

NextGEMS

NextGEMS is a European research project that will develop and apply a new generation of global coupled Storm-Resolving Earth System Models (SR-ESMs) to the study of anthropogenic climate change. The project is funded by the European Commission's H2020 program. The NextGEMS consortium is made up of 26 institutes from 14 countries (Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Senegal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK).

SR-ESMs are distinguished by their fine, 3 km, grid in the atmosphere and ocean. This allows a more physical representation of atmospheric and oceanic circulation systems, including their coupling to Earth-system processes such as the carbon, nutrients, water and atmospheric particulate (aerosol) cycles. NextGEMS will develop two prototypes SR-ESMs into production systems and produce multi-decadal (30 y) projections of future climate change. Improved resolution is expected to reduce biases and enhance the realism of these simulations. Ensembles of simulations will address scientific puzzles such as the impact of convective organization on climate sensitivity, the magnitude of aerosol forcing, and the changes in extremes associated with tropical air-sea interaction (including the African Monsoon and Atlantic Hurricanes) and land-surface interaction in the mid-latitudes (dry-spells and links between hydrology and carbon).

By developing models that are structurally different than existing ones, NextGEMS will reshape perceptions of uncertainty and provide a basis for reassessing the risk global warming poses for society and ecology. By focusing on just two models, NextGEMS builds a European community of scientists and users around a technologically more ambitious modelling enterprise. By representing the scales of motion and driving forces of high impact weather globally, NextGEMS links more directly to applications. Knowledge coproduction projects focusing on how circulation influences both renewable energy production and marine nutrients will demonstrate how applications and downstream users can thus be directly integrated into the model development enterprise.