

# Report

## **Joint Meeting of the RMetS and the EMS, linked with AMMA:**

### **'Evaluating climate processes in West Africa: New perspectives from the Monsoon Multidisciplinary Analysis'**

**21<sup>st</sup> October 2009, London**

Thanks to the Young Scientists Travel Award I got the opportunity to take part in this interesting meeting. Because I have not been working in AMMA from the beginning of the project, I was glad to get a good survey of the previous research results.

In the morning session about AMMA and the operational environment in West Africa I was most impressed about the multidisciplinary and how wide the studies range. Andreas Fink spoke about the importance of radiosonde data and the impact on analysis and forecasts. Especially the presentation of Paolo Ruti about the seasonal prediction for West Africa I followed with high interest, because he mentioned statistical methods similar to those I used in my diploma thesis.

The talk of Ole Mertz showed a completely different approach to the topic by interviewing the population. Other effects of the climate on the population are presented by Andrew Morse, who introduced his work on malaria modelling, and Sandra Garcia, whose focus was on Hydrological processes and water resources. In my opinion it is important to keep this human dimension in view. To bring together the knowledge from all disciplines a significant factor is the education in Meteorology and Climate and to find a way to keep the scientists in West Africa, as explained by Sylvester Danuor.

In the afternoon the focus was on the geophysical aspect. I liked the talk of Jean-Philippe Lafore because he used very meaningful illustrations and animations concerning weather systems over West Africa. Anna Agusti-Panareda pointed out the challenges of modelling the water cycle and explained its different components. Chris Taylor showed observations of land-atmosphere coupling with examples for land response to rain, planetary boundary layer response to land and convective response to land. The role of aerosols and the composition of the atmosphere are brought out by Celine Mari and Jim Haywood. They explained the types of aerosols, the sources and effects very clearly. The role of the ocean has been highlighted in the presentation of Peter Brand, who is engaged in the analysis of the variability of sea surface temperature. In the last talk Andreas Fink showed investigation results of the seasonal and inter-seasonal variability of the West African Monsoon. All topics of this session were very informative for me and I got a lot of new information.

All things considered I had an exciting meeting in a nice atmosphere. I am glad to get to know other scientists that are involved in AMMA and their research.

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