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Climate drivers, agriculture and water pollution in Ukraine, and implications of the Russian-Ukrainian war

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Background

- Agricultural land covers around 69% of the national land;
- Ukraine exports around 10% of the global cereals;
- Crop production is dominated by grains (wheat, barley, corn),
 technical crops (sunflowers, sugar beets), and potatoes;
- Livestock production is dominated by poultry, pigs, and cows;
- However, agricultural activities have been under threat for <u>two</u> <u>main reasons</u>: climate change and the Russian-Ukrainian war;
- Water pollution have been under threat <u>for three main</u> <u>reasons</u>: climate change, human activities and the Russian-Ukrainian war.

Climate change impacts (Fig.1):

- Global warming scenario
- Northern Ukraine: more precipitation and risk for floods
- Southern Ukraine: less precipitation and risk for droughts

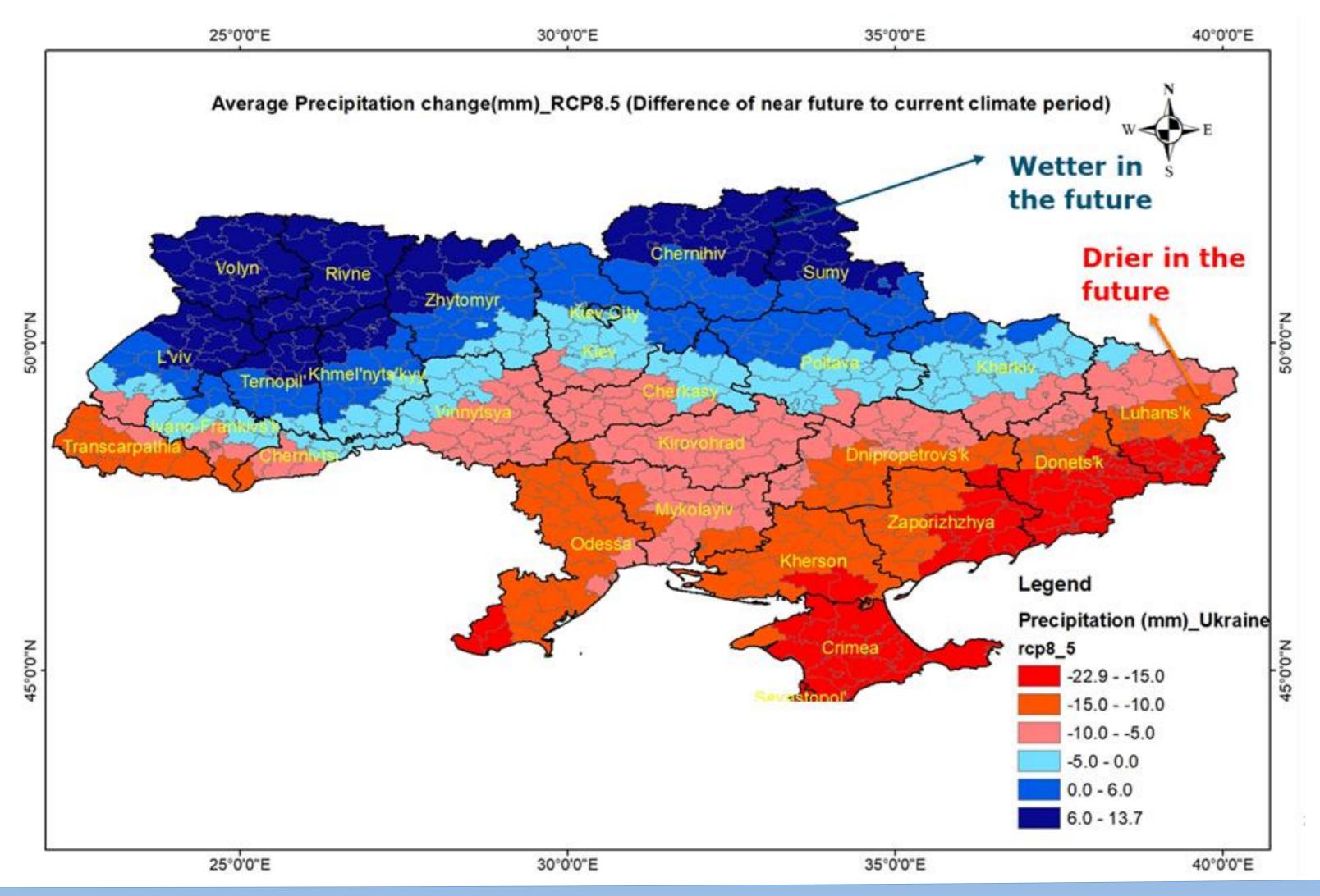


Fig. 1. Annual precipitation change (difference of near future to current climate period) based on Representative Concentrative Pathway 8.5 (RCP8.5). Source: the preliminary results from Copernicus datasets, provided by Iwan Supit, Jan Bierman, and Lisanne Nauta from Wageningen University

The main objective is:

o To assess the relationship between climate drivers, agriculture, and water pollution in Ukraine and discuss the potential implications of the Russian-Ukrainian war as an additional (unexpected) threat.

