

Dynamical Downscaling Climate Forecasts over Northeast Brazil for year 2002

David Ferran Moncunill

Vicente Silva Filhol

Emerson Mariano da Silva

Wagner Luis Barbosa Melciades

FUNCEME, Av. Rui Barbosa 1246, Bairro Aldeota
Fortaleza, CE 60.115-221, Brazil

Liqiang Sun

Antonio Divino Moura

International Research Institute for Climate Prediction/ Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia
University
Palisades, NY 10964-8000

Alexandre Araujo Costa

Ceara State University, Fortaleza, CE 60.115-221, Brazil

[Email: sun@iri.columbia.edu](mailto:sun@iri.columbia.edu)

FUNCEME has issued one-month lead seasonal climate forecasts for the period of January - June 2002, and will update the forecasts monthly until the rainy season is over. The forecasts are mainly based on the climate dynamical downscaling prediction system, developed by the IRI and FUNCEME.

Global SST forecasts, updated monthly, are used as lower boundary forcing for the NCEP RSM - ECHAM4.5 AGCM nested model system. The IRI SST forecasts issued in February 2002 indicated SSTs in the eastern equatorial Pacific are slightly below their long-term average, but are increasing during the month of February. During the season of March-April-May 2002, the SST anomalies in the eastern tropical Pacific are expected to become above normal. The somewhat warmer than average SSTs that have been present over much of the Indian Ocean are expected to decrease slowly through the forecast period. The area of above-average temperature in the tropical northern Atlantic Ocean is expected to persist but slowly weaken through the period. Enhanced probabilities for below normal precipitation are forecast over most of the Northeast Brazil. Detailed forecasts and validation will be presented at the meeting.