

**Authors response to remarks from the preceding review file validation of manuscript  
“Reduction of uncertainty in near-term climate forecast by combining observations and  
decadal predictions”**

*a) List of authors: please use the full first names instead of initials.*

**Done.**

*b) Please ensure that the colour schemes used in your maps and charts allow readers with colour vision deficiencies to correctly interpret your findings. Please check your figures using the Coblis – Color Blindness Simulator (<https://www.color-blindness.com/coblis-color-blindness-simulator/>) and revise the colour schemes accordingly. => Figures 1–4*

**We revised the figures to improve their accessibility for readers with colour vision deficiencies. Specifically, we changed the colour scheme in Figure 1 and added numerical labels to Figures 2 and 3 to clearly identify each dataset, reducing the reliance on colour alone.**

**For Figure 4, we retained the original colour scheme to ensure consistency with the preceding figures. The colours remain distinguishable under common forms of colour vision deficiency, and the corresponding datasets for each region and season are explicitly identified in the text. As a result, the interpretation of the figure does not rely solely on colour and should remain clear for all readers.**