

# The fate of African tropical flora under climate change

Gilles Dauby

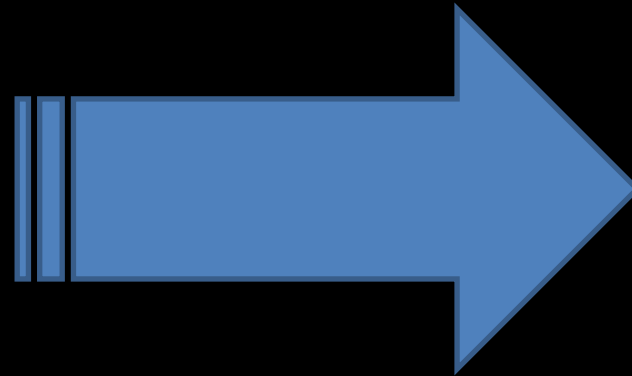
Deblauwe V., Blach-Overgaard A. , Svenning J-C. Sepulchre P.,  
Couvreur T.L.P.

& RAINBIO consortium

# Impact of climate change on biodiversity is challenging

## Climate change components

<b>Temperature</b> Means Extremes Variability Seasonality
<b>Rainfall</b> Means Extremes Variability Seasonality
<b>Extreme events</b> Droughts Fires
<b>Atmospheric [CO2]</b>

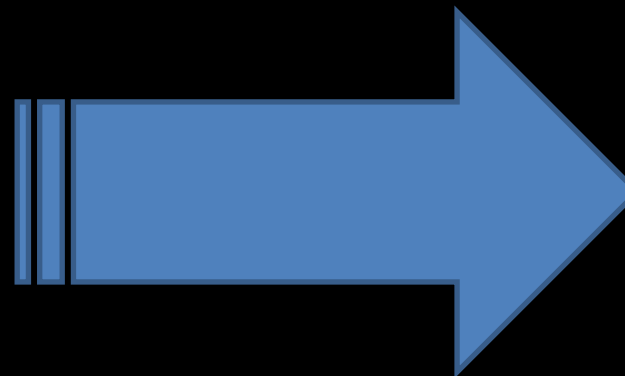
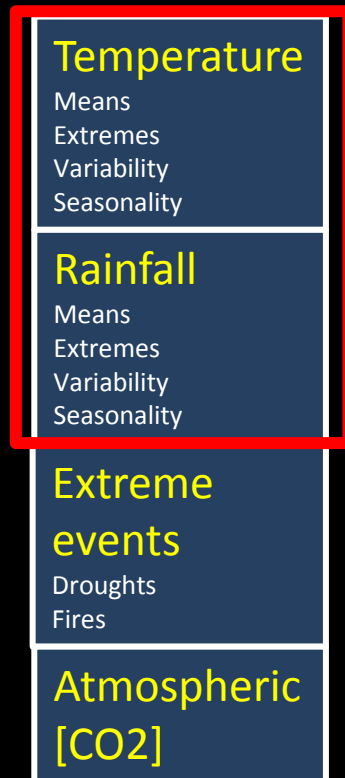


## Biodiversity components

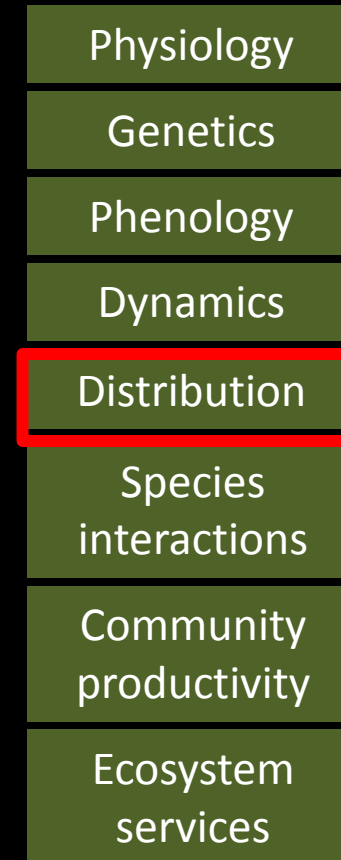
Physiology
Genetics
Phenology
Dynamics
Distribution
Species interactions
Community productivity
Ecosystem services

# Impact of climate change on biodiversity is challenging

## Climate change components



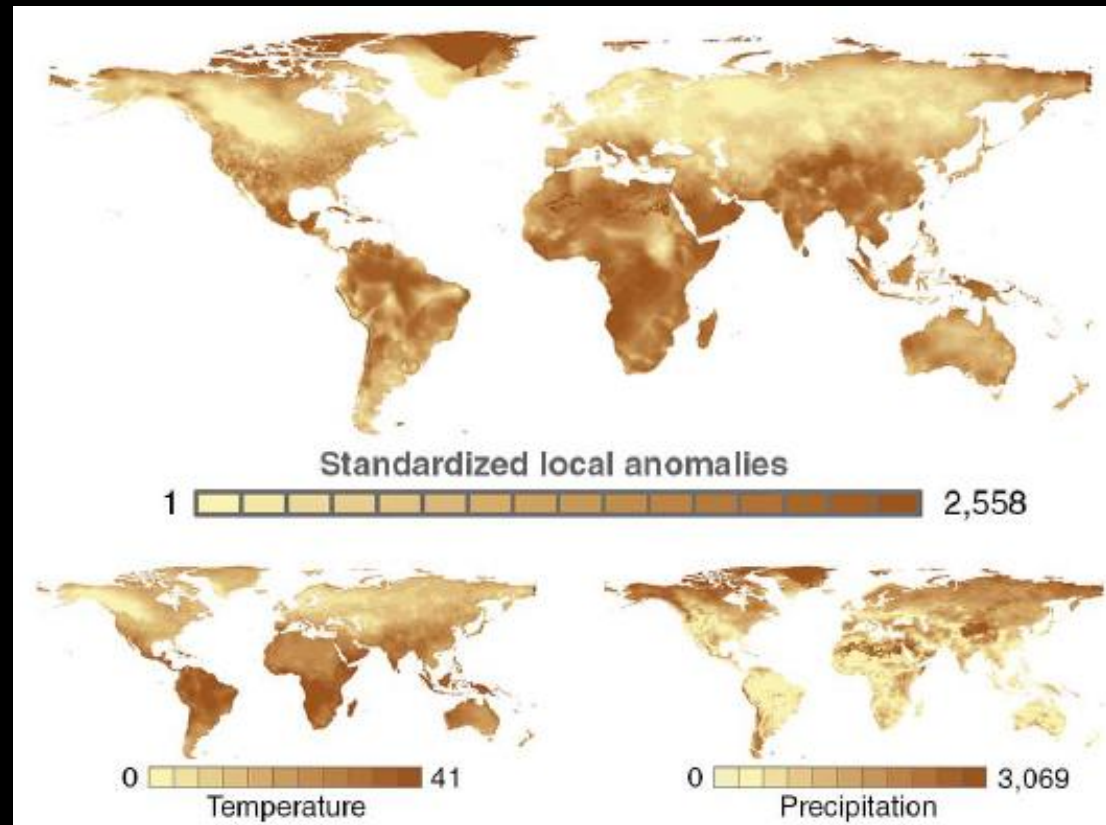
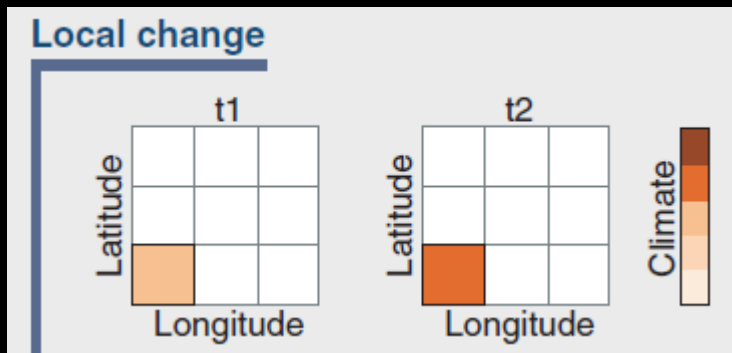
## Biodiversity components



Two widely applied approaches

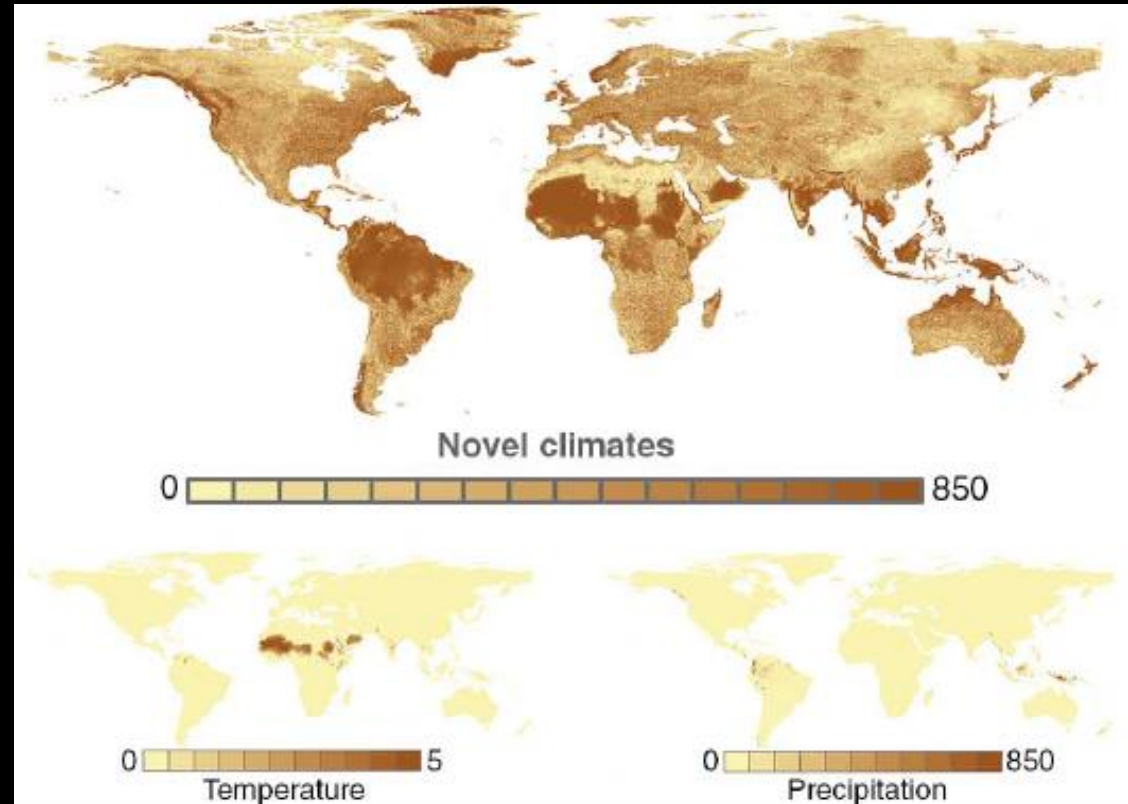
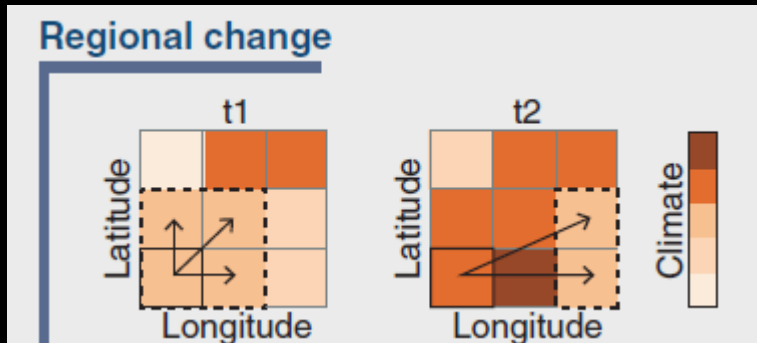
# Two widely applied approaches

## 1: Characterization of the multiple dimensions of climate change



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# Two widely applied approaches

## 1: Characterization of the multiple dimensions of climate change

- Easy to implement

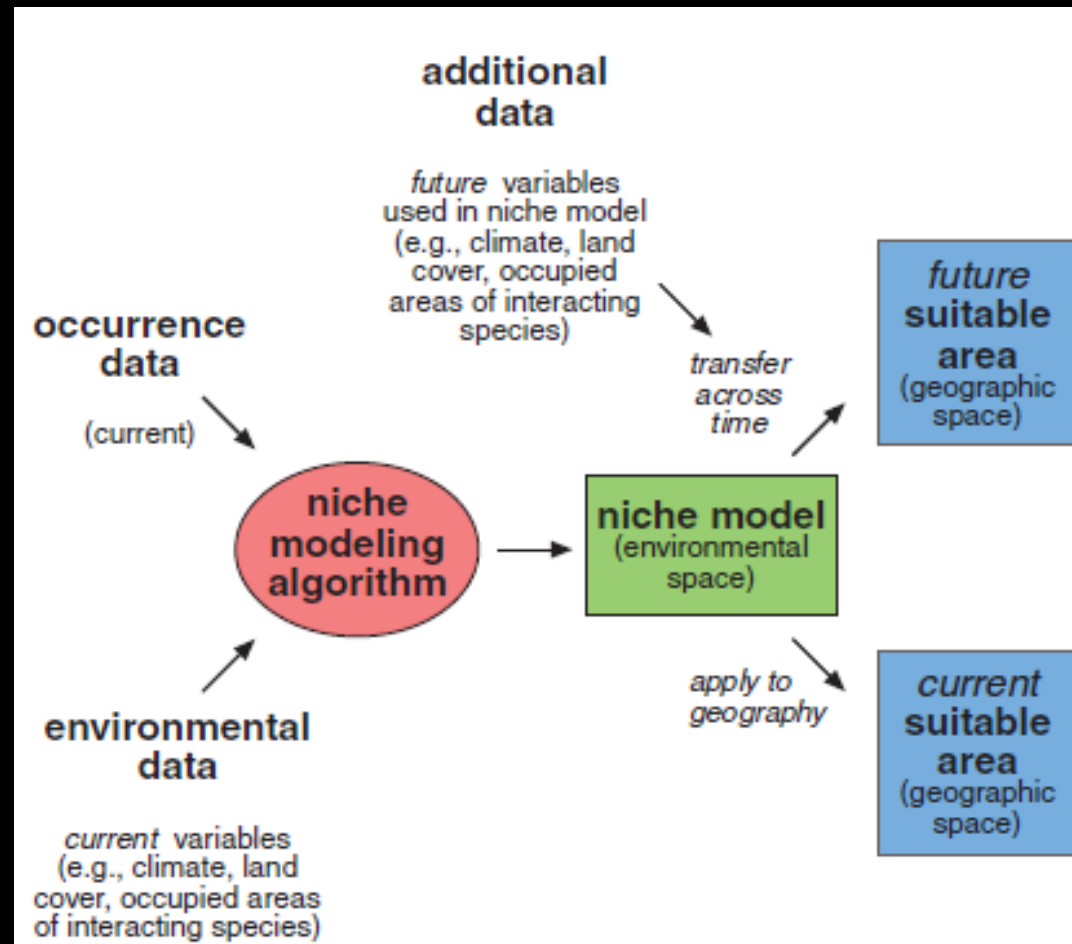
Present-day + projected climates conditions

- Identify the multiple components of CC  
Each with distinct threats to biodiversity

- 
- *A priori* risk factors  
No clue on biodiversity responses

# Two widely applied approaches

## 2: Assessing species suitability dynamics using correlative ecological niche modelling





# Two widely applied approaches

2: Assessing species suitability dynamics  
using correlative ecological niche modelling

Relatively easy to implement  
Potential response of species CC

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## Correlative models

Projections into new climatic conditions → require **extrapolation** in  
conditions not experimented by species

Suitability dynamics → not easy to identify **drivers**

# Two widely applied approaches

1: Climate change dimensions approach

Complementary

2: Niche model approach

Potential drivers

Novel climates



Potential responses

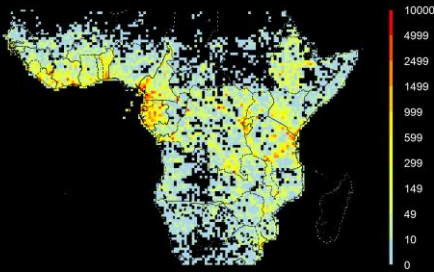
Uncertainty in projections

# Goal

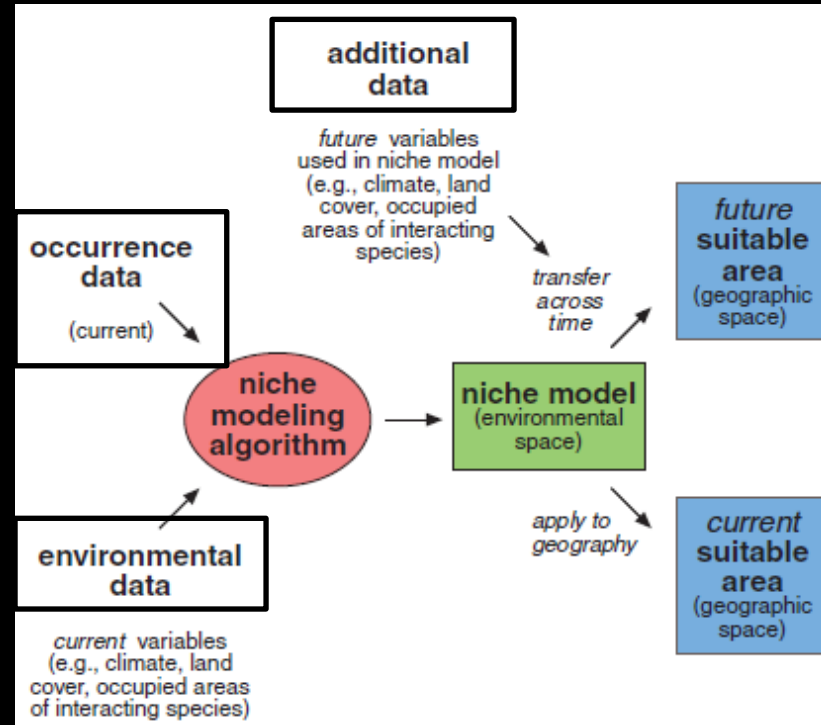
Apply this two approaches in parallel  
for inferring  
impact of climate change  
on the  
flora of Tropical Africa

# Niche model approach

## RAINBIO database

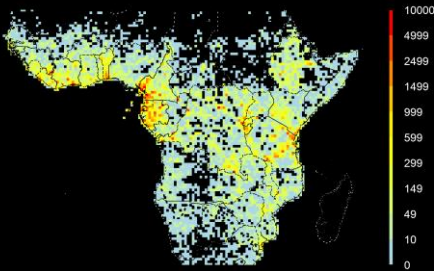


- > 600,000 georeferenced records
- > 8,000 species



# Niche model approach

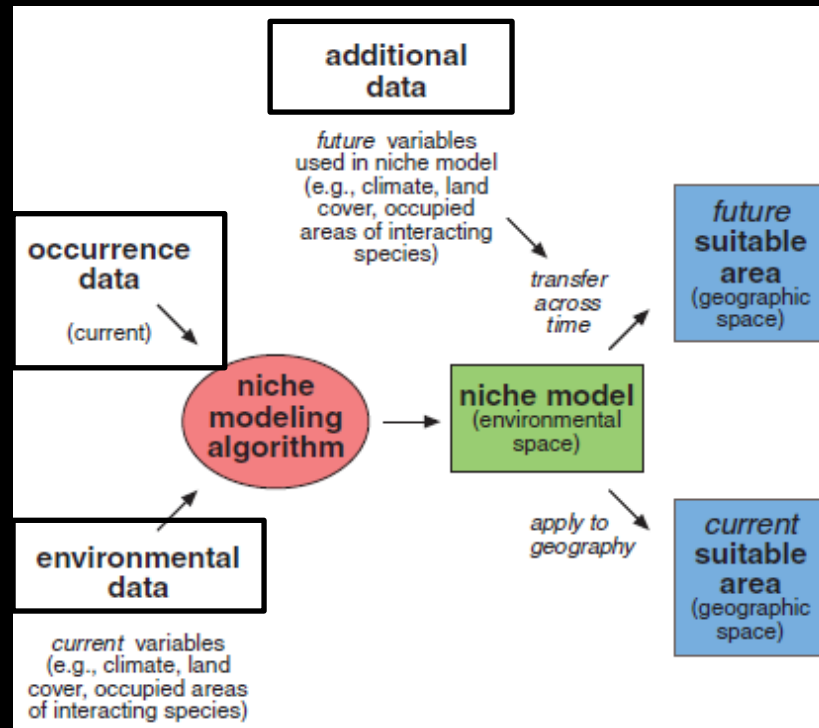
## RAINBIO database



- > 600,000 georeferenced records
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## 6 climatic predictors

- mean annual temperature (wc)
- temperature seasonality (wc)
- minimum temperature of the coolest month (wc)
- rainfall deficit (wc+chirps)
- water balance seasonality (wc+chirps)
- annual water balance (wc+chirps)



AFRICLIM: high-resolution climate projections for ecological applications in Africa

Philip J. Platts<sup>1\*</sup>, Peter A. Omeny<sup>2</sup> and Rob Marchant<sup>1</sup>

## Projected climates

- 10 coupled Atmosphere-Ocean General Circulation Models (GCM)
- RCP 4.5 (global mean temperature increase of 1.1° to 2.6°)
- 10' arc minutes resolution
- [2071-2090] period

## 6 climatic predictors

mean annual temperature (wc)

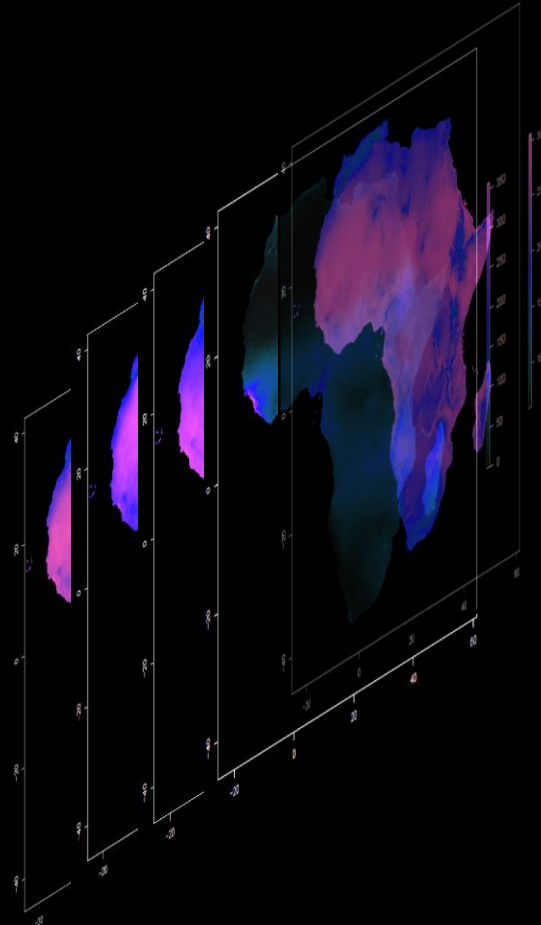
temperature seasonality (wc)

minimum temperature of the coolest month (wc)

rainfall deficit (wc+chirps)

water balance seasonality (wc+chirps)

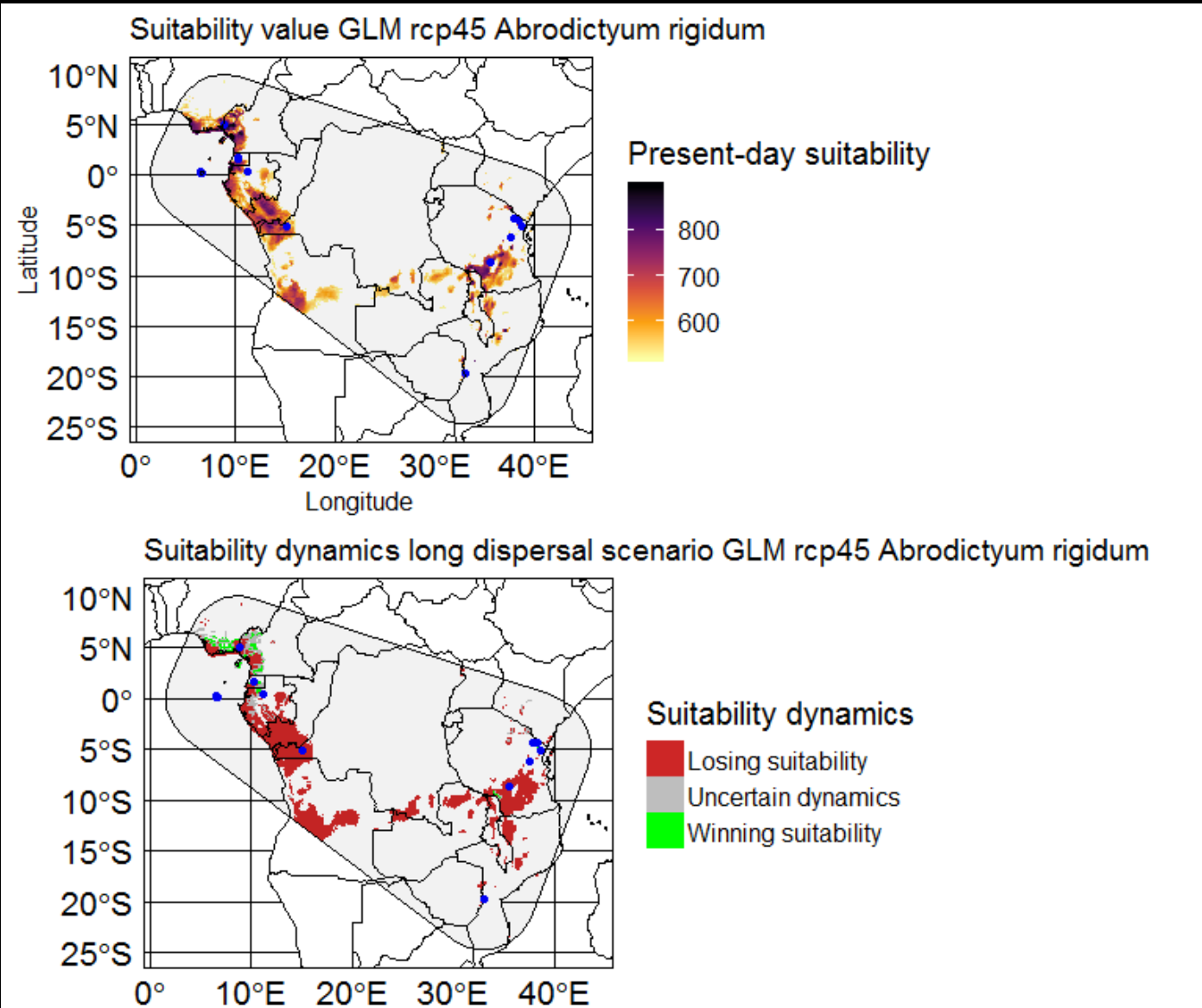
annual water balance (wc+chirps)



## 3 algorithms

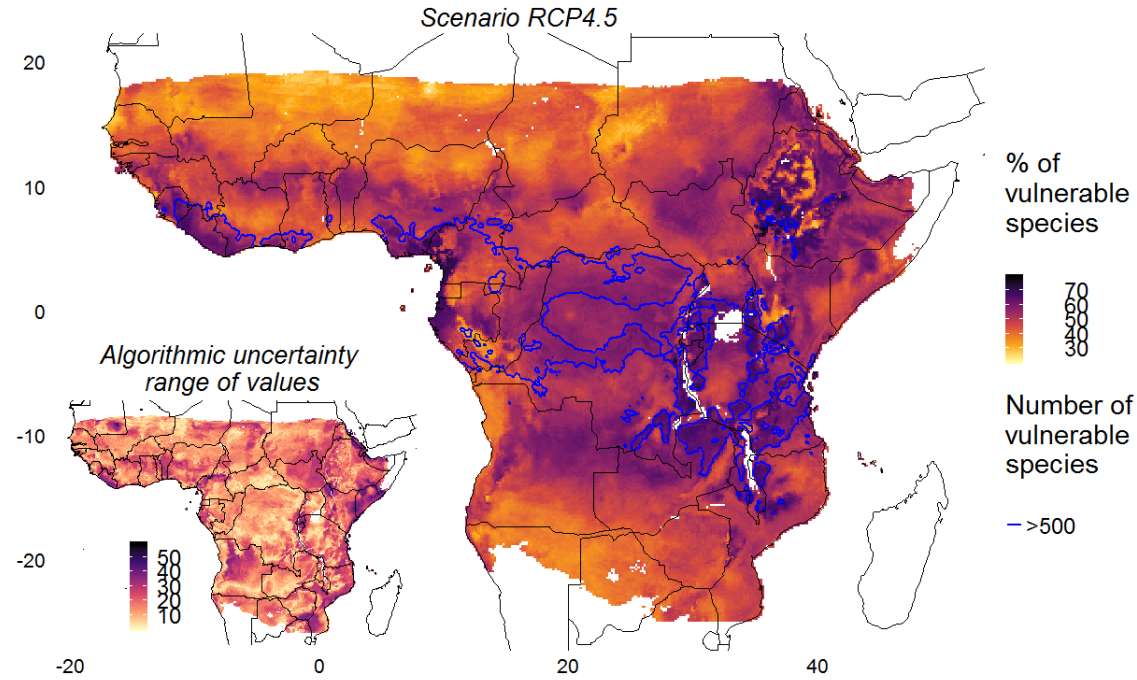
- MaxEnt  
(quadratic+linear)
- GLM  
Quadratic and AIC for selecting the best model
- GBM  
Generalized Boosted Model

# Example with one species

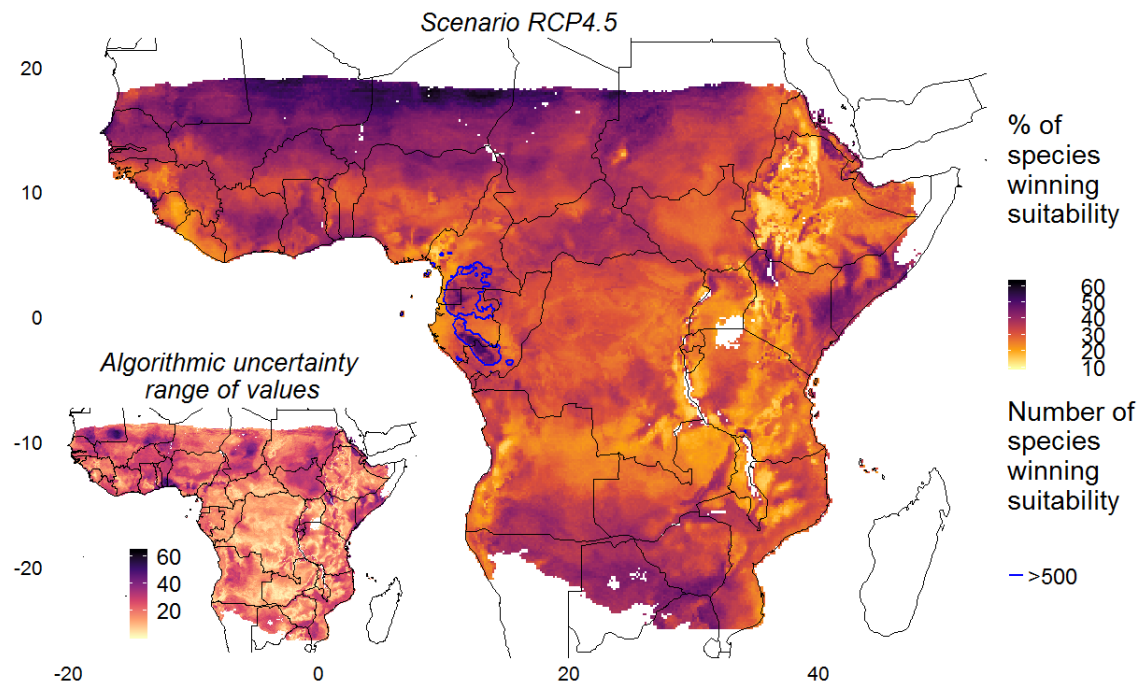


# Suitability dynamics

ca. 5000 plant species



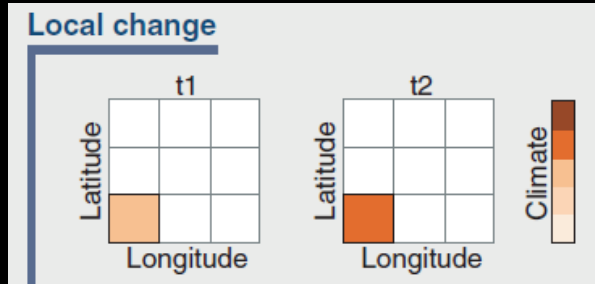
**Vulnerability**



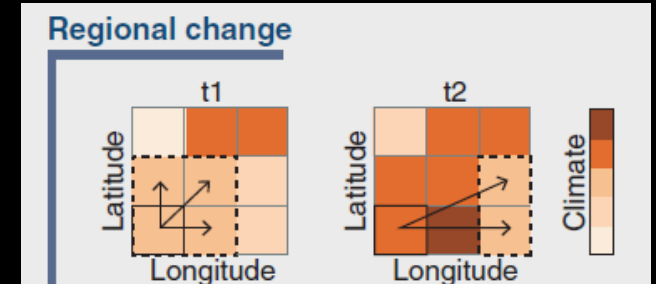
**Winning species**



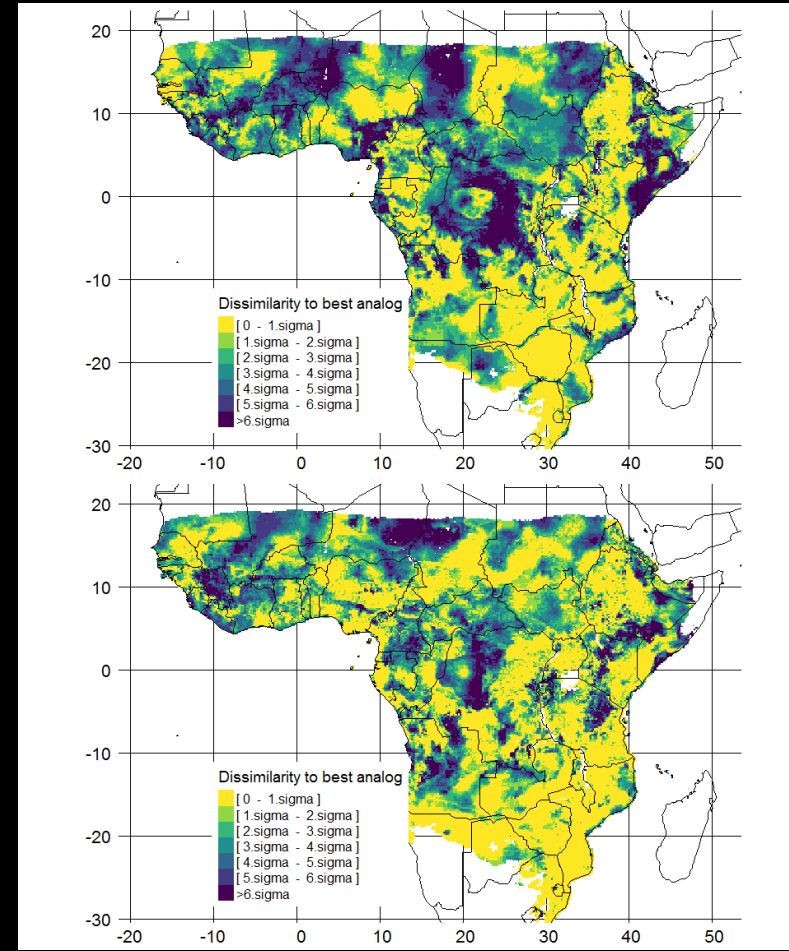
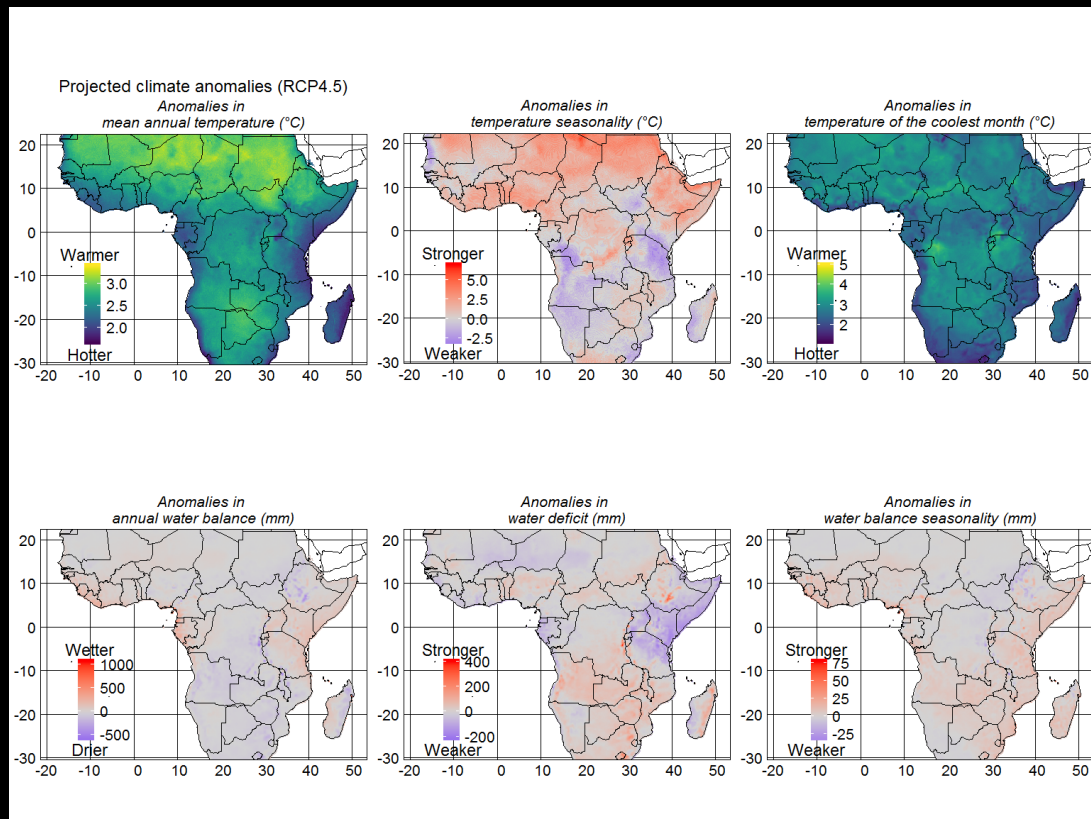
# 1: Characterization of the multiple dimensions of climate change



## Risk factors



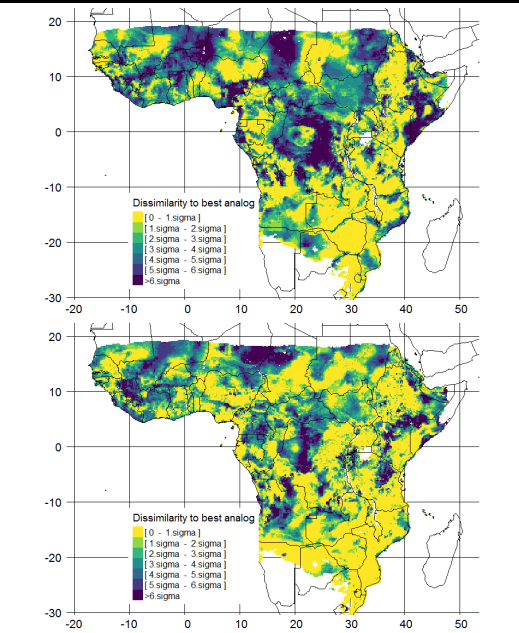
## Local anomalies



*Risk of novel climate*

*Risk of disappearing climate*

# Risk factors

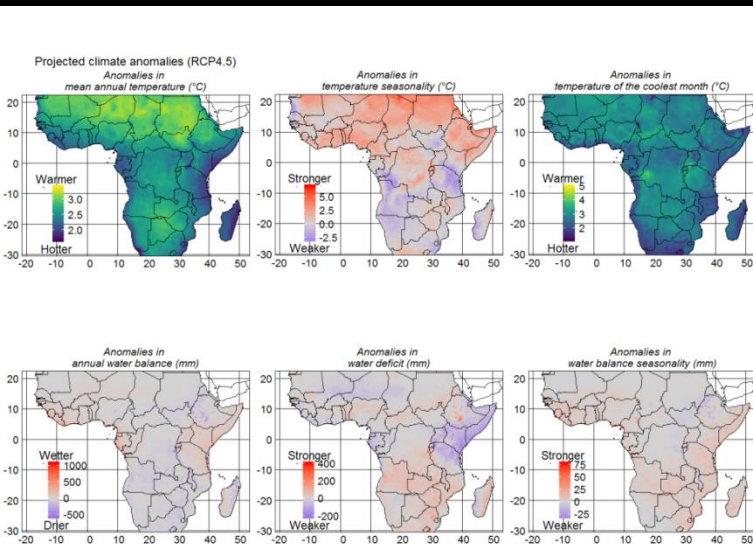
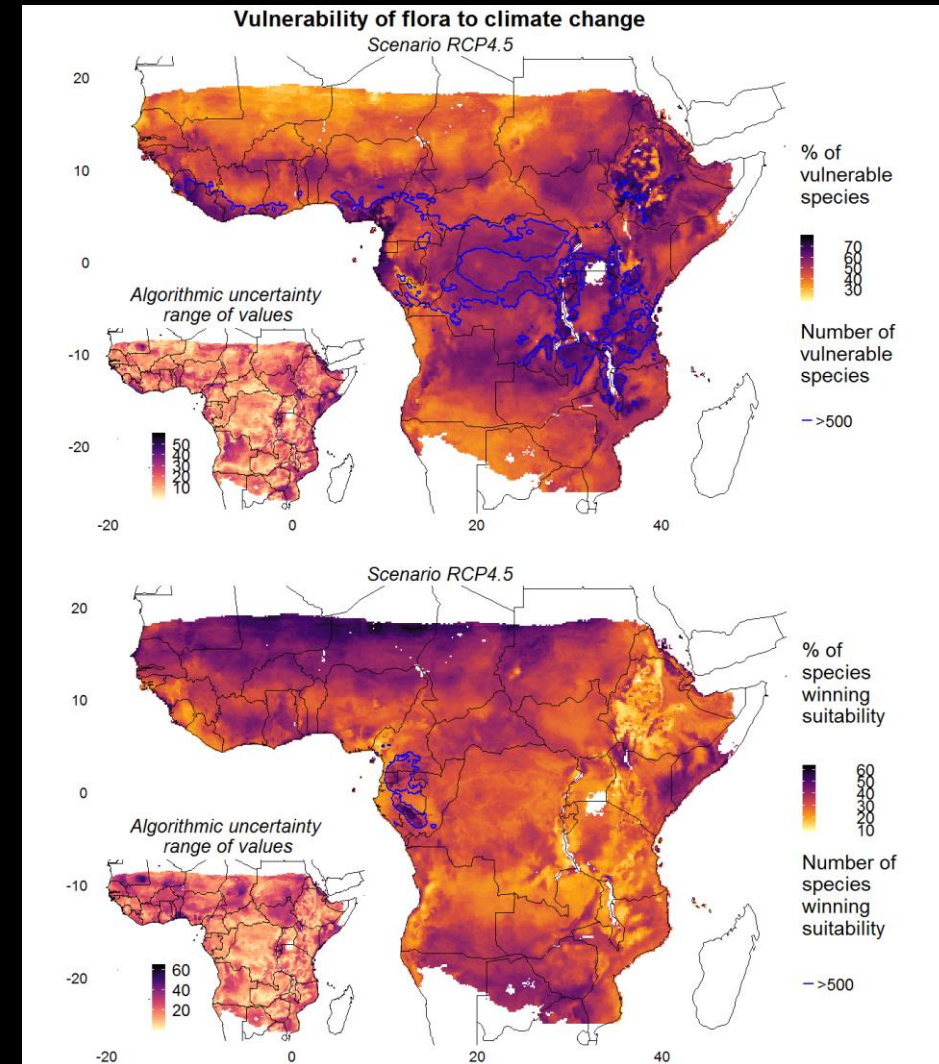


Which factor explain

Vulnerability?

Winning suitability?

# Potential responses and uncertainties



Is it temperature anomaly?

Is it novel climate?

For the whole study area →

Only 3 significant positive correlations

<i>Risk factors</i>	<i>Potential responses and uncertainties</i>	<i>Pearson correlation coefficients</i>
Anomaly in mean annual temperature	Proportion of winners	0.42
Risk of novel climate	Proportion of winners	0.22
Risk of novel climate	Range in proportions of winners	0.26

For the whole study area →

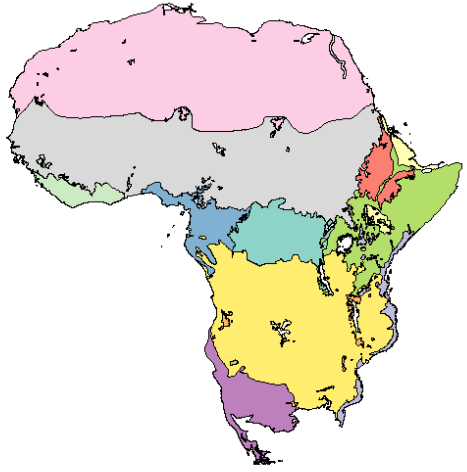
Only 3 significant positive correlations

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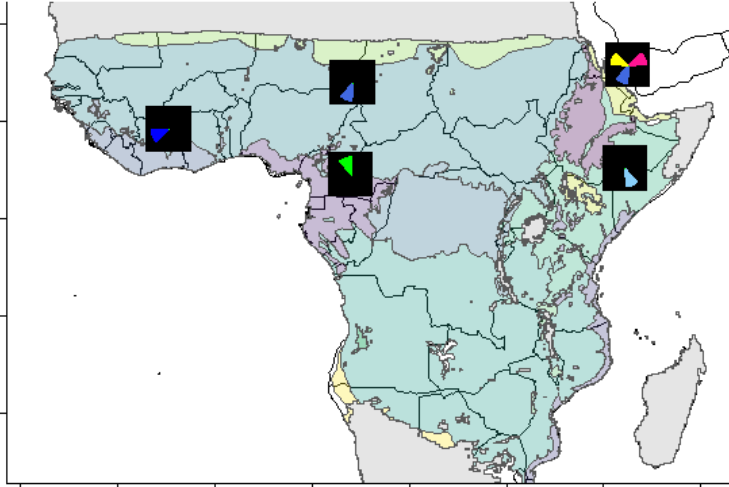
Few significant correlations

Could drivers differ among regions ?

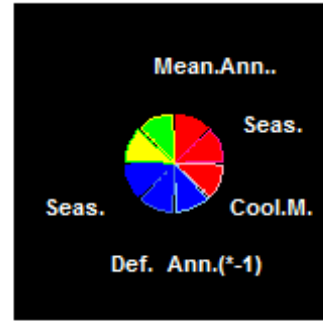
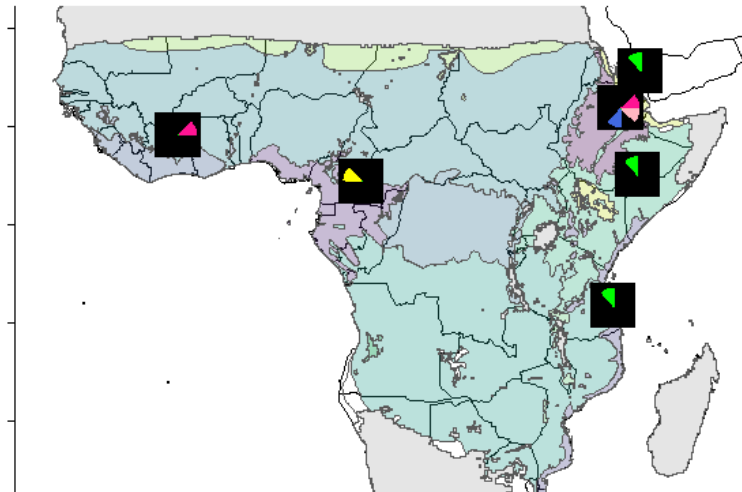
# Correlates at the **scale of biogeographical region?**



Positive correlates to the proportion of vulnerable species



Positive correlates to the proportion of winning species



- Disapearing climate
- Novel climate
- Temperature anomalies
- Water balance anomalies

## *Some conclusions :*

Climate change could significantly impact species suitability in nearly all regions

Drivers of suitability dynamics might be different among regions

Algorithmic uncertainty is high in regions with high risk of novel climate



## RAINBIO: a mega-database of tropical African vascular plants distributions

Gilles Dauby<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>, Rainer Zaiss<sup>4</sup>, Anne Blach-Overgaard<sup>5</sup>, Luis Catarino<sup>16</sup>,  
Theo Damen<sup>12</sup>, Vincent Deblauwe<sup>16,9</sup>, Steven Desein<sup>7</sup>, John Dransfield<sup>19</sup>,  
Vincent Droissart<sup>4,6,9,10</sup>, Maria Cristina Duarte<sup>16</sup>, Henry Engledow<sup>7</sup>,  
Geoffrey Fadeur<sup>6</sup>, Rui Figueira<sup>17,18</sup>, Roy E. Gereau<sup>19</sup>, Olivier J. Hardy<sup>2</sup>,  
David J. Harris<sup>8</sup>, Janneke de Heij<sup>11,21</sup>, Steven Janssens<sup>7</sup>, Yannick Klomberg<sup>11,20</sup>,  
Alexandra C. Ley<sup>13</sup>, Barbara A. Mackinder<sup>8,19</sup>, Pierre Meerts<sup>6,15</sup>,  
Jeike L. van de Poel<sup>11</sup>, Bonaventure Sonké<sup>9</sup>, Marc S. M. Sosef<sup>7</sup>, Tariq Stévant<sup>6,7,10</sup>,  
Piet Stoffelen<sup>7</sup>, Jens-Christian Svenning<sup>5</sup>, Pierre Sepulchre<sup>14</sup>, Xander van der Burg<sup>19</sup>,  
Jan J. Wieringa<sup>11,12</sup>, Thomas L. P. Couvreur<sup>1,9,11</sup>

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access

## Exploring the floristic diversity of tropical Africa

Marc S. M. Sosef<sup>1,4</sup>, Gilles Dauby<sup>2,12,21</sup>, Anne Blach-Overgaard<sup>3</sup>, Xander van der Burg<sup>4</sup>, Luis Catarino<sup>5</sup>,  
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# Thanks for your attention

# RAINBIO



Naturalis  
Biodiversity  
Center



Botanic Garden  
Meise



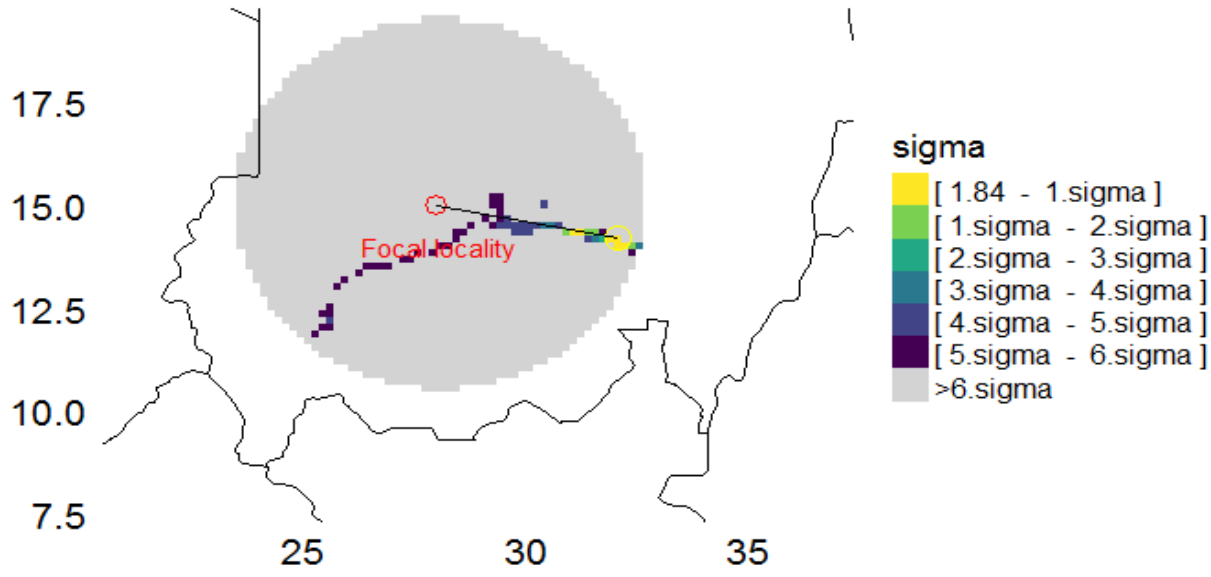
Royal  
Botanic Garden  
Edinburgh



AARHUS UNIVERSITY



MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

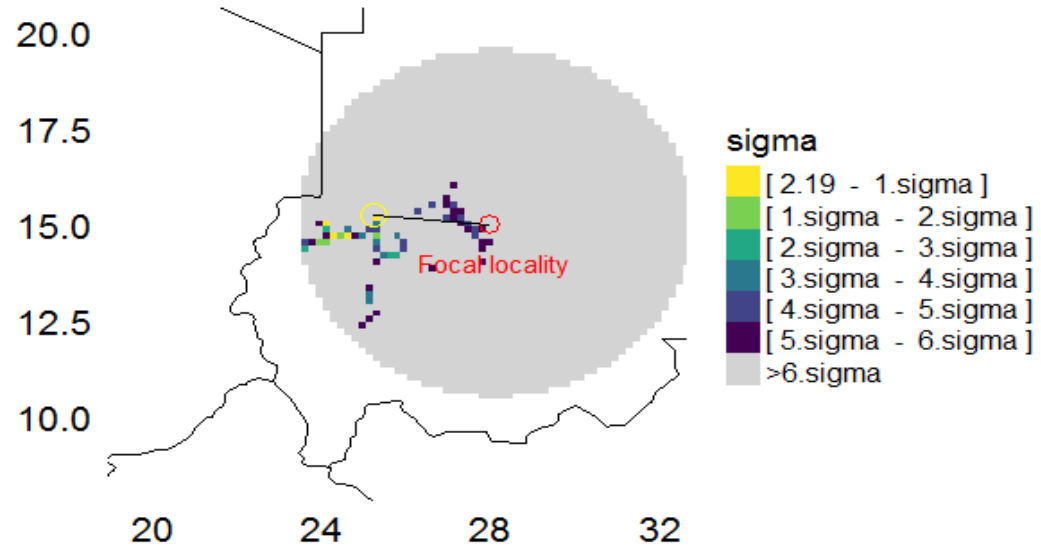


	Nearest analog locality	Focal locality	Difference	Direction
<i>Latitude (dec.deg.)</i>	14.23	15	-0.77	Southern
<i>Longitude (dec.deg.)</i>	32.07	28	4.07	Eastern
<i>Spatial distance (km)</i>	NA	NA	447.2	
<i>Elevation (m)</i>	399.3	700.4	301.1	Downhill

## Risque de nouveau climat

- Distance climatique entre les conditions climatiques futures du point focal et l'analogue climatique actuelle le plus proche





	Nearest analog locality	Focal locality	Difference	Direction
<i>Latitude (dec.deg.)</i>	15.23	15	0.23	Northern
<i>Longitude (dec.deg.)</i>	25.24	28	-2.76	Western
<i>Spatial distance (km)</i>	NA	NA	297.9	
<i>Elevation (m)</i>	1152.7	700.4	-452.2	Uphill

## Risque de disparition du climat

- Distance climatique entre les conditions climatiques actuelles du point focal et l'analogie climatique futur le plus proche