



Attributing Climate Change Impacts on Child Nutrition and Health

CLIMAKID Hands-on Science Workshop 2026

Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 17–26 November 2026

Come and conduct a climate change attribution study on undernutrition-related health impacts on children in West Africa with us!

Overview: Undernutrition in children is a critical and climate-sensitive public-health challenge. Children's developing physiology and high dependence make them uniquely susceptible to climate-driven shocks, with lifelong consequences. Attribution science aims to quantify the climate change signal in observations of climate-related, natural, and human systems. Attribution results provide important input for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) assessments and draw public attention to climate change issues. They can support climate litigation and climate justice more generally and even demonstrate the potential of specific adaptation choices to reduce the impact of climate change. Attribution studies on climate change impacts in human systems are sparse, and studies on human health have largely focused on direct heat impacts in adults and high-income settings. CLIMAKID is an international research partnership project addressing evidence gaps by developing data-driven, open digital tools that integrate climate, agricultural, and health data to quantify climate-change driven undernutrition risks in low- and middle-income countries

in a co-development and capacity-building process with scientists and stakeholders from across the most food-insecure world regions.

CLIMAKID is organizing a Hands-on Science Workshop in West Africa in November 2026.

West Africa Hands-on Science Workshop Objective: CLIMAKID aims to bring together early-career scientists to apply - supported by experienced scientists - attribution analyses to assess how climate change has impacted agriculture and child health in West Africa over the last decades.

What participants will do

- Work hands-on with climate, agricultural, and health datasets and models relevant to child undernutrition.
- Apply state-of-the-art attribution methods to specific health outcomes and weather or agricultural events for regional impact attribution studies.
- Co-design and prototype features of an open-access digital tool for climate-nutrition attribution.
- Draft and submit a manuscript based on workshop results.
- Continue collaboration after the workshop to draft a manuscript for publication by March 2027.

The work will be done in interdisciplinary groups of about five participants and with input and mentoring from the CLIMAKID project team before, during, and after the workshop.

Faculty and international Partners of the CLIMAKID project

- Centre Suisse de Recherches Scientifiques en Côte d'Ivoire (CSRS)
- Borlaug Institute for South Asia (BISA)
- Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK)
- DeVera Consulting
- International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)
- Rwanda Meteorology Agency (Meteo Rwanda)
- Spatial Informatics Group (SIG-GIS)
- University of Edinburgh (UoE)
- Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VuB)

CSRS is the coordinator of the project in West Africa and is organizing the hands-on science workshop using its important network of partners and stakeholders in the region. In Côte d'Ivoire, the collaborating organizations include the *Centre National de Recherches Agronomiques* (CNRA), the *Agence Nationale pour le Développement Rural* (ANADER), the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, SODEXAM, Universities, Research Centers, the National Committee on Nutrition, FAO, and the World Health Organization (WHO).

What ClimaKid's science workshop offers:

- Opportunities to connect with an interdisciplinary network of researchers working on climate, agriculture and health research topics and become part of the ClimaKid community of international experts
- Mentoring from international climate, agricultural and health scientists and peer-learning opportunities with other early career researchers from West Africa.
- The chance to get support from the research question specification to analysis and paper drafting for a co-authored publication in climate impact attribution
- Hands-on experience with collaborative and interdisciplinary research methods
- A platform to present ideas, receive feedback, and develop new research collaborations in an international setting.
- Exposure and interaction with diverse actors from academia, policy, and practice on climate impacts

Who should apply

Postdoctoral fellows, advanced PhD scholars, and other early-career researchers based in any of the 16 listed countries¹ in West Africa who currently work on research in:

- Climate science/climate attribution
- Public health/child nutrition/epidemiology
- Agricultural systems/food security modelling

For climate scientists, we expect a minimum of the following:

* Experience in working with climate data analysis and/or modeling, especially gridded and netCDF data format (e.g. CMIP, ISIMIP);

* Using Python, or R, or notebooks (for climate data analysis). Notions of CDO/NCO commands are appreciated;

* Expertise on drivers and regional manifestations of climate change and climate variability in West Africa

Following experiences are also encouraged for climate scientists:

- * Analyzing extreme climate and weather events in West Africa;

¹ Benin, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Cameroon and Togo.

- * Analyzing observational climate data (e.g. reanalysis, weather stations...) in West Africa;

For agricultural scientists, we expect a minimum the following:

- * Experience in data collation and preparation for crop modelling, calibration, and running spatial crop simulations (DSSAT, APSIM, InfoCrop, and others), and interpreting their outputs
- * Ability to perform spatial crop simulations for climate impacts using CMIP data; understanding key drivers of climate impact on crop yields
- * Expertise in key agricultural commodities regarding the sensitivity of crops in West Africa to climate and weather

For health scientists, we expect at a minimum of the following:

- * Understanding of identifying causative relationships
- * Experience in advanced, epidemiological or econometric modelling, specifically modelling the impacts of environmental factors on health and nutrition outcomes.
- * Experience in analyzing large-scale household datasets (such as DHS, MICS, or similar).
- * Proficiency in R, or proficiency in Stata and willingness to learn basics of R before the workshop and to interact with R scripts during the workshop.

(As we will be using DHS health data, this must not be uploaded to or used with public AI/LLM tools, coding agents, or apps.)

For all participants, we expect:

- Motivation to learn climate impact attribution science – interest in linking climate-related hazards to impacts on sectors such as agriculture and health and in quantifying climate change impacts.
- Advanced English proficiency (Upper Intermediate level as participants must be able to present and discuss research in English, follow English presentations, and draft manuscripts in English). Internal group discussions can be done in French.
- Experience with, or willingness to learn, usage of Gitlab and working remotely via SSH
- Motivation to join two dense weeks (4 days + weekend free + 4 days) of hands-on, collaborative, interdisciplinary science
- Ability and commitment to continue the analysis post-workshop and help drafting a manuscript for publication until March 2027

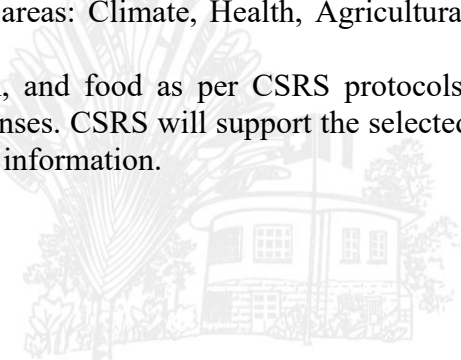
We accept applications from applicants based in the following countries in West Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Cameroon, and Togo. Women researchers and candidates from under-represented groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

Logistics

- **Dates:** 17–26 November 2026
- **Location:** Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire (the precise venue will be provided later)
- **Slots:** 20 participants (selection across three thematic areas: Climate, Health, Agricultural Modelling; and across the West Africa region)
- **Costs:** CLIMAKID will cover travel, accommodation, and food as per CSRS protocols. Participants are responsible for any other personal expenses. CSRS will support the selected candidates in their travel plans and provide the required information.

Selection & Timeline

- Applications will be reviewed by a selection panel.



- Selection will consider relevance to the three thematic areas (Climate, Health, and Agricultural Modeling), experience, and gender and regional balance (between the 16 listed countries). Nevertheless, the most important criteria will be effective and relevant scientific and language skills.
- Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted, until mid-August at the latest.

How to Apply: if you are interested, please, send the following documents by **28 June 2026, 23:59 PM (GMT+0)**

1. A one-page motivation letter (in English) describing your interest, detailing your relevant skills and experience, an initial idea for a research topic that you would like to pursue during the workshop, and how the hands-on science workshop will support your work.
2. A brief CV / resume (in English, max 2 pages) including relevant publications

All applications should be sent to the following address: **climakid.call@csrs.ci**
We look forward to your applications!

