

# 11<sup>th</sup> International Aerosol Conference

iAC 2022  
4-9 SEPT / ATHENS GREECE



Artwork by Rania Dede,  
in the frame of the  
international painting  
competition

*"Empowering Children  
to Act on Climate  
Change through Art"*

**Session:** Day 5 | AH-8: Human exposure in urban environments

**Title:** Intra-urban aerosol predictions under future Representative Concentration Pathways:  
modeling experiments for Athens

**Presenter:** Eleni Athanasopoulou ([eathana@noa.gr](mailto:eathana@noa.gr)) National Observatory of Athens (NOA), Greece

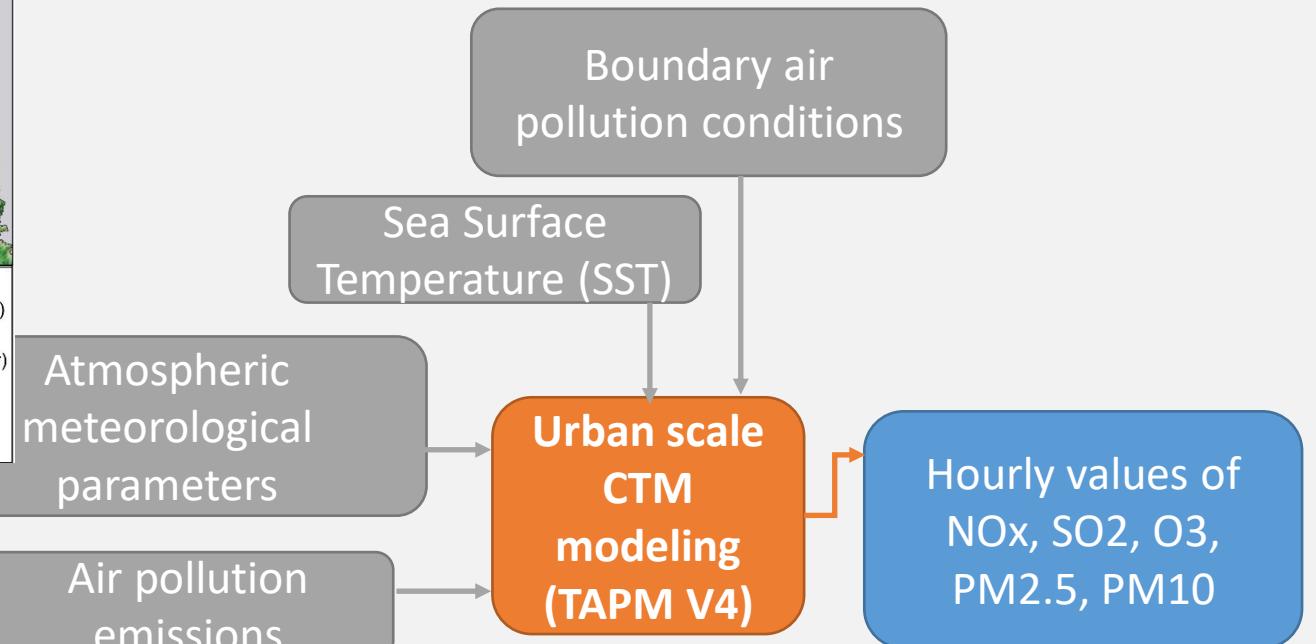
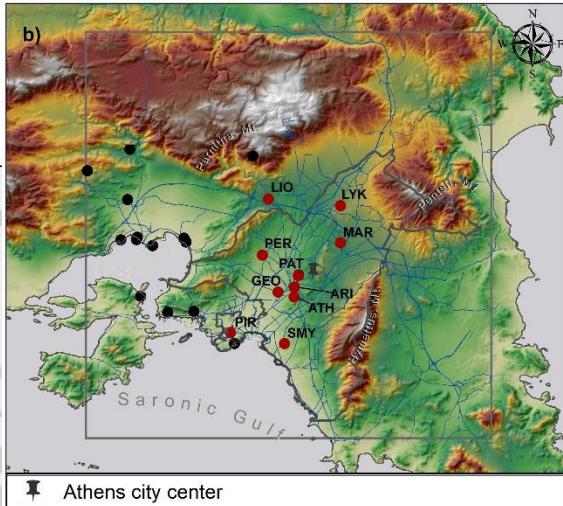
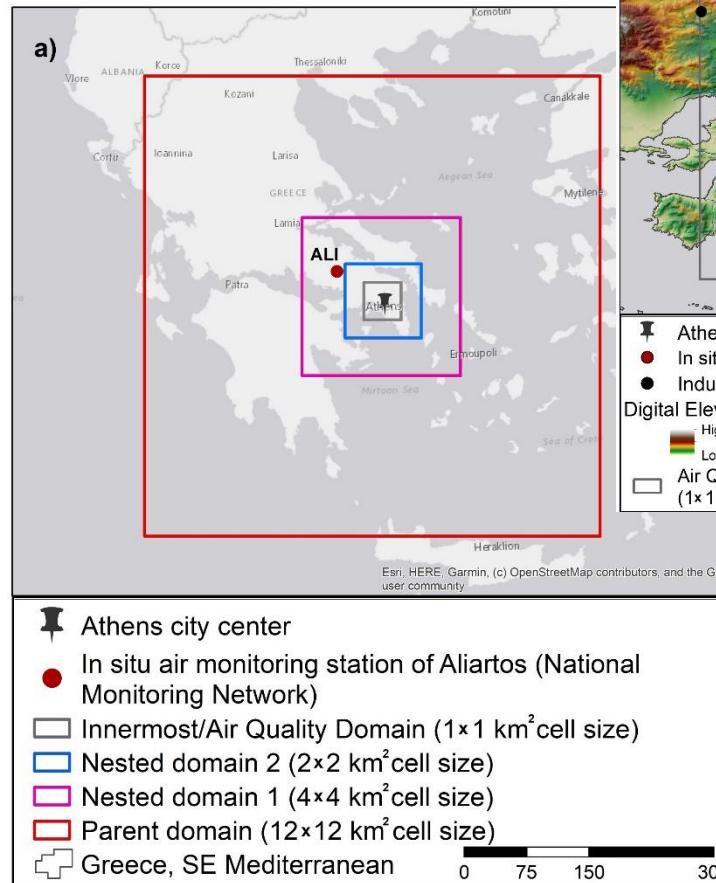
**Co-authors:** Dimitris Karagiannis, Nasia Kakouri, Giorgos Grivas, Evangelos Gerasopoulos (NOA)

# Background

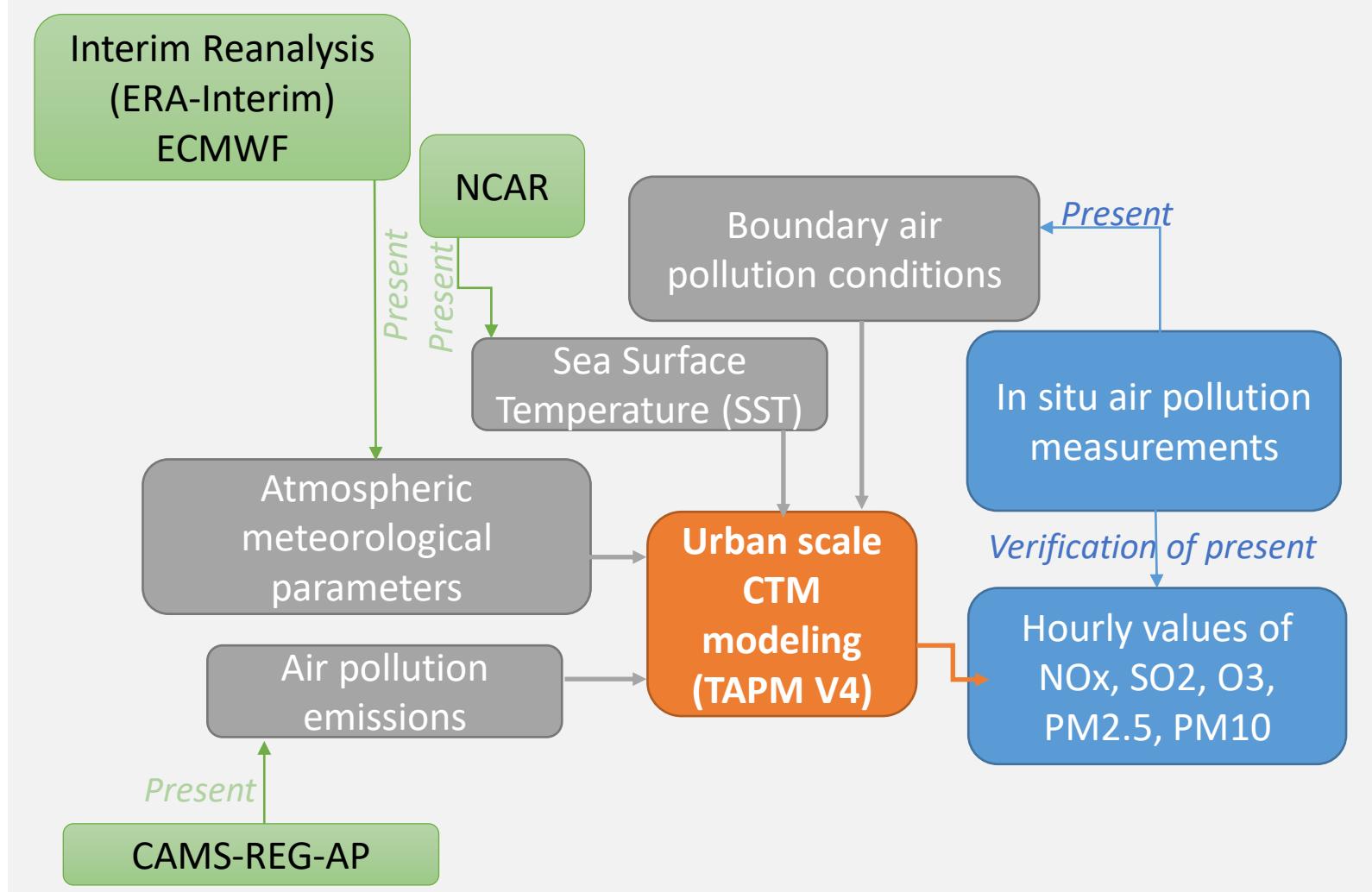
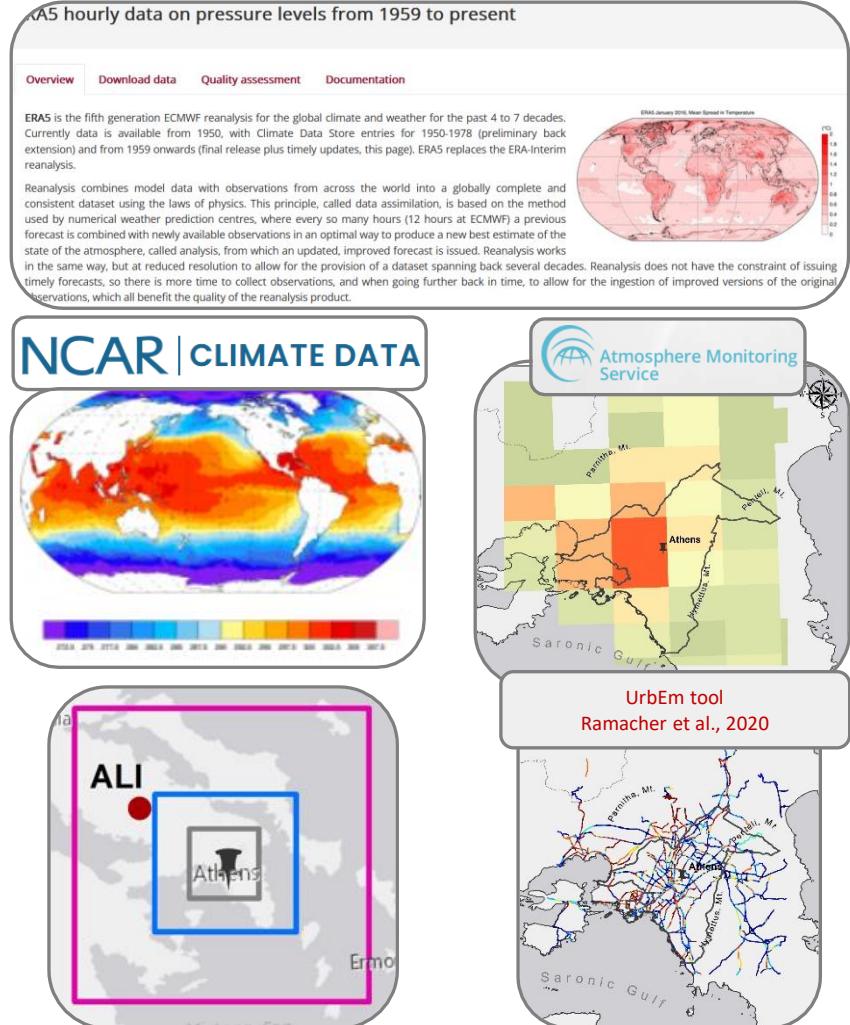
- “The Mediterranean region is a global climate change hot-spot... is among the most responsive regions to global climate change.”  
(van der Schriek, *Atmosphere* 2020)
- “Fine resolution models (be they physically or statistically based) are necessary to provide more detailed future climate change information for impact assessment studies.” (Gao et al., *Geophysical Research Letters*, 2006) or “High resolution modeling is necessary to simulate surface climate change over the Mediterranean for use in impact assessment studies” (Giorgi and Lionello, *Global and Planetary Change*, 2008)
- “The spatial resolution of concentration and population distribution in the city should be 1 km × 1 km or finer to obtain appropriate estimates of total population exposure and health-related externalities”. (Santiago et al., *Science of The Total Environment*, 2022)
- ΠΕΣΠΚΑ — The establishment of the regional plan for climate change adaptation for the region of Attica



# Model system description

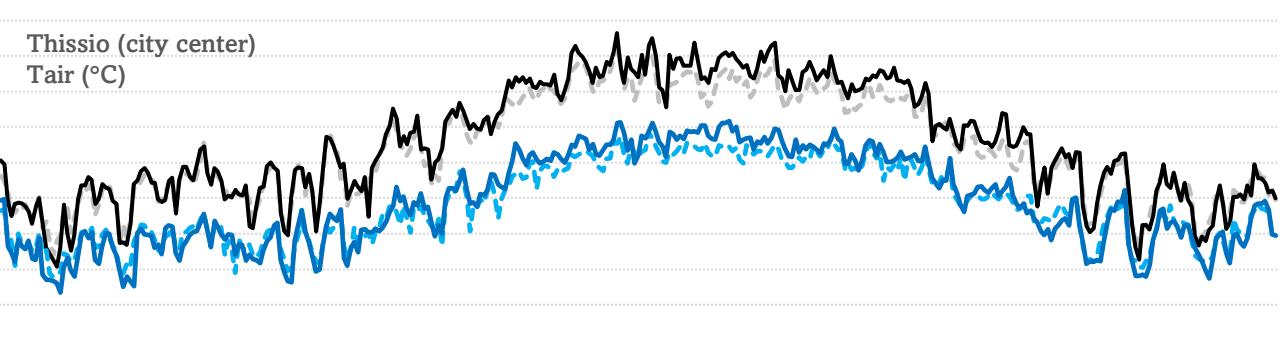
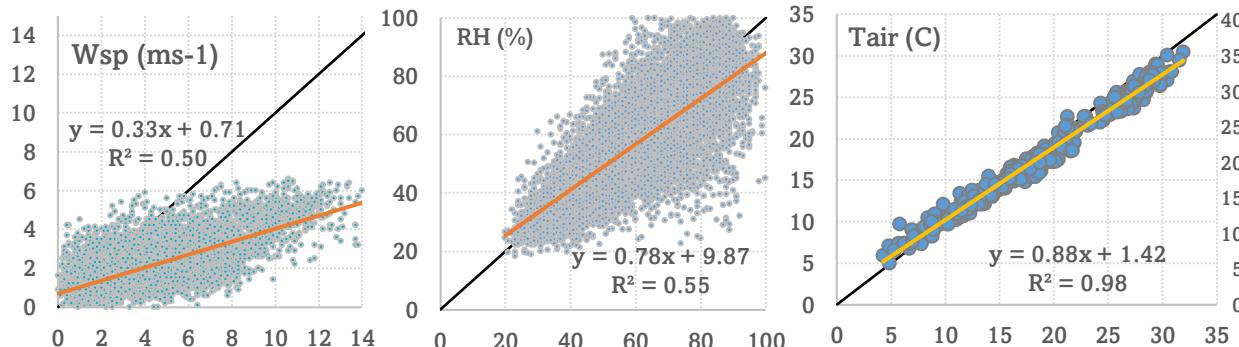
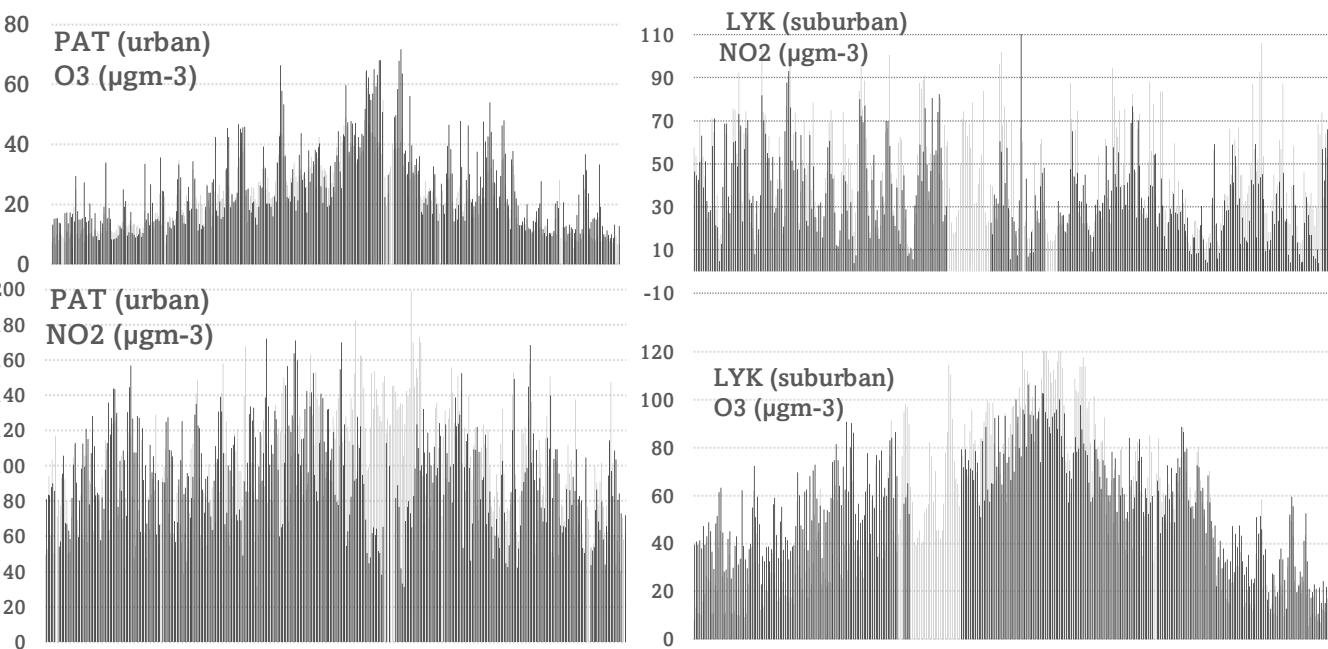


# Model system description (present - 1995)



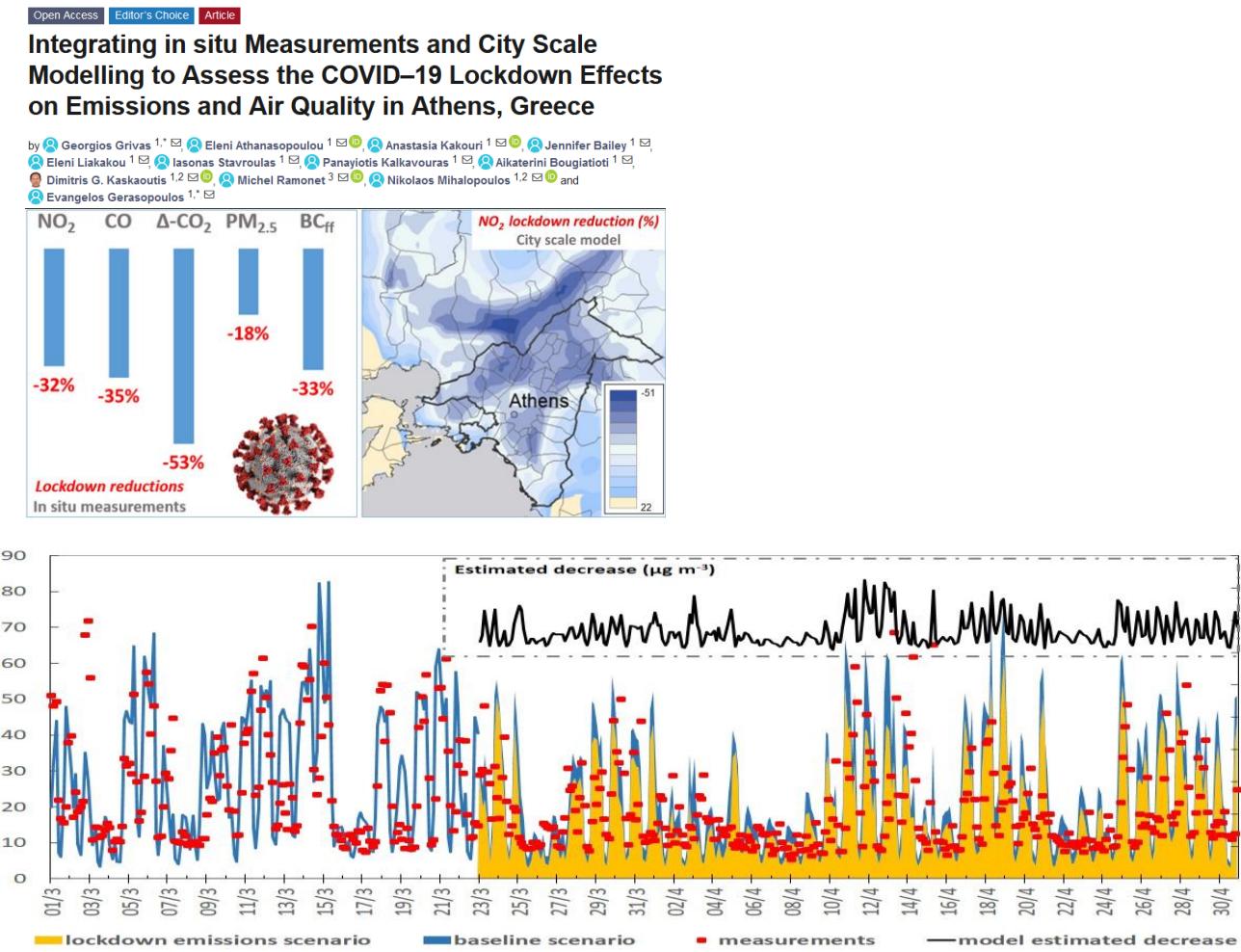
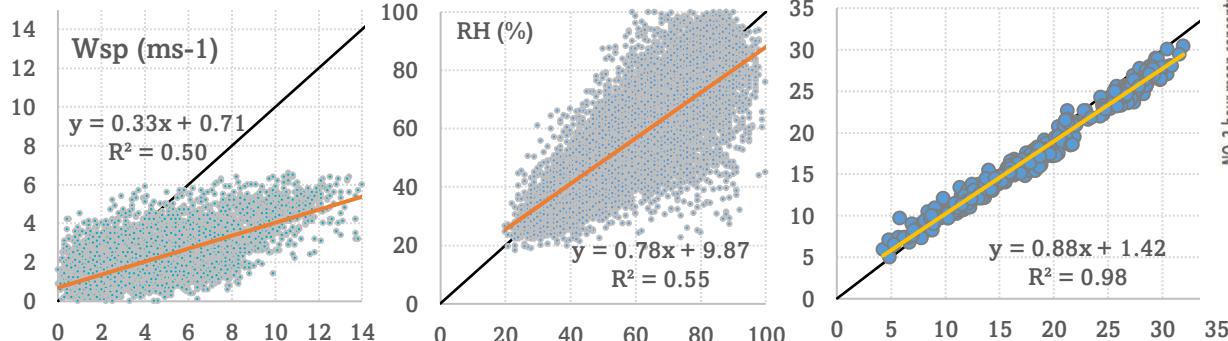
# Model system evaluation

Param.	Obs (std)	Mod (std)	MB	NMB	r2	N
NO2	60.8 (20.8)	71.6 (26.5)	11.4	49.7	0.23	3275
O3	52.4 (22.9)	40.4 (23.3)	-13.6	-25.9	0.68	2729
Tmean	18	17.8	-0.2		0.99	8758
Tmin	14.7	14	-0.6		0.96	365
Tmax	22	22	-0.2		0.98	365
RH	61.4	57.8	-3.6	-5.8	0.6	8758
Uair	3.9	2	-1.9	-48	0.68	8758
PM2.5	16.1	22.9	6	44.3	0.37	8215

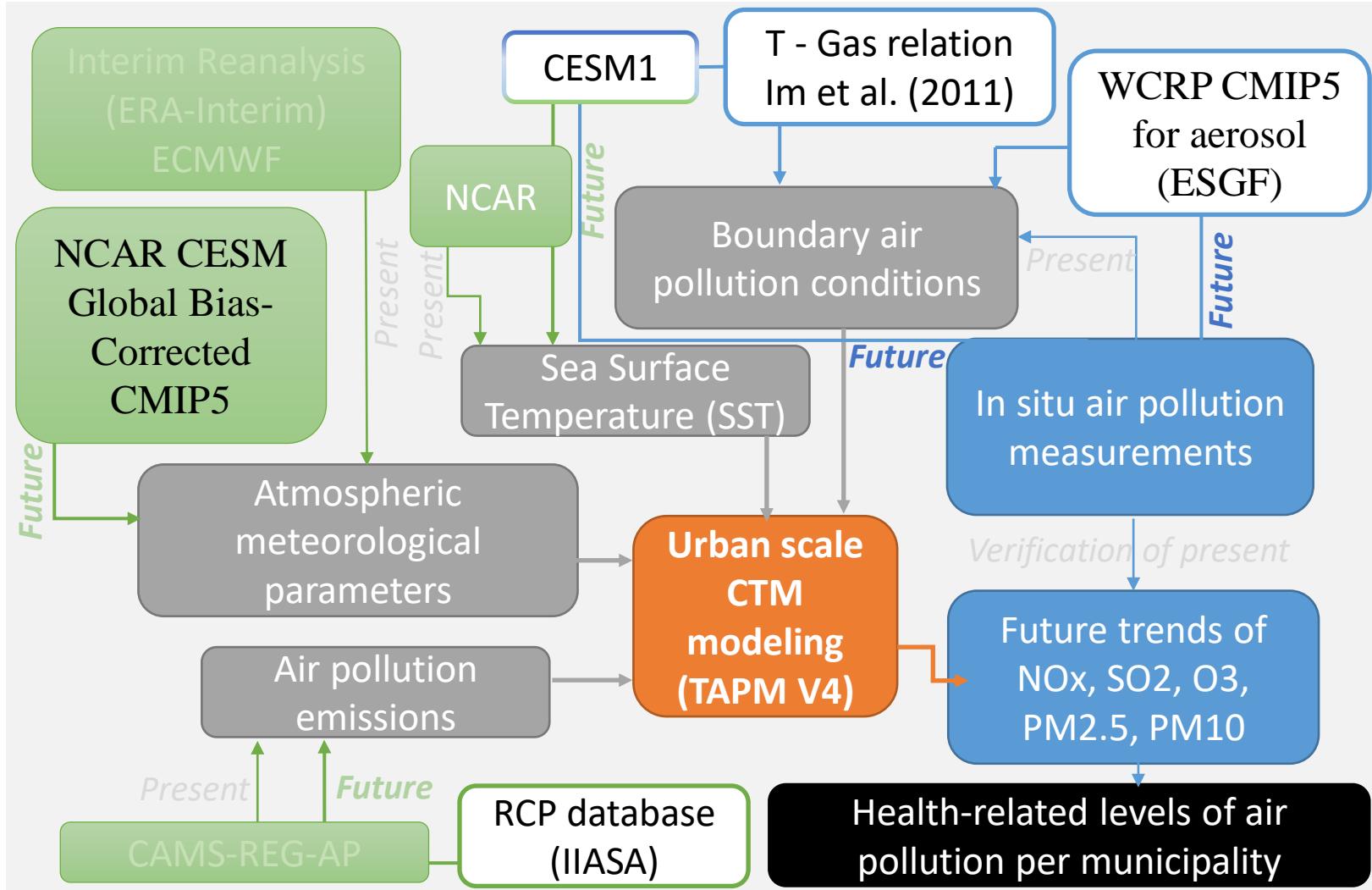
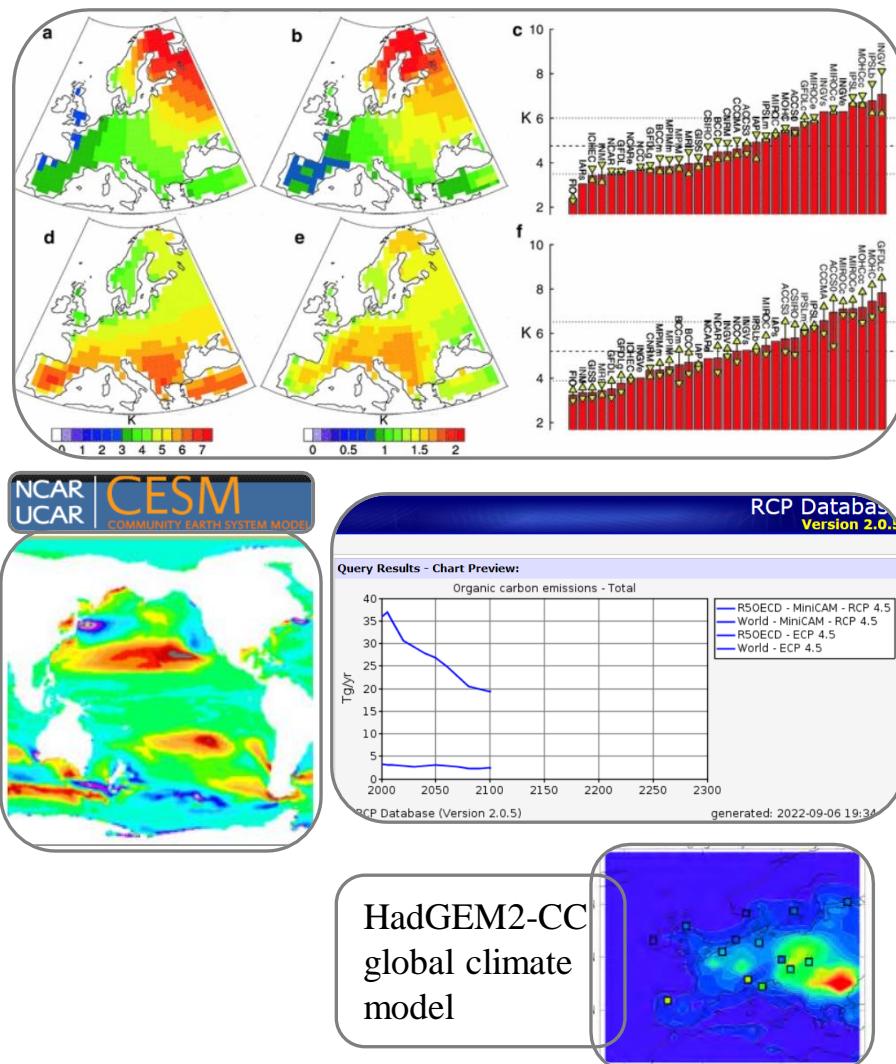


# Model system evaluation

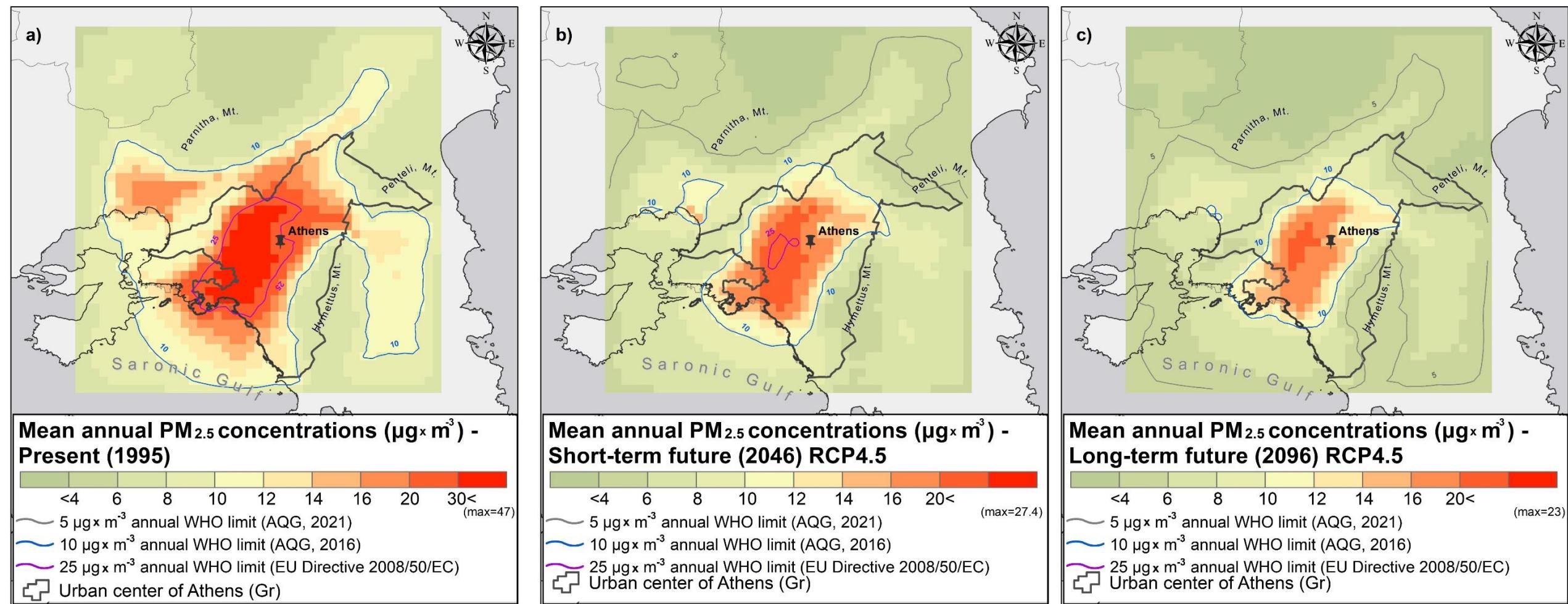
Param.	Obs (std)	Mod (std)	MB	NMB	r2	N
NO <sub>2</sub>	60.8 (20.8)	71.6 (26.5)	11.4	49.7	0.23	3275
O <sub>3</sub>	52.4 (22.9)	40.4 (23.3)	-13.6	-25.9	0.68	2729
Tmean	18	17.8	-0.2		0.99	8758
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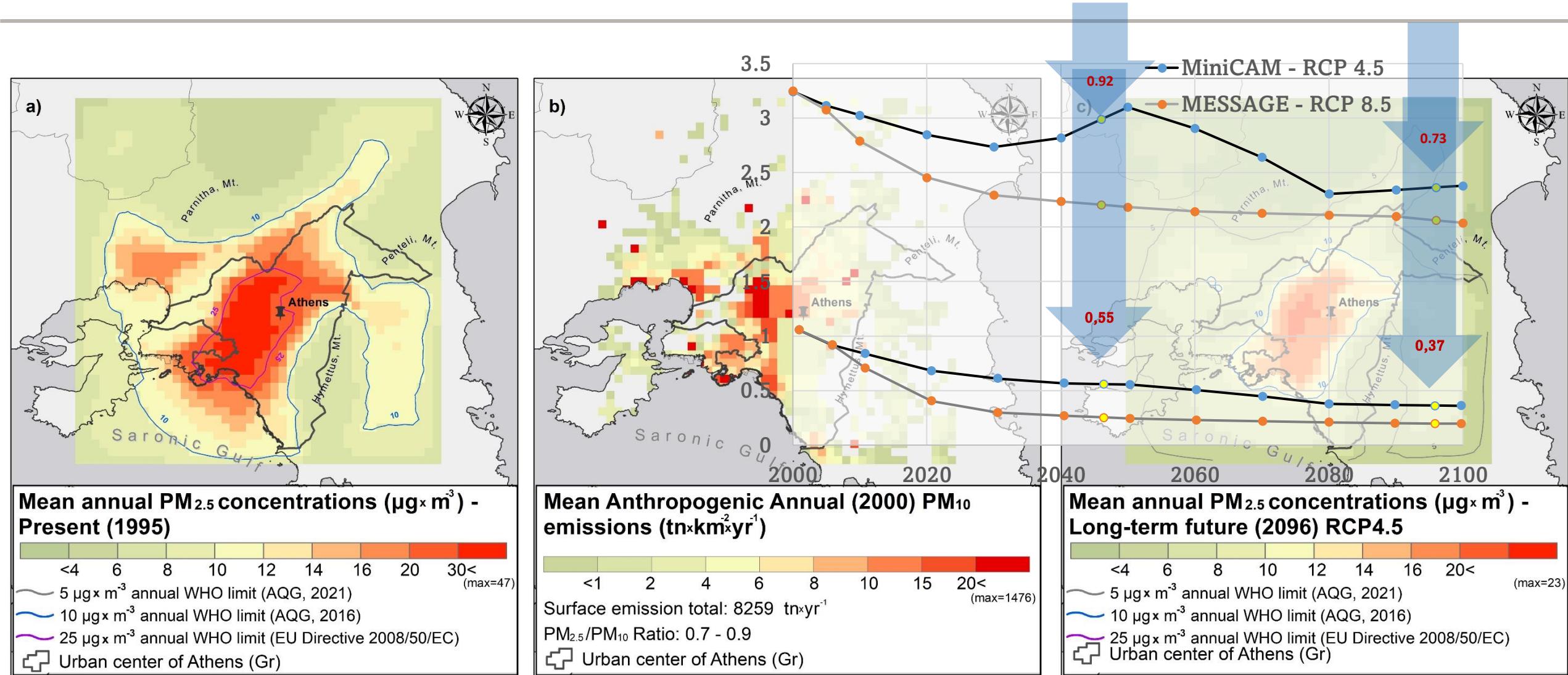
# Model system description (future: RCP4.5 & RCP8.5, 2046 & 2096)



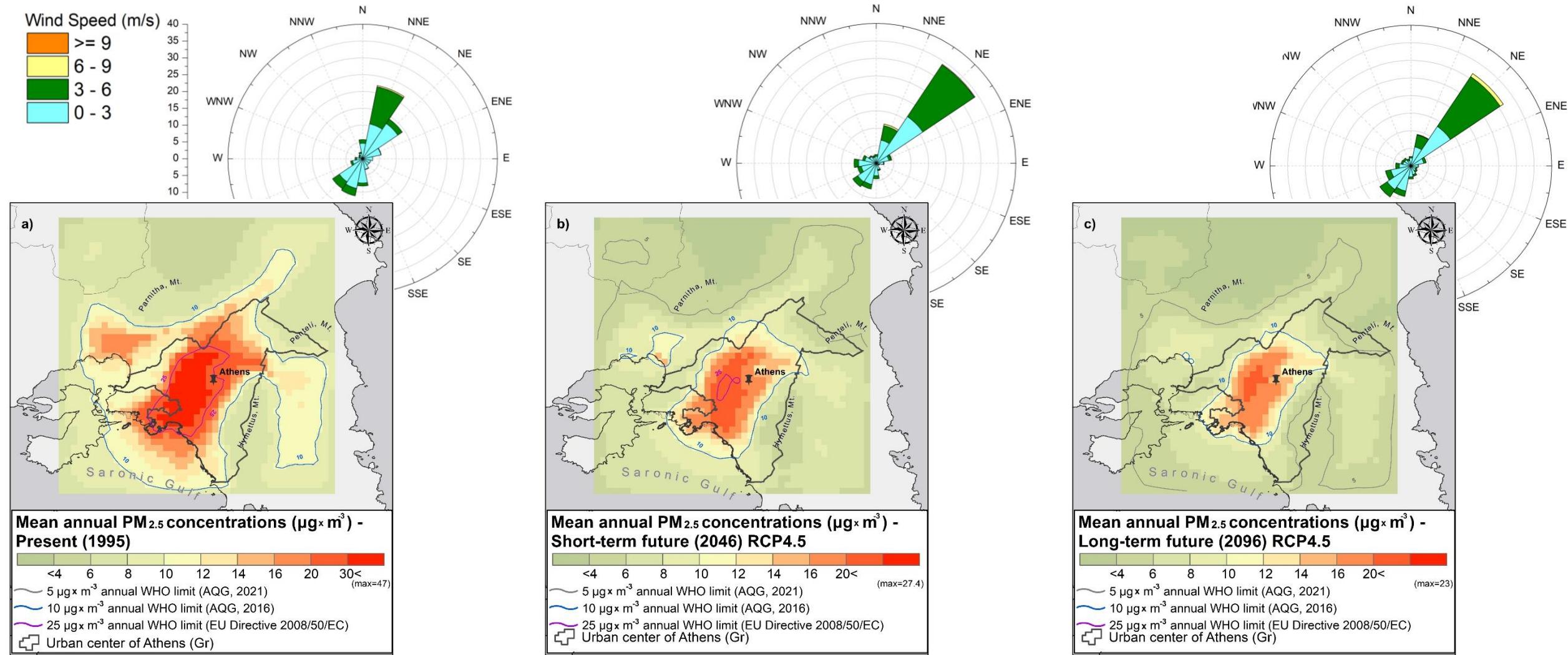
# Model outputs – present and projected estimations ( $1 \times 1 \text{ km}^2$ )



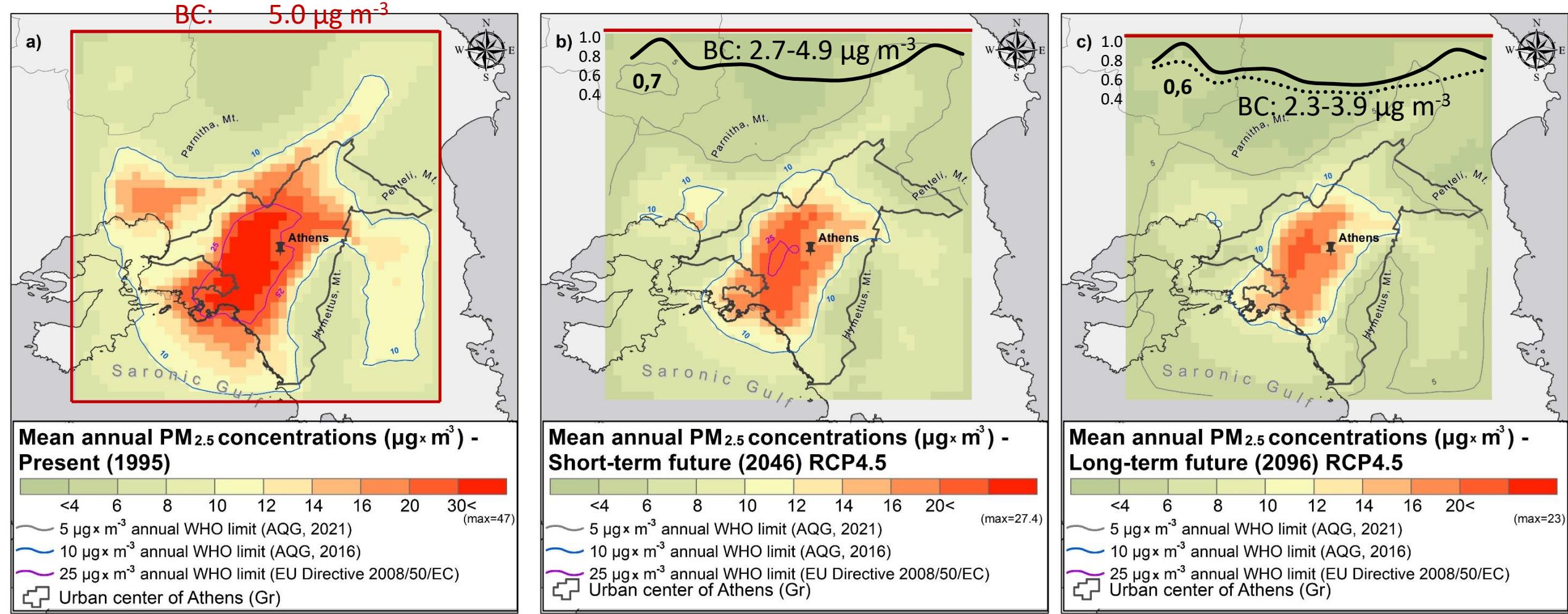
# Model outputs – present and projected estimations ( $1 \times 1 \text{ km}^2$ )



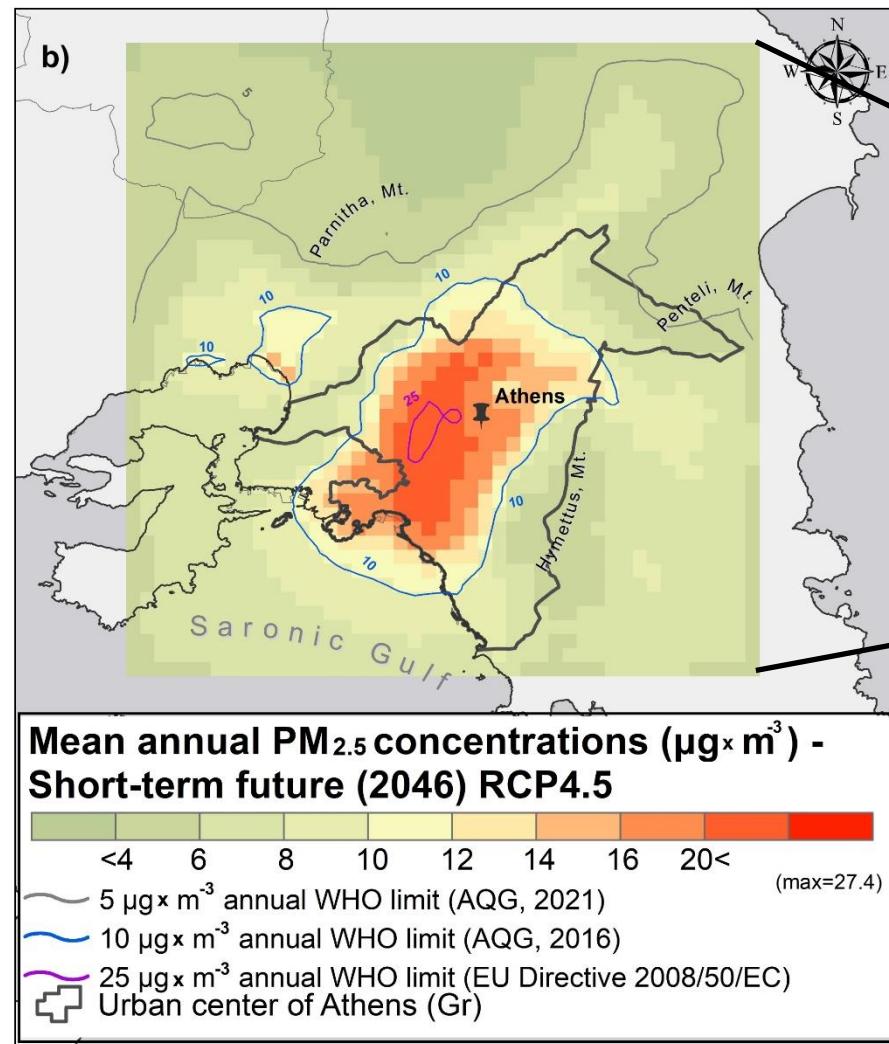
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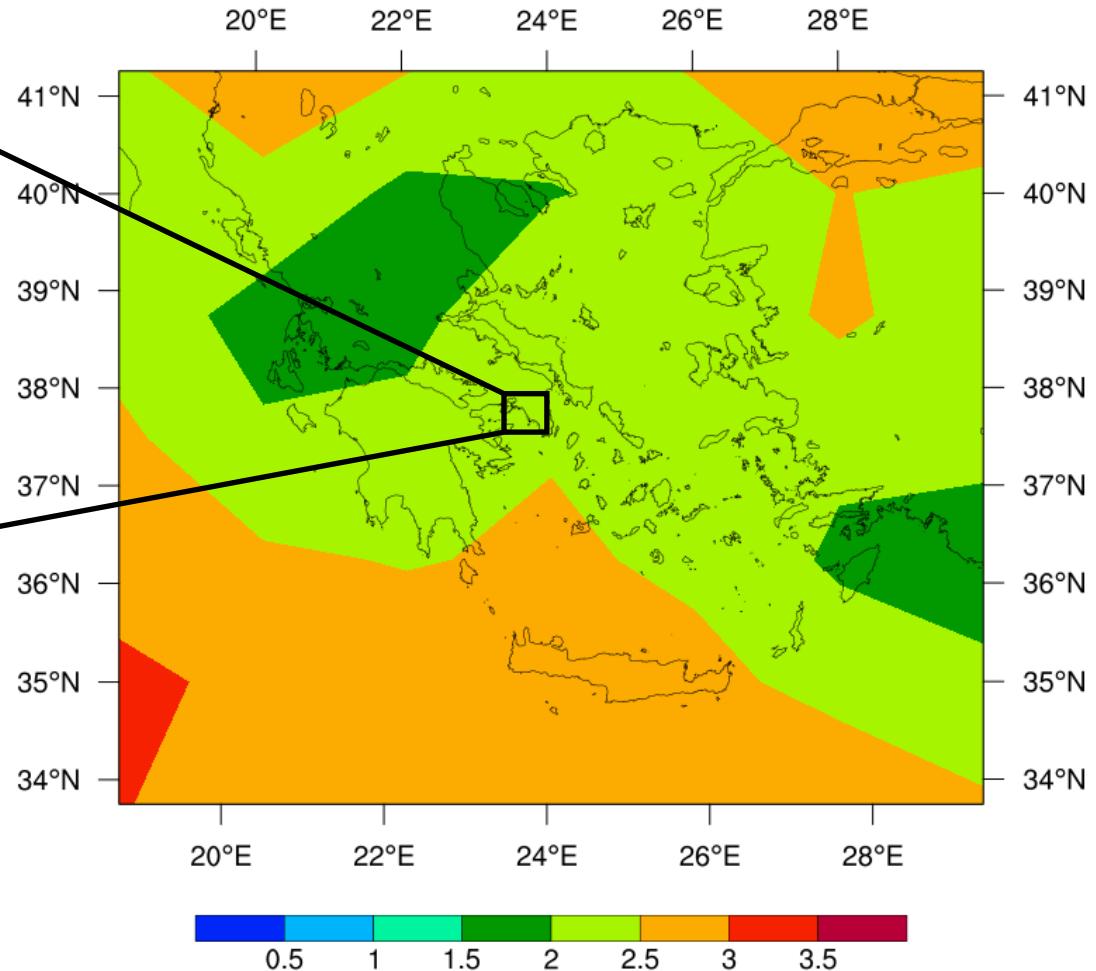
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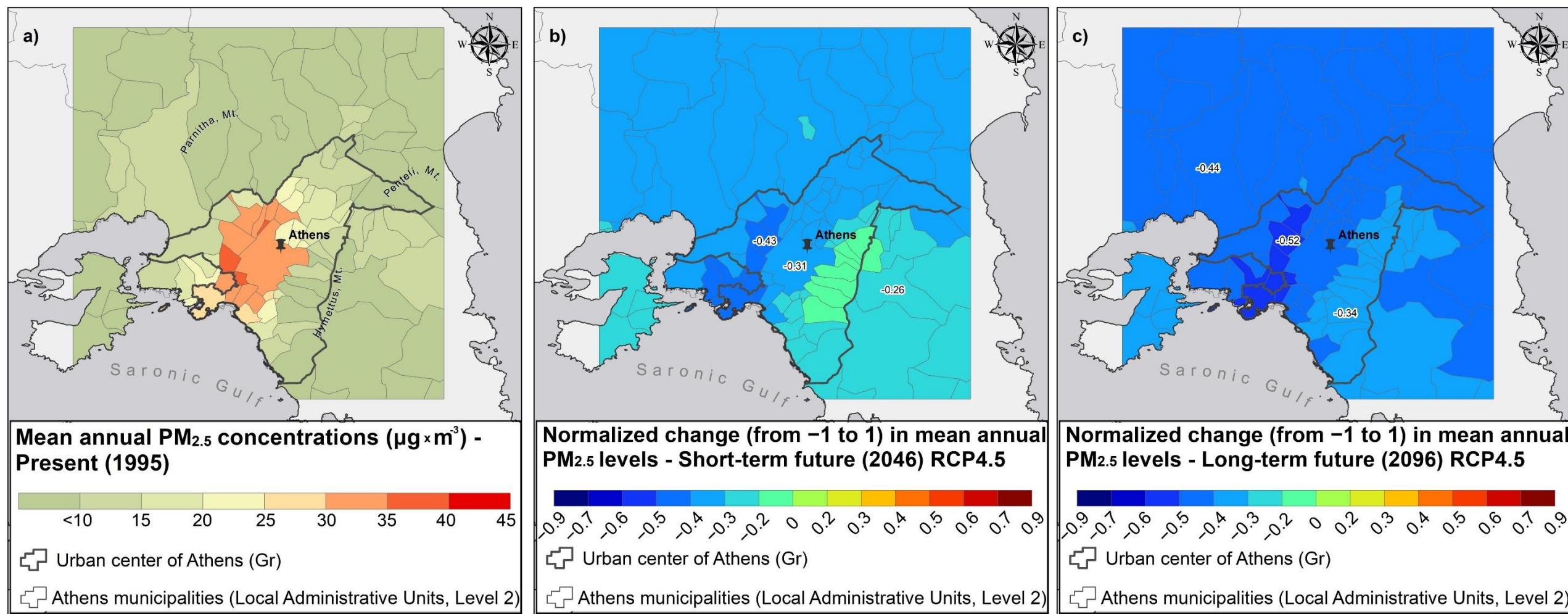
# Model outputs – present and projected estimations ( $1 \times 1 \text{ km}^2$ )



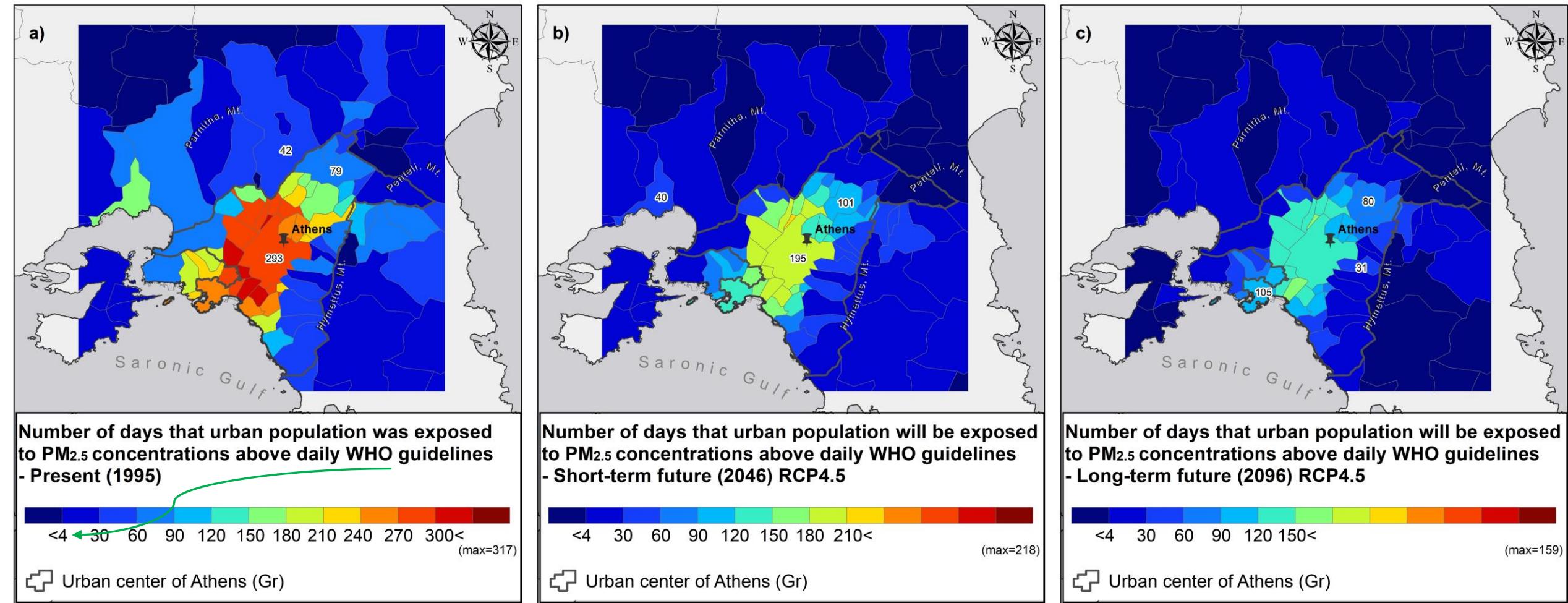
Annual average PM<sub>2.5</sub> (BC, SOA & SO<sub>4</sub>) concentration for RCP4.5 2046



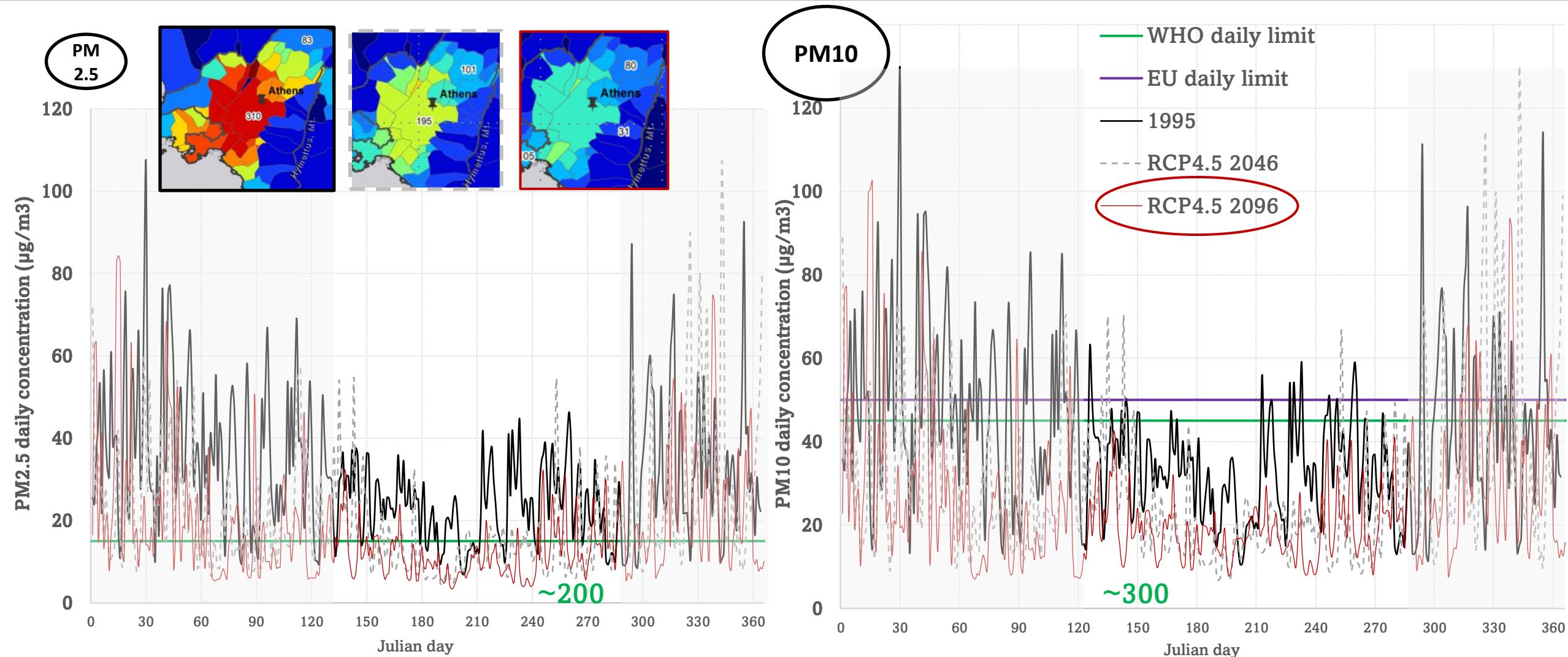
# Model outputs – projected changes (%) per municipality



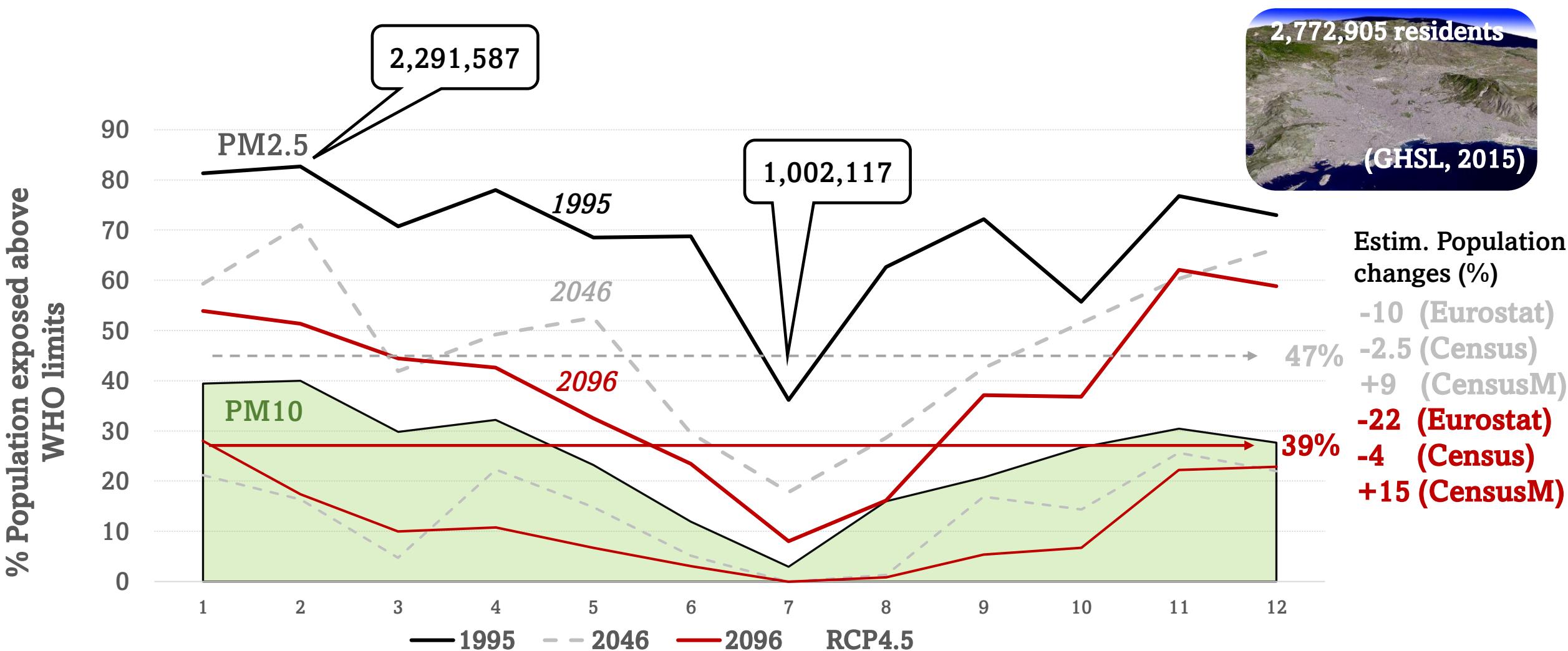
# Model outputs – exceedances of the latest daily WHO limit



# Model outputs – exceedances of the latest daily WHO limit



# Model outputs – Urban Center population exposure



# Summary

A high-resolution numerical modeling study of future anthropogenic air pollution over Athens showed:

- PM2.5 decreases under the medium pathway (RCP4.5) that reach 40% in the short- and 60% in the long-term future. They are explained by the emission reductions assumed in this scenario, and the enhanced dispersion due to higher winds from the NNE direction.
  
- Comparisons against the latest WHO annual and daily limits for PM align with the necessity for stronger climate protection measures (than 25 to 45% aerosol emission reductions).

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Merci

ДякуЮ

Thank you

Gracias

Grazie

Ευχαριστώ

Mulțumesc

Kiitos

Tack

Hvala vam

Danke

Děkuji

**Session:** Day 5 | AH-8: Human exposure in urban environments

**Title:** Intra-urban aerosol predictions under future Representative Concentration Pathways: modeling experiments for Athens

**Presenter:** Eleni Athanasopoulou ([eathana@noa.gr](mailto:eathana@noa.gr)) National Observatory of Athens (NOA), Greece

**Co-authors:** Dimitris Karagiannis, Nasia Kakouri, Giorgos Grivas, Evangelos Gerasopoulos (NOA)