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CLIVAR - Variability of the American Monsoon Systems (VAMOS) panel

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CLIVAR studies of the Variability of the American Monsoon Systems emphasize the interplay between the atmosphere, oceans, and continental surfaces to improve understanding of: 1) the American monsoon system in the context of the global climate system; 2) the capacity for seasonal to interannual climate prediction, and 3) the impacts of anthropogenic climate change. VAMOS has three integrated and complementary components that focus on different geographical regions:

- The North American Monsoon Experiment (NAME) is a CLIVAR-GEWEX Process Study aimed at determining the sources and limits of the predictability of warm season precipitation over North America. NAME has made considerable progress in modelling and data assimilation activities that leverage the enhanced observations gathered during the NAME 2004 Field Campaign.
- The Monsoon Experiment in South America (MESA) is aimed at providing a better understanding, simulation and prediction of the South American monsoon system and its variability. The first MESA target was the South American Low Level Jet (SALLJ) and its role in moisture exchanges between tropical and extratropical regions. The 2002/03 (southern) summer SALLJ field experiment (SALLJEX) gathered a unique dataset for studies on the circulation 3-D structure and diurnal cycle and associated precipitation over central and subtropical South America.
- The VAMOS Ocean-Cloud-Atmosphere-Land Studies (VOCALS) goal is to develop and promote scientific activities leading to improved understanding,

model simulations, and predictions of the southeastern Pacific coupled ocean-atmosphere-land system, on diurnal to interannual timescales.

A Modeling Group for VAMOS (MGV) is developing an integrated modelling plan across all 3 VAMOS components.