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The AMMA project

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African Monsoon Multidisciplinary Analysis (AMMA) is an international project to improve our knowledge and understanding of the West African monsoon (WAM) and its variability with an emphasis on daily-to-interannual timescales. AMMA is motivated by an interest in fundamental scientific issues and by the societal need for improved prediction of the WAM and its impacts on West African nations. Recognising the societal need to develop strategies that reduce the socioeconomic impacts of the variability of the WAM, AMMA will facilitate the multidisciplinary research required to provide improved predictions of the WAM and its impacts. The international AMMA project has three overarching aims:

*To improve our understanding of the WAM and its influence on the physical, chemical and biological environment regionally and globally.

*To provide the underpinning science that relates variability of the WAM to issues of health, water resources, food security and demography for West African nations and defining and implementing relevant monitoring and prediction strategies.

*To ensure that the multidisciplinary research carried out in AMMA is effectively integrated with prediction and decision making activity.

AMMA will promote international coordination of ongoing activities (scientists from more than 20 countries, representing more than 40 national and pan-national agencies are involved), basic research and a multi-year field campaign over West Africa and the tropical Atlantic. Major field experiment will occur in 2006.

More informations are available on http://amma.mediasfrance.org/