and the pre-rainy season goes on
165 from March to May. April is the hottest month with an average temperature of about 30.6°C,
166 while December is the coolest month with an average temperature of 20.2°C. Annual average
167 rainfall varies between 900mm in the western parts to 1,600mm in the eastern parts of the
168 basin.

169

170 **2.2. Data**

171

172 2.2.1. Observed climatic data

173

174 The daily rainfall data collected from 43 stations in the Mun River Basin is interpolated to grids
175 of 0.25 degrees using the inverse distance weighting (IDW) method (as shown in Fig. 1).
176 Similarly, daily maximum temperature (Tmax) and minimum temperature (Tmin) data is
177 acquired from the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) Global Land Surface Air Temperature
178 Analysis (Fan and van den Dool, 2008). In addition to the CPC temperature data, Khadka et
179 al. (unpublished data) compared two other global temperature products - ECMWF Re-Analysis
180 land surface temperature (ERA5 - 0.25° grids) (Hersbach *et al.*, 2020) and The Berkley Earth
181 Surface Temperature land surface air temperature data (BEST – 1.0° grids) (Rohde *et al.*,
182 2013) - with the observed temperature data available at a few stations within the basin. It was
183 found that the CPC data was closer to the observed data with an average correlation
184 coefficient above 0.95 and a Root Mean Square Error of about 0.8°C. CPC data is available
185 since 1979 at the spatial resolution of 0.5°; this was regridded to 0.25° using bilinear
186 interpolation.

187

188 Fig. 2 shows the observed rainfall and temperature in the Mun River Basin for 1981-2010. The
189 annual average rainfall in the basin shows a significant spatial variation with a gradual
190 increment from the west to the east. The Nakhon Ratchasima province in the west receives
191 the least rainfall, while the Si Sa Ket province in the east receives the most rainfall in the basin.
192 The average maximum and minimum temperatures in the basin vary between 32.3°C to
193 33.3°C and 21.9°C to 23.0°C, respectively. The highest temperature has been recorded in the
194 central part, while the lowest is in the south-western region of the basin.

195

196 2.2.2. Climate model simulations

197

198 This study used the multimodel ensemble from CMIP5 and CMIP6 for projecting mean and
199 extreme climate for the near-future period (2021-2050). Khadka *et al.* (2021) ranked 28 climate
200 models from CMIP5 and 32 climate models from CMIP6 for their ability to represent regional

201 climate in southeast Asia, with an emphasis on the simulation of the summer monsoon rainfall
202 using 25 metrics. In the current study, 14 top-ranking models from CMIP5 and 8 models from
203 CMIP6 under the High-Resolution Model Intercomparison Project (HighResMIP), for which
204 data was available at the time of the analysis, have been considered. The details of these
205 climate models used from CMIP5 and CMIP6 are provided in Table 1. For future projections,
206 simulations for an intermediate emission scenario, RCP4.5 (Clarke *et al.*, 2007), and a high
207 emission scenario, RCP8.5 (Rohde *et al.*, 2013), are considered for the CMIP5 models. In
208 CMIP6, new socio-economic development scenarios called Shared Socioeconomic Pathways
209 (SSPs) are used for future projections (O'Neill *et al.*, 2017; Almazroui *et al.*, 2020). The future
210 simulations from the HighResMIP climate models are available for SSP5-8.5. The SSP5-8.5
211 represents a high emission scenario and is similar to RCP8.5 in a radiative forcing pathway
212 (Kriegler *et al.*, 2017).

213

214 Biases in the temperature and rainfall represented by the multimodel ensemble (MME) of
215 CMIP5 and CMIP6 during the 1981-2005 period are presented in Fig. 2. Both CMIP5 and
216 CMIP6 MMEs have spatially consistent negative biases for Tmax and Tmin. It can be seen
217 from the subplots 2d, e, g, and h that the biases for Tmax have reduced in the CMIP6 MME
218 (average of -1.4°C) compared to the CMIP5 MME (average of -2.0°C). However, no
219 improvements can be seen for the Tmin, and the biases are slightly higher in CMIP6 MME
220 (average of -1.5°C) than CMIP5 MME (average of -1.1°C). The biases in the MME rainfall for
221 both CMIPs are less consistent within the basin (Fig. 2f and i). The CMIP5 MME has an
222 average wet bias of 149mm/year, while the CMIP6 MME has a dry bias of -81mm/year.
223 Moreover, CMIP5 MME shows higher (wet) rainfall biases in the western part of the basin
224 while less (or dry) biases in the eastern part, while CMIP6 MME show less (or dry) biases in
225 the western part and higher (dry) biases in the eastern part of the basin. The results show
226 some improvements in simulating the observed climate (rainfall and temperature) by CMIP6
227 MME. Higher spatial resolutions in the CMIP6 model could be one of the reasons for the
228 improvement. However, the results may have also been affected by the different number of
229 models considered from CMIP5 and CMIP6.

230

231 **3. Methodology**

232

233 **3.1. Bias correction using quantile mapping for future projections**

234

235 Since all climate models inherit systemic biases, it is imperative to remove such biases before
236 these models are applied in climate change studies. Bias correction techniques vary in method
237 and purpose: simple linear scaling (Lenderink *et al.*, 2007) corrects the monthly mean; power

238 transformation (Leander and Buishand, 2007) and variance scaling (Chen *et al.*, 2011) correct
239 the mean and the variance; quantile mapping (Ines and Hansen, 2006) corrects the higher-
240 order moments of the distribution. Comparative analyses of various bias correction methods
241 have found that quantile mapping is superior for temperature and rainfall other methods
242 (Teutschbein and Seibert, 2012; Teng *et al.*, 2015; Smitha *et al.*, 2018); hence, we adopted
243 this method in the study. The basic concept of quantile mapping is to compare the cumulative
244 distribution function (CDF) of the climate model with that of observed data for the reference
245 period and generate the correction function, which is then applied for a future time series. It
246 can be expressed as

247

$$248 \text{Var}_{(cor),i} = F_{obs}^{-1}(F_{GCM}(\text{Var}_{(raw),i})) \dots 1$$

249

250 Where Var refers to any climatic variables such as temperature or rainfall from a climate model
251 for any day i ; F_{obs}^{-1} and F_{GCM} are the inverse CDF of the observed climatic variables and the
252 CDF of the corresponding output from the climate model during the reference period.

253

254 Bias correction of rainfall data is carried out using empirical distribution, which avoids
255 assumptions about distribution fitting and corrects rainfall intensity and frequency (Boé *et al.*,
256 2007; Themeßl *et al.*, 2011). This method is more effective in reducing biases than using
257 theoretical distribution (Gudmundsson *et al.*, 2012). For future rainfall values larger than those
258 during the reference period, a correction factor for the highest quantile is used (Boé *et al.*,
259 2007; Themeßl *et al.*, 2012). Bias correction of temperature (both maximum and minimum) is
260 carried out using a normal distribution (Teutschbein and Seibert, 2012). Theoretical
261 distribution is a better choice when frequent extrapolation, as in future temperature, is
262 required. Observed data from 1979-2005 for CMIP5 and 1979-2014 for CMIP6 are used for
263 bias correction in the current study.

264

265 Daily maximum temperature (Tmax), minimum temperature (Tmin), and rainfall are projected
266 for the near-future period of 2021-2050, and the relative changes are assessed with respect
267 to the reference period of 1981-2010. Considering the climate models and the emission
268 scenarios, future projections in the study consist of three cases:

269

- 270 (i) **Case A:** CMIP5 multi-model ensemble under RCP4.5 scenario
- 271 (ii) **Case B:** CMIP5 multi-model ensemble under RCP8.5 scenario
- 272 (iii) **Case C:** CMIP6 multi-model ensemble under SSP5-8.5 scenario

273

274 Case B and Case C allowed for comparison between CMIP5 and CMIP6 models under high
275 emission scenarios. Inter-model uncertainty (IMU) is estimated as the standard deviation (SD)
276 of the projected changes from the climate model ensemble (Hawkins and Sutton, 2012; Gu et
277 al., 2019) given by

278

$$279 \quad IMU = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (M_i - \bar{M})^2} \quad \dots 2$$

280

281 where ' \bar{M} ' is the ensemble mean projected change, and n is the number of climate models.
282 IMU is expressed as a deviation from the ensemble average (in °C for temperature and mm
283 for rainfall).

284

285 **3.2. Climate extreme analysis using ETCCDI**

286

287 The Expert Team on Climate Change Detection and Indices (ETCCDI), a collaboration
288 between the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Commission of Climatology (CCI),
289 and the Climate Variability and Predictability project (CLIVAR), has identified 27 indices for
290 climate extremes (Peterson, 2005; Zhang et al., 2011). These temperature and rainfall-based
291 indices are often used in climate change impact studies and to detect changes in climate
292 extremes (Adeyeri et al., 2019; Chen et al., 2020; Kim et al., 2020). In this study, 14 extreme
293 indices (5 for temperature and 9 for rainfall) are used to assess projected changes in climate
294 extremes for the near-future period. The details of these indices are presented in Table 2.

295

296 The indices are computed on an annual basis for reference and future periods. The Mann-
297 Kendall (M-K) trend test (Mann, 1945; Kendall, 1975) is applied to assess the trends in climate
298 indices. It is a rank-based test that employs Kendall Tau to measure the monotonic
299 relationship between the variables and is not sensitive to whether the trend is linear or non-
300 linear (Hisdal *et al.*, 2001). The test is nonparametric and independent of the distribution of
301 the data. Trends are tested at a 95% significance level ($p < 0.05$). The magnitude of the trends
302 is quantified using Sen's slope estimator, a nonparametric procedure (Sen, 1968). The method
303 computes the linear trend of the time series as a median value of slopes between all data
304 pairs.

305

306 **3.3. Onset and retreat of the rainy season**

307

308 The onset and retreat dates of the rainy season are estimated using the cumulative daily
309 anomaly of average rainfall in the basin, following Noska and Misra (2016) and Misra et al.

310 (2018). The onset date of the rainy season for a given year is defined as the day after the
 311 cumulative anomaly reaches the absolute minimum, and the retreat date is defined as the day
 312 on which the cumulative anomaly reaches the absolute maximum. The cumulative anomaly
 313 for the day i of the year m is computed as

314

$$315 \quad C'_m(i) = \sum_{n=1}^i [R_m(n) - \bar{C}] \dots 3$$

316

$$317 \quad \text{where } \bar{C} = 1/MN \sum_{m=1}^M \sum_{n=1}^N R_m(n) \dots 4$$

318

319 $R_m(n)$ is the daily average rainfall for the day i of year m in the basin and \bar{C} is the climatology
 320 of annual average rainfall over N days in M years.

321

322 The onset and retreat dates are computed for each year during the reference and the future
 323 periods using observed and climate model simulated rainfall data.

324

325 **3.4. Probability distribution**

326

327 To analyze more extreme climate statistics, the annual time series of TXx, TNx, RX1day, and
 328 RX5day are fitted into the Generalized Extreme Value (GEV) distribution, and the magnitudes
 329 of 20-year return period events during the reference and the near-future periods are estimated.
 330 GEV distribution has been extensively applied for climate extremes (Kharin et al., 2013; Kim
 331 et al., 2020). The CDF of GEV distribution is given by:

332

$$333 \quad F(x|\mu, \sigma, k) = \begin{cases} \exp[-\exp(-(x - \mu)/\sigma)], & k = 0 \\ \exp[-\{1 + k(x - \mu)/\sigma\}^{-1/k}], & k \neq 0 \end{cases} \dots 5$$

334

335 Where μ , σ , and k are the location, scale, and shape parameters, respectively. The parameters
 336 are estimated using probability-weighted moments (Greenwood et al., 1979; Hosking et al.,
 337 1985).

338

339 **4. Results and Discussion**

340

341 **4.1. Projected change in mean climate**

342

343 Fig. 3 and Table 3 present the projections of monthly and annual spatially-averaged Tmax,
344 Tmin, and rainfall for the near-future period using the multimodel ensembles from CMIP5 and
345 CMIP6. In the three cases (CMIP5 under RCP4.5, CMIP5 under RCP8.5, and CMIP6 under
346 SSP5-8.5), the temperature is projected to rise in all the months in the near-future period, and
347 the projected increase in Tmin is higher than Tmax. A higher rise in temperatures will be
348 observed from March to May, while the least increase will occur from September to January,
349 as suggested by CMIP5. However, CMIP6 models show the highest Tmin increment during
350 November and December. The average increases in Tmax and Tmin suggested by CMIP5
351 multi-models are, respectively, 0.95°C and 0.97°C under the intermediate emission scenario
352 and 1.10°C and 1.13°C under the high emission scenario. Similarly, the CMIP6 multimodel
353 average indicates an increase of 1.29°C and 1.37°C in Tmax and Tmin relative to the
354 reference period. As is evident, CMIP6's estimates are higher than CMIP5's projections.
355 These results are similar to the findings by Almazroui et al. (2020) for South Asia, where
356 temperature projections by CMIP6 models are 1-3°C higher than those by CMIP5 models for
357 the 21st century. Zelinka et al. (2020) found that the increased sensitivity of CMIP6 models to
358 external forcings is mainly due to stronger positive cloud feedback from decreasing low cloud
359 coverages and albedo. The increased feedbacks are more prominent in the extratropics.

360

361 Unlike the temperature projections, monthly rainfall projection bands do not show any definite
362 direction of future changes (Fig. 3g, h, and i), indicating high variability among the models'
363 projections. However, using the multimodel average, we can estimate that monthly rainfall will
364 decrease during the pre-rainy season (March to May) and increase during the rainy season
365 (June to October) and the cool season (November to February). The pattern is consistent for
366 CMIP5 and CMIP6 as well as for different cases. Overall, annual rainfall is projected to
367 increase by 3% (37mm) for Case A, 4% (48mm) for Case B, and 0.5% (6mm) for Case C in
368 the near-future.

369

370 Annual anomaly time-series of Tmax, Tmin, and rainfall for the reference and the near-future
371 periods are shown in Fig. 4. During the reference period, trends of 0.018°C/year,
372 0.023°C/year, and 4.37mm/year are observed for Tmax, Tmin, and rainfall, respectively.
373 However, only the temperature trends are significant at a 95% confidence level (CL). In the
374 near-future, temperature shows strong increasing trends, significant at 95% CL. The CMIP6
375 multimodel average shows the highest trends for temperatures (about 0.05°C/year), while the
376 trends are the lowest for the CMIP5 multimodel average under RCP4.5 (Case A). For rainfall,
377 though all cases show increasing trends, they are significant only for Case B (4.91mm/year).

378

379 Spatial patterns for projected changes are presented in Fig. 5. Tmax does not show
380 considerable spatial variation in any cases, though the highest temperature rise can be seen
381 in the western part (the Nakhon Ratchasima province) and the south-eastern part (the Si Sa
382 Ket province). For Tmin, the highest increase is in the eastern part (Surin, Roi Et, and Si Sa
383 Ket provinces). The increase is close to 2°C (for Case C), compared to the reference period.
384 The spatial pattern for projected change in rainfall shows variations in the basin within the
385 range of -3% to +9%. Case A projects a decrease in rainfall for some locations in the western
386 parts of the basin (Fig. 5g), while the highest projected increase is in the central part. A similar
387 spatial pattern can also be seen for Case B, although with a higher percentage change. Mixed
388 patterns are observed for Case C, with a projected decrease in rainfall (up to 3%) in the
389 northwest and southeast of the basin. In all the cases, the highest increase is expected in the
390 central part of the basin, while the western part (Nakhon Ratchasima) will observe the least
391 change(increase or decrease) in annual rainfall.

392

393 The spatial pattern of Inter-model uncertainty (IMU), expressed as one standard deviation
394 (SD) from the multimodel average, is presented in Fig. 6. Variations in IMU for temperature
395 projections by the CMIP5 models lie between 0.20°C to 0.36°C and are found to be higher for
396 Tmax. Since IMU for both Tmax and Tmin is less than the projected change for the near-future
397 period, we can conclude that there is good agreement among the models and higher
398 confidence in the projections. Interestingly, temperature projections using CMIP6 models
399 show larger IMU (up to 0.6°C as shown in Fig. 6c and f) than CMIP5 models, despite having
400 fewer ensemble members. It indicates high variation in temperature projections among the
401 ensemble members in CMIP6.

402

403 In contrast, IMU for rainfall is larger in the CMIP5 ensembles than in the CMIP6 ensembles
404 (Fig. 6g, h, and i). IMU for CMIP5 under RCP8.5 (Case B) ranges from 69mm to 158mm in
405 the basin, while for CMIP6 (Case C), it varies between 42mm and 97mm. One argument could
406 be that the reduced IMU in CMIP6 is because of fewer models considered (8 in CMIP6
407 compared to 14 in CMIP5). To address this issue, we applied the bootstrap technique for
408 CMIP5 models in which 8 models are sampled from a pool of 14 models without replacement,
409 and the corresponding IMU is calculated. The procedure is repeated 1,000 times to generate
410 1,000 realizations for statistics. From these 1,000 sets, it is found that the minimum IMU in the
411 basin has an average value of 62mm (with SD of 10mm) and an average maximum value of
412 156mm (with SD of 19mm). These values of IMU are not very different from those calculated
413 using the 14 models and are still higher than the IMU for the CMIP6 multimodel ensemble.
414 Thus, analysis shows that the models' uncertainties for rainfall projection in CMIP6 have
415 reduced compared to CMIP5. Nevertheless, the IMU for rainfall in all cases is significantly

416 higher than the projected changes in the near-future period, which implies that rainfall
417 simulations by these climate models do not have the same level of confidence as for
418 temperature.

419

420 **4.2. Projected changes in climate extremes**

421

422 Fig. 7 presents the projected changes in the climate extremes using ETCCDI indices
423 compared to the baseline period using model ensemble. There is an explicit agreement among
424 the cases that temperature extremes will increase in the near-future and will be more than in
425 the mean temperature (Fig. 7a and b). A 20-year return value of Tmax and Tmin are projected
426 to increase on average by 2.3, 2.4, and 3.3°C and 1.7, 2.0, and 1.8°C for Case A, Case B,
427 and Case C, respectively. In all cases, the increase in TN90p is higher than TX90p, which
428 means a higher frequency of warm nights. It is similar to the findings of Ali et al. (2019). Model
429 ensembles for Case A, Case B, and Case C show that TX90p will increase by 29, 33, and 38
430 days; TN90p will increase by 78, 90, and 110 days; and WSDI will increase by 26, 29, and 32
431 days in the near-future. The spread among the model projections is higher for Case C.

432

433 Projections for the changes in the rainfall extremes are presented in Fig. 7c and d. SDII in the
434 near-future will increase 5-10%. While few GCMs project decrease in the R95p and R99p, the
435 ensemble average suggests an average increase of 4-6% and 8-11%. The 20-year RVs of 1-
436 day and 5-day maximum rainfall are expected to increase by 30-35% and 30-50%,
437 respectively. Similarly, R20 and R40 are also projected to slightly increase (1-5 days) in the
438 future. Interestingly, the annual number of rainy days is projected to decrease by 7, 8, and 6
439 days for Case A, Case B, and Case C, respectively. Model ensembles suggest there will be
440 no change in CDD, although the projected range by individual models varies between -13 to
441 +23 days. Annual CWD is projected to increase marginally (1-3 days).

442

443 The spatial patterns of the projected changes in the climate extremes based on the ensemble
444 average are presented in Fig. 8, Fig. 9, and Fig. 10. TX90p is projected to increase between
445 25-33, 29-37, 34-44 days, and TN90p is projected to increase between 69-88, 80-100, and
446 90-135 days for Case A, Case B, and Case C, respectively. The central part of the basin will
447 observe a higher increase in TX90p, while the southern part will observe a higher increase in
448 TN90p. In addition, WSDI will increase by 21-33 days for Case A, 23-37 days for Case B, and
449 26-40 days for Case C in the basin. These results are suggestive of increased hot days
450 frequency in the near-future.

451

452 All cases suggest increment in the future SDII, particularly in the northern and western parts
453 of the basin (up to 16, 18, and 11% for Case A, Case B, and Case C, respectively). The
454 number of rainy days will also decrease (Fig. 9n, o, and p), which is more prominent in the
455 western part. CMIP5 models show that a higher increase in R95p and R99p will occur in the
456 western parts (Nakhon Ratchasima and Buriram provinces) under both scenarios. In contrast,
457 the CMIP6 model ensemble shows the highest increases in the southern part of Nakhon
458 Ratchasima and Si Sa Ket provinces. CMIP5 models show that an increase in CDD will occur
459 over a larger area and to greater magnitudes than CMIP6 models, although both sets of
460 models agree that the decrease will be more in the western part of the basin. In some areas
461 in the Nakhon Ratchasima province, the projected increase in CDD is up to 13 days. These
462 are the exact locations where extreme rainfall is also projected to increase in the future. It
463 implies that future rainfall will be temporally more uneven, resulting in increased severity for
464 both extremities (wet and dry).

465

466 **4.3. Analysis of climate trends for the reference and the near-future periods**

467

468 Trends for Tmax, Tmin, and rainfall during the reference and the near-future periods are
469 shown in Fig. S1 (Supplementary Material). For the reference period, spatially, the trends for
470 Tmax and Tmin vary between 0.01 – 0.04°C/year and 0.01 – 0.03°C/year, respectively. Trends
471 are more robust in the northeast and southwest for Tmax, while they are stronger in the
472 western part of the basin for Tmin. The spatial variation of these trends appears to reduce in
473 future projections. The near-future trends for Tmax and Tmin are projected to be between
474 0.014-0.020°C/year and 0.021-0.030°C/year for Case A and between 0.021-0.027°C/year and
475 0.029-0.039°C/year for Case B, respectively. Compared to CMIP5, CMIP6 models project
476 significantly higher trends (0.042-0.057°C/year for Tmax and 0.048-0.064°C/year for Tmin).
477 The annual average rainfall during the reference period also shows slightly increasing trends
478 in most of the grids (Fig. S1i), and the results from the CMIP5 multimodel ensemble indicate
479 that the increasing trend will prevail in the near-future period as well (trends under RCP8.5
480 are higher and up to 10 mm/year in the east). No significant trend is observed for most of the
481 grid points using the CMIP6 multimodel ensemble.

482

483 Temperature extremes also show robust increasing trends (presented in Fig. S2 -
484 Supplementary Material), particularly for TN90p. The spatial patterns of rainfall extremes
485 trends are not as consistent or prominent as the temperature, although the variabilities will
486 reduce in the near-future (Fig. S3 – Supplementary Material). The significance of the trend
487 analysis for the climate indices is checked at 95% CL for each grid point. Fig. 11 is a boxplot
488 providing information on the number of grids for which the trends are significant in the climate

489 model ensemble during the reference and the near-future periods. The number of grids with
490 trends significant at 95% CL is higher for temperature indices than the rainfall indices. During
491 the reference period, the trends significant at 95% CL for annual Tmin are observed in 91 grids
492 (entire basin) while they are significant in 75 grids for annual Tmax and 29 grids for annual
493 rainfall. The number of grid points with trends significant at 95% CL for annual rainfall will be
494 less in the future compared to the reference period For temperature indices, number of grids
495 with significant trends will increase for all cases while for rainfall indices, only a few grids
496 (below 20) have significant trends. Further details on the trend analyses can be referred in the
497 Appendix S1 (Supplementary Material). Overall analyses suggest more confidence in the
498 increase in temperature extremes than in rainfall extremes. It is also evident that temperature
499 extremes will be felt across a larger spatial extent.

500

501 **4.4. Projected changes in the onset and retreat of the rainy season**

502

503 The simulations of the onset and retreat dates of the rainy season vary significantly among
504 the climate models during the reference period. While the median onset date for the
505 observation is 27 April, most climate models (10 out of 14 CMIP5 and 4 out of 8 CMIP6 GCMs)
506 show the late onset of the rainy season (Fig. 12). Similarly, the median retreat dates are early
507 for 12 out of 14 CMIP5 and all 8 CMIP6 climate models compared to the observed date (16
508 October) for the reference period. In general, climate models appear to simulate a shorter
509 rainy season than the observed data suggests. The variability of the onset date, measured by
510 inter-quartile range (IQR), for most climate models is also higher than the observed data.
511 However, the variability is comparable for the retreat dates.

512

513 In the near-future period, projections using climate models show a general trend of delay in
514 the onset of the rainy season. The projected changes in the median value of the onset, retreat,
515 and length of the rainy season are presented in Fig. S4 (Supplementary Material). For Case
516 A, 9 out of 14, for Case B, 11 out of 14, and for Case C, 6 out of 8 models show a delay in the
517 onset dates compared to the respective median dates during the reference period. Similarly,
518 median values also show that for Case A, 10 out of 14, for Case B, 9 out of 14, and for Case
519 C, 4 out of 8 models predict a late retreat of the rainy season in the near-future period.
520 However, results from most of the models show a reduction in the length of the rainy season.
521 For Case A, 9 models show a decrease in the rainy season length on average by 9 days; Case
522 B, 6 models show an average decrease of 5 days, while 8 models show an average increase
523 of 5 days; Case C, 5 models show an average decrease of 13 days. Among CMIP5 models,
524 FGOALS-s2 and MIROC5 show the most changes in the onset and retreat dates, while similar

525 changes are exhibited by CNRM-CM6-1, EC-Earth3P-HR, and HadGem3-GC31-MM in
526 CMIP6.

527

528 Fig. 12 also suggests that variability (especially for the onset date) in the near-future period
529 will be significantly more than during the reference period. With the reduced length of the rainy
530 season and increased variabilities in the onset and retreat dates, future rainfall is likely to have
531 more extremes (as previously suggested by the extreme indices). The projected changes in
532 the onset date of the rainy season will not only have implications for climate extremes and
533 severely affects agricultural activities in the basin since cultivation here is primarily rainfed.

534

535 **4.5. Return periods of annual maxima of temperature and rainfall**

536

537 Spatial patterns of 20-year return period values (RVs) for TXx, TNx, RX1day, and RX5day
538 during the reference and the near-future periods (using the multimodel average) are presented
539 in Fig. 13. 20-year RVs of TXx and TNx are expected to increase by 2.30 and 1.72 for Case
540 A, by 2.38 and 2.05 for Case B, and 3.18 and 1.87 °C for Case C. Higher increment in the RV
541 of TXx is projected for the northwestern part (in the Nakhon Ratchasima province) while for
542 TNx, the RV is projected for the northeastern part of the basin (in Roi Et and Si Sa Ket
543 provinces). The results show that projected changes in RVs are greater than the average
544 temperature changes. Similarly, RVs of RX1day and RX5day are also expected to increase in
545 the future. The CMIP5 multimodel ensemble suggests that projected increases in RX5day will
546 be higher than in RX1day, while the CMIP6 model ensemble shows a similar percentage
547 increase in both extremes. RX1day and RX5day are projected to increase by 31 and 48% for
548 Case A, 32 and 49% for Case B, and 31 and 26% for Case C in the near-future period. The
549 RVs for rainfall are higher in the eastern part of the basin compared to the western part.

550

551 The projected changes in the future rainfall can be either attributed to changes in the dynamic
552 component (pertinent to changes in the large-scale convergence) or the thermodynamic
553 component (pertinent to changes in the atmospheric moisture content). The Asian monsoon
554 systems are primarily caused by shifts in atmospheric circulation (Oh *et al.*, 2018), driven by
555 the thermal contrast between the Euroasian landmass and the surrounding oceans (Wang *et al.*,
556 2014). For the South Asian Summer monsoon (covering the study area), (Walker *et al.*,
557 2015) estimate that the dynamic component accounts for 92% of the annual rainfall variability
558 while the thermodynamic component accounts for only 8%. This implies that changes in the
559 dynamic components under climate change are the main driver of future rainfall changes. In
560 addition, Sørland and Sorteberg (2015) and Sudharsan *et al.* (2020) reported that changes in
561 dynamics also dominate changes in the extreme rainfall event over the South Asian Monsoon

562 domain. Under the climate change scenario, Dairaku and Emori (2006) also found that
563 extreme rainfall over the South Asian landmass will be enhanced due to changes in the
564 dynamics. In the case of the study area, although the annual rainfall is not projected to change
565 significantly in the future, extreme rainfall events (as indicated by SDII, R95p, R99p, RX1day,
566 and RX5day) will increase and are likely to be contributed by changes in the atmospheric
567 circulation governing the summer monsoonal rainfall. Verification of contributions of dynamics
568 and thermodynamics changes in the extreme climate in the basin is beyond the scope of the
569 present study and will be undertaken in future work.

570

571 **4.6. Inter- and Intra- CMIP comparison of near-future projections for the high emission** 572 **scenario**

573

574 The projected mean and the extreme climate by the individual models from CMIP5 and CMIP6
575 under the high emission scenario (RCP8.5 for CMIP5 and SSP5-8.5 for CMIP6 models) are
576 compared. Although the numbers of models considered in CMIP5 and CMIP6 are different,
577 the results can still show the climatic response of the models under the high emission external
578 forcings scenario. Table 4 presents the basin's average projected changes in mean and the
579 extreme climate indices by each model considered in the study. The 14-member CMIP5
580 ensemble shows that the highest increase in average temperature is projected by HadGEM2-
581 AO, FGOALS-s2, GFDL-CM3, and IPSL-CM5A-MR, while CNRM-CM5, BNU-ESM, and
582 NorESM1-M project the lowest increases. It is also found that changes in mean temperature
583 have strong positive correlations with changes in temperature extremes (correlation of 0.90
584 with TX90p, 0.93 with TN90p, and 0.81 with WSDI). HadGEM2-AO projected the highest
585 increases in temperature extremes (64, 123, and 63 days annually for TX90p, TN90p, and
586 WSDI respectively) while CNRM-CM5 projected the lowest increases (13, 53, and 8 days
587 annually for TX90p, TN90p, and WSDI, respectively). Similarly, like temperature indices,
588 projected changes in average rainfall also appear to have a strong correlation with the
589 projected changes in rainfall extremes. For instance, rainfall has a positive correlation with
590 SDII (0.65), R20 (0.91), R40 (0.84), and wet days count (0.72), and a negative correlation with
591 R95p (-0.51) and R99p (-0.41). No significant correlation is found with CDD and CWD. Can-
592 ESM2, IPSL-CM5A-MR, MPI-ESM-MR, and NorESM1-M show the biggest changes in rainfall
593 extremes in the near-future period.

594

595 For the 8-member CMIP6 ensemble, all the models from MOHC have projected higher
596 increases in temperature indices, while models from CNRM have projected the least increase
597 (same as in the CMIP5 ensemble). The correlations between average temperature changes
598 with changes in temperature extremes are above 0.9 for CMIP5 models. Similarly, the

599 correlations between average rainfall changes with rainfall extremes are also more in CMIP6
600 (0.86 for SDII, 0.98 for R20, 0.81 for R40, 0.83 for wet days count, -0.54 for R95p, and -0.60
601 for R99p). It shows that an increase in average rainfall in the future will most likely be reflected
602 as an increase in extreme rainfall. Overall, the assessment of the climate in CMIP6 shows
603 higher temperature extremes than by CMIP5 models. However, the multimodel ensemble of
604 CMIP6 is primarily influenced by climate models from MOHC (4 out of 8), which have projected
605 the highest increases. For extreme rainfall indices, the CMIP6 ensemble results are less
606 severe than the results of the CMIP5 ensemble. It is also worth noting that models which
607 project higher severities in temperature indices show moderate severities in rainfall indices
608 and vice-versa.

609

610 **5. Conclusions**

611

612 There is consensus among the scientific community that climate change has been contributing
613 to many recent extreme events, and such events are likely to increase in severity and
614 frequency in the future. Assessments of how the extremes will change under climate change
615 scenarios can provide vital information for managing climate-related risks and developing
616 climate change adaptation measures, ultimately helping to improve human resilience towards
617 these potential hazards. This study provides a comprehensive assessment of the changes in
618 mean and extreme climate conditions in northeast Thailand for the near-future period (2021-
619 2050).

620

621 Climate simulations from 14 CMIP5 and 8 CMIP6 models are bias-corrected using the quantile
622 mapping method, and the projected changes are assessed using 14 ETCCDI and 20-year
623 return values. We found that the rate of temperature increase in the near-future will be higher
624 than the rate observed in the recent decades, and the project changes in extremes will exceed
625 the mean changes. Notably, the latest climate models from CMIP6 show that temperature
626 might increase by up to 0.5°C per decade. The maximum increase in average temperature
627 will be during the pre-rainy season months (March to May). The projected changes in annual
628 rainfall are not as unanimous among the climate models as for temperature. Only about half
629 of the climate models from both phases suggest an increase in annual rainfall. Though no
630 significant change in annual average rainfall is projected, monthly climatology shows that
631 rainfall will decrease during the pre-rainy season (March to May) and increase during the rainy
632 season (June to October). For temperature, model-related uncertainties (assessed using IMU)
633 are higher in CMIP6 than CMIP5, although the projected temperature changes in both CMIP
634 phases are much more significant than the uncertainties. For rainfall, model-related
635 uncertainties are reduced in CMIP6 (by 40%); however, they are still larger than the projected

636 changes. As rainfall involves complicated physical processes, feedback, and interactions
637 among various climate system components, it may not be fully represented by current climate
638 models. Moreover, rainfall often occurs at a spatial extent smaller than a climate model's
639 resolutions. So, rainfall projections are associated with larger uncertainties than temperature.
640 In CMIP6, an improved resolution of the models could be a reason for reduced IMU for rainfall
641 than in CMIP5 models. The reduced length of the rainy season, along with the increased
642 variability in the onset and retreat dates, will certainly have implications for future extremes
643 and agricultural activities in the basin.

644

645 Significant increases in TX90p, TN90p, and WSDI are projected for the near-future period,
646 especially under high emission scenario and by CMIP6 climate models. Increases in Tmin
647 indices are higher than those for Tmax, suggesting that warmer nights in the future will heavily
648 contribute to the rise in temperature. The results also suggest that hot spells will be more
649 frequent and more prolonged in the near-future period. The magnitude of extreme rainfall is
650 also expected to increase, although the projected increase by CMIP6 models is smaller than
651 by CMIP5 models. All the CMIP6 models (except HadGem3-GC31-HM) project that average
652 rainfall intensity will increase in the future, and most of the models (10 out of 14 CMIP5 and 7
653 out of 8 CMIP6) indicate a decrease in the annual number of rainy days, by as much as 15
654 days. Along with these, the projected increase in R20, R40, R95p, and R99p points towards
655 the temporal redistribution of rainfall, which will result in increased severity of both rainfall
656 extremities (wet and dry). The multimodel ensembles used here also suggest that the 20-year
657 RV of RX1day and RX5day will increase by more than 30%. It will have severe implications
658 for the design of infrastructure since the current design criteria may prove inadequate.

659

660 This study has provided an assessment of climate extremes based on multimodel ensembles
661 from CMIP5 and CMIP6. The present work can be taken further to assess impacts on the
662 basin's hydrology and for developing appropriate water resources management strategies.

663

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673

674 **Conflict of Interest**

675

676 The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal
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926

Table 1: Details of climate models selected from CMIP5 and CMIP6.

S.N.	Model Designation	Modeling Group	Atmospheric resolution (lat x lon)	Number of vertical levels	Ensemble member
CMIP5					
1.	ACCESS1-0	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) and Bureau of Meteorology (BOM), Australia	1.25° x 1.875°	38	r1i1p1
2.	BNU-ESM	Beijing Normal University	2.8° x 2.8°	26	r1i1p1
3.	CanESM2	Canadian Centre for Climate Modelling and Analysis	2.8° x 2.8°	35	r1i1p1
4.	CCSM4	US National Center for Atmospheric Research	0.9° x 1.25°	27	r1i1p1
5.	CMCC-CM	Centro Euro-Mediterraneo per I Cambiamenti Climatici	0.75° x 0.75°	31	r1i1p1
6.	CNRM-CM5	Centre National de Recherches Meteorologiques / Centre Europeen de Recherche et Formation Avancees en Calcul Scientifique	1.4° x 1.4°	31	r1i1p1
7.	FGOALS-s2	The State Key Laboratory of Numerical Modeling for Atmospheric Sciences and Geophysical Fluid Dynamics, The Institute of Atmospheric Physics	1.7° x 2.8°	26	r1i1p1
8.	GFDL-CM3	NOAA Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory	2° x 2.5°	24	r1i1p1
9.	HadGEM2-AO	National Institute of Meteorological Research/ Korea Meteorological Administration	1.25° x 1.875°	60	r1i1p1
10.	HadGEM2-ES	UK Met Office Hadley Centre	1.25° x 1.875°	38	r1i1p1
11.	IPSLCM5A-MR	Institut Pierre-Simon Laplace, France	1.25° x 2.5°	39	r1i1p1
12.	MIROC5	University of Tokyo, National Institute for Environmental Studies, and Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology	1.4° x 1.4°	40	r1i1p1
13.	MPI-ESM-MR	Max Planck Institute for Meteorology (MPI-M)	1.875° x 1.875°	95	r1i1p1
14.	Nor-ESM1-M	Norwegian Climate Centre	1.9° x 2.5°	26	r1i1p1
CMIP6					
1.	CNRM-CM6-1	Centre National de Recherches Meteorologiques (CNRM)/ Centre Europeen de Recherche et Formation Avancees en Calcul Scientifique	1.4° x 1.4°	91	r1i1p1f2
2.	CNRM-CM6-1-HR	Centre National de Recherches Meteorologiques (CNRM) / Centre Europeen de Recherche et Formation Avancees en Calcul Scientifique	0.5° x 0.5°	91	r1i1p1f2
3.	EC-Earth3P	EC-EARTH consortium	0.7° x 0.7°	91	r1i1p2f1
4.	EC-Earth3P-HR	EC-EARTH consortium	0.35° x 0.35°	91	r1i1p2f1
5.	HadGEM3-GC31-HH	UK Met Office Hadley Centre	0.23° x 0.35°	85	r1i1p1f1
6.	HadGEM3-GC31-HM	UK Met Office Hadley Centre	0.23° x 0.35°	85	r1i1p1f1
7.	HadGEM3-GC31-MM	UK Met Office Hadley Centre	0.55° x 0.83°	85	r1i1p1f1
8.	HadGEM3-GC31-LL	UK Met Office Hadley Centre	1.25° x 1.875°	85	r1i1p1f1

930 **Table 2:** Details of ETCCDI used in the study.

931

S.N.	Index	Description	unit
1.	TX90p	Time when daily maximum temperature > 90th percentile	day
2.	TN90p	Time when daily minimum temperature > 90th percentile	day
3.	TXx	1-day maximum of daily maximum temperature	°C
4.	TNx	1-day maximum of daily minimum temperature	°C
5.	WSDI	Annual count when at least six consecutive days of maximum temperature > 90th percentile	day
6.	RX1day	Annual maximum 1 day precipitation	mm
7.	RX5day	Annual maximum consecutive 5 days precipitation	mm
8.	SDII	The ratio of annual total precipitation to the number of wet days (≥ 1 mm)	mm/day
9.	R20	Annual count when precipitation ≥ 20 mm	day
10.	R40	Annual count when precipitation ≥ 40 mm	day
11.	CDD	Maximum number of consecutive days when precipitation < 1 mm	day
12.	CWD	Maximum number of consecutive days when precipitation ≥ 1 mm	day
13.	R95p	Annual total precipitation from days > 95th percentile	mm
14.	R99p	Annual total precipitation from days > 99th percentile	mm

932

933

934 **Table 3:** Monthly and annual projected changes in Tmax, Tmin, and rainfall in the near-future
 935 period using the multimodel average of CMIP5 and CMIP6.
 936

Climatic variables	Period	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Tmax (°C)	1981-2010	31.23	33.67	35.56	36.3	34.66	33.64	32.99	32.41	31.9	31.27	30.74	29.97	32.86
	2021-2050	Projected change in °C												
	CMIP5 - RCP4.5	0.85	0.76	1.27	1.42	1.20	0.83	1.18	1.00	0.81	0.75	0.67	0.69	0.95
	CMIP5 - RCP8.5	1.12	0.93	1.41	1.50	1.37	1.00	1.24	1.10	0.97	0.84	0.86	0.80	1.10
	CMIP6 – SSP5-8.5	1.10	1.23	1.45	1.52	1.44	1.07	1.20	1.27	1.12	1.22	1.45	1.42	1.29
Tmin (°C)	1981-2010	18.17	20.67	23.06	24.80	24.91	24.87	24.52	24.34	24.02	23.13	20.74	18.07	22.61
	2021-2050	Projected change in °C												
	CMIP5 - RCP4.5	1.03	0.94	1.09	1.16	1.06	0.91	1.18	1.07	0.73	0.82	0.92	0.90	0.98
	CMIP5 - RCP8.5	1.34	1.15	1.25	1.27	1.20	1.07	1.29	1.25	0.88	0.93	1.06	0.92	1.13
	CMIP6 – SSP5-8.5	1.45	1.43	1.29	1.26	1.40	1.28	1.50	1.41	0.96	1.11	1.65	1.77	1.37
Rainfall (mm)	1981-2010	5.0	15.1	40.9	83.1	163.1	154.5	164.6	203.4	244.5	137.3	28.8	2.8	1,243
	2021-2050	Projected change in mm												
	CMIP5 - RCP4.5	1.2	2.5	-2.5	-10.5	-9.9	2.1	0.6	11.2	27.6	9.3	4.2	1.6	37
	CMIP5 - RCP8.5	2.5	2.0	-6.2	-11.1	-13.3	4.5	9.0	16.4	24.9	15.2	3.6	1.2	49
	CMIP6 – SSP5-8.5	1.3	-0.5	-3.0	-8.9	-4.1	16.8	0.6	-4.4	6.2	0.8	0.1	1.4	6

937

938 **Table 4:** Comparison of projections by climate models from CMIP5 and CMIP6 for the high emission scenario.

939

ID	Climate models	Projected changes in												Projected changes in 20-year return period					
		Tmax	Tmin	Rainfall	TX90p	TN90p	WSDI	SDII	R20	R40	wet days	R95p	R99p	CDD	CWD	TXx	TNx	RX1day	RX5day
		(units)	(°C)	(°C)	(%)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(%)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(%)	(%)	(days)	(days)	(°C)	(°C)	(%)
CMIP5																			
1.	ACCESS1-0	1.22	1.17	-6.7%	51	106	51	10%	-0.2	0.5	-17.9	5.0%	2.5%	-4	4	1.18	1.81	10%	30%
2.	BNU-ESM	0.75	0.92	12.1%	21	95	15	11%	2.7	1.8	0.8	1.4%	0.8%	16	7	1.79	1.55	18%	56%
3.	Can-ESM2	1.20	1.16	14.3%	37	98	26	20%	4.1	1.9	-5.4	3.1%	2.3%	-11	1	2.51	2.10	44%	53%
4.	CCSM4	1.04	0.75	-1.0%	17	68	16	4%	0.1	0.0	-6.5	1.5%	0.9%	4	1	2.82	1.41	21%	33%
5.	CMCC-CM	1.01	1.24	1.9%	29	82	27	15%	2.1	1.4	-14.0	4.2%	1.7%	23	1	1.86	2.36	22%	13%
6.	CNRM-CM5	0.47	0.81	10.5%	13	54	8	8%	1.4	0.8	2.1	0.5%	1.7%	-13	0	1.38	1.72	85%	63%
7.	FGOALS-s2	0.91	1.44	-3.8%	31	119	23	7%	-0.5	0.9	-11.9	5.6%	3.7%	-1	0	2.69	3.14	28%	44%
8.	GFDL-CM3	1.56	1.46	-0.8%	46	116	40	10%	1.1	0.5	-12.6	3.3%	1.5%	6	7	2.91	2.32	19%	69%
9.	HadGEM2-ES	0.87	0.90	-10.1%	30	70	35	3%	-1.6	-0.3	-16.1	4.6%	2.6%	1	1	0.34	0.63	19%	29%
10.	HadGEM2-AO	1.71	1.59	-2.9%	65	124	63	3%	-1.7	0.1	-7.7	2.4%	2.6%	-5	2	2.17	2.11	26%	35%
11.	IPSL-CM5A-MR	1.50	1.15	12.0%	45	110	38	21%	3.3	1.8	-9.7	3.0%	2.2%	2	7	5.10	2.93	82%	129%
12.	MIROC5	0.95	1.23	6.7%	26	79	19	4%	1.4	0.5	2.5	-1.3%	-0.6%	0	6	2.45	2.49	11%	24%
13.	MPI-ESM-MR	1.18	1.29	10.6%	33	78	29	20%	3.6	2.1	-8.7	3.4%	1.9%	13	1	2.63	2.53	24%	33%
14.	NorESM1-M	0.97	0.77	12.9%	20	63	22	12%	3.2	2.0	1.0	2.2%	1.2%	-13	2	3.52	1.58	36%	72%
CMIP6																			
1.	CNRM-CM6-1-HR	0.99	1.12	9.9%	32	81	20	8%	3.0	0.9	1.0	-0.9%	-0.5%	-11	4	2.49	1.05	5%	6%
2.	CNRM-CM6-1	1.14	1.18	-1.5%	30	70	21	2%	-0.5	0.2	-5.0	2.0%	1.7%	-7	3	2.32	1.48	21%	33%
3.	EC-Earth3P-HR	1.18	1.42	2.1%	26	99	30	7%	1.3	0.7	-5.8	2.0%	1.2%	5	4	2.23	2.25	16%	21%
4.	EC-Earth3P	0.80	1.07	2.6%	17	67	20	7%	0.8	1.0	-4.5	2.6%	1.6%	-1	2	1.86	1.65	16%	16%
5.	HadGem3-GC31-HH	1.82	1.89	-0.1%	49	141	43	5%	0.0	0.1	-6.2	2.2%	2.2%	1	-2	4.10	2.21	70%	42%
6.	HadGem3-GC31-HM	1.97	1.97	-5.2%	53	144	36	-1%	-1.1	-0.4	-6.1	1.4%	1.0%	-6	-2	4.17	1.80	32%	13%
7.	HadGem3-GC31-LL	1.80	1.93	2.3%	49	144	49	8%	1.2	1.0	-6.9	3.7%	2.3%	-6	0	4.15	1.99	44%	46%
8.	HadGem3-GC31-MM	1.90	1.80	-5.2%	54	139	42	1%	-1.2	0.1	-8.4	3.0%	2.1%	-5	-2	5.18	1.94	44%	28%

940