

Supplementary Information for "Integrated crop water management might sustainably halve the global food gap"

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5

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15

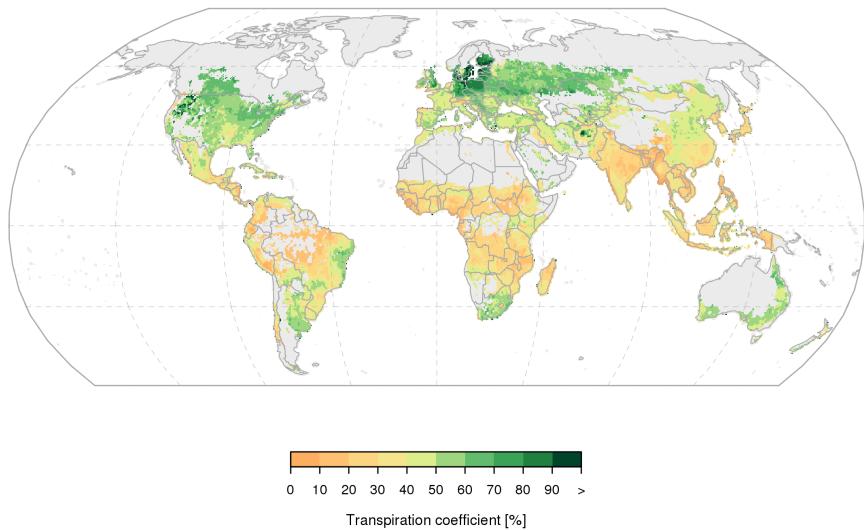


Figure S1. Spatial patterns in transpiration coefficient (transpiration per precipitation and abstracted irrigation water) averaged across rain-fed and irrigated crops during the growing seasons 1980 to 2009.

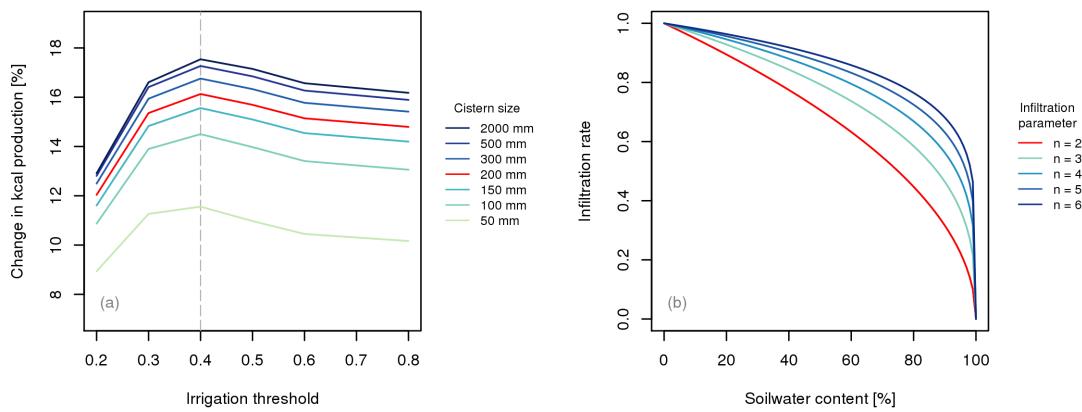


Figure S2. Sensitivity analysis for WH_{ex} parameters cistern size and irrigation threshold (a), and sensitivity analysis for WH_{in} infiltration parameter (p) (b), averaged over global rain-fed cropland for the time period 1980-2009. Default setting is $p = 2$, improved soil infiltration is realized through $p = 3, 4, 5, 6$.

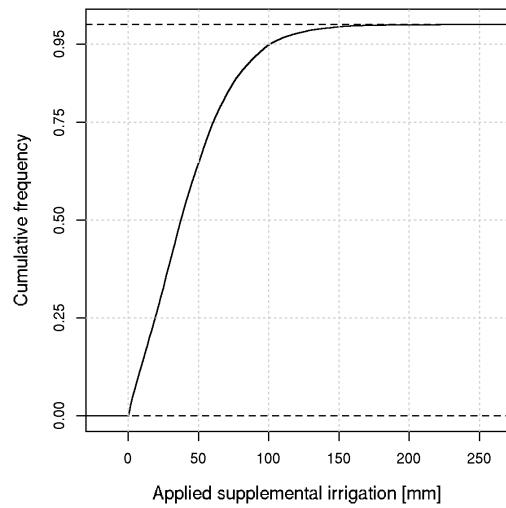


Figure S3. Cumulative frequency distribution of applied supplemental irrigation for the "ambitious" scenario (defined in section 2.1.5).

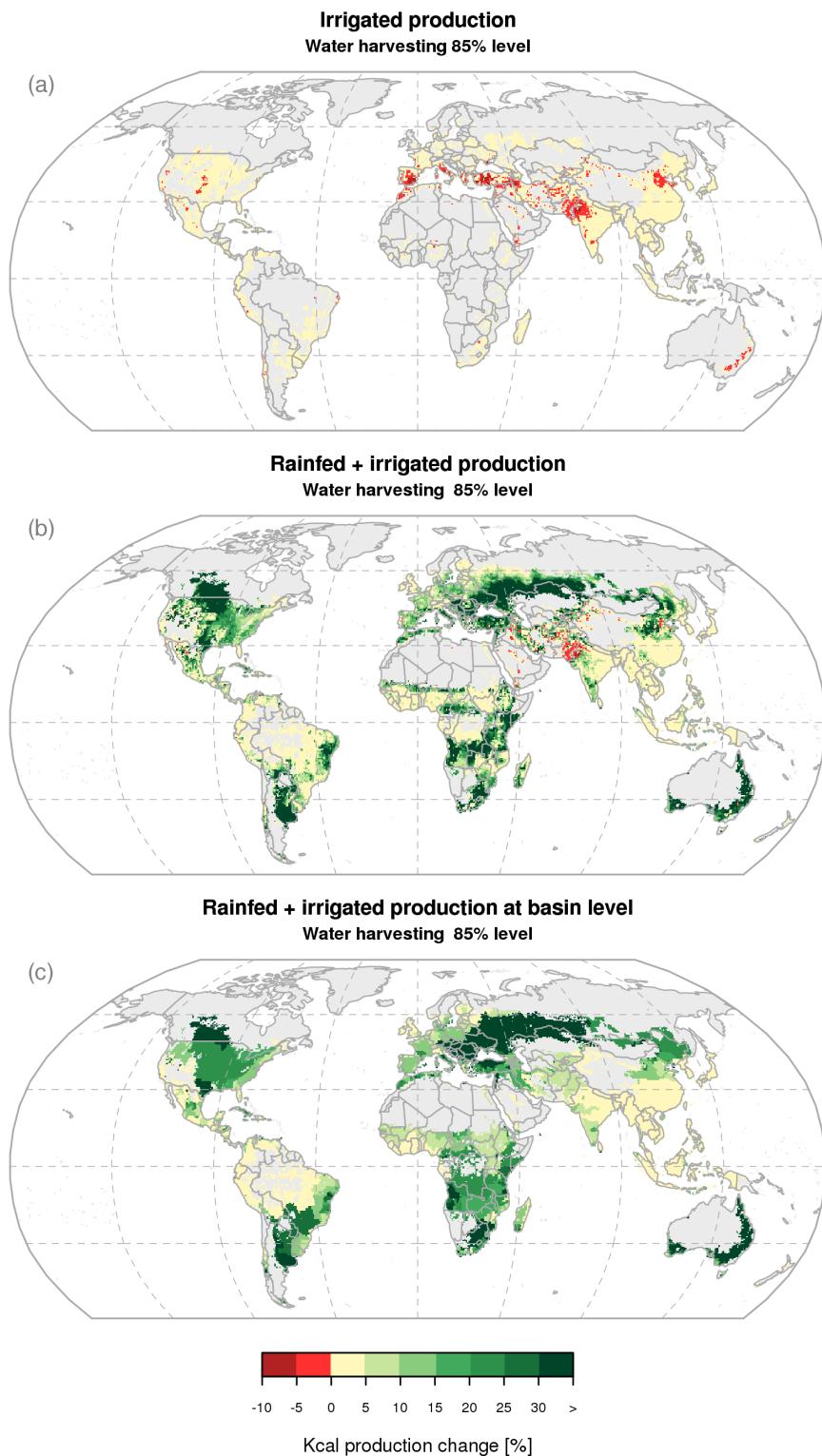


Figure S4. Downstream effect of water harvesting (WH_{ex} and WH_{in}) at the extreme 85% level. WH is implemented in rainfed systems only, but affects discharge for downstream users. Panel (a) shows the effect on irrigated kcal production, panel (b) on total kcal production (rainfed and irrigated) and panel (c) shows the change in total kcal production aggregated to the basin level.

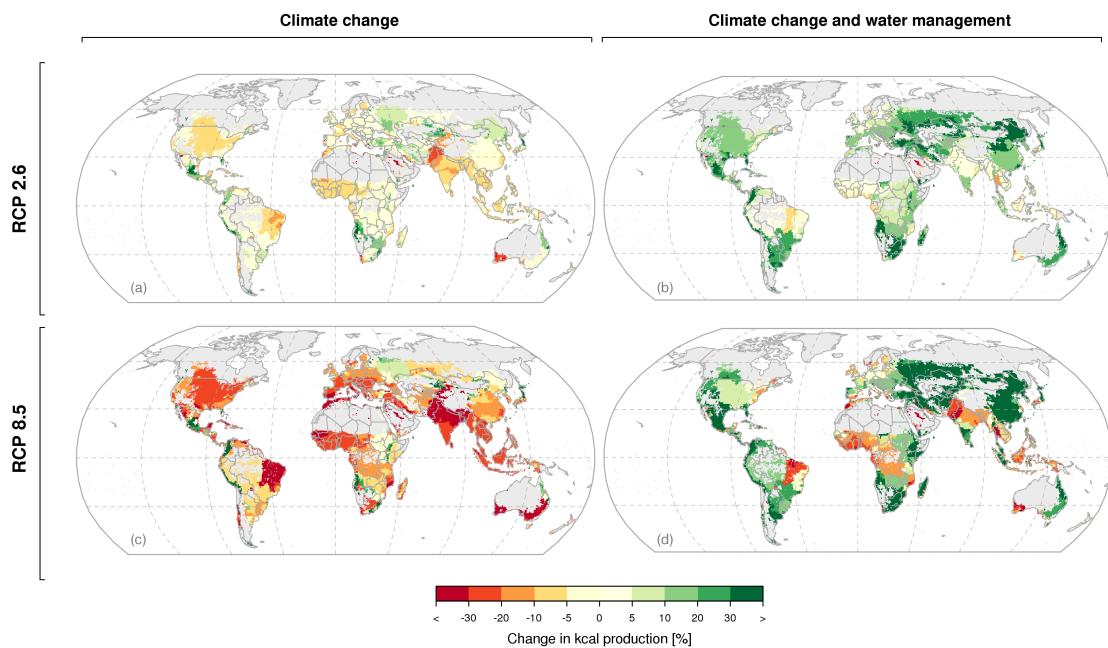


Figure S5. Spatial patterns of potential climate change impact on global kcal production under RCP 2.6 (a) and opposed to "low" water management (b); under RCP 8.5 (c) and opposed to "ambitious" water management (d), all for the time period 2070 to 2099 vs. 1980–2009 as averages across 20 GCMs and with **constant** CO_2 concentration (compare table 4).

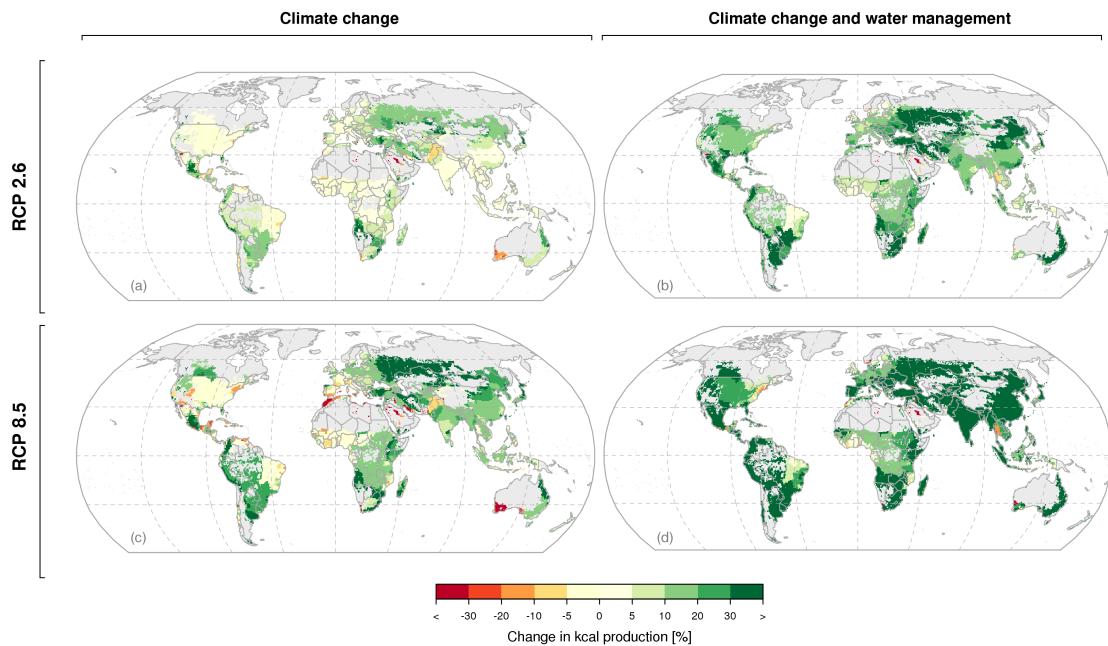


Figure S6. Spatial patterns of potential climate change impact on global crop yields under RCP 2.6 (a) and opposed to "low" water management (b); under RCP 8.5 (c) and opposed to "ambitious" water management (d), all for the time period 2070 to 2099 vs. 1980-2009 as averages across 20 GCMs and with **transient** CO_2 concentration (compare table 4).

Table S1: Selection of reference studies for water management interventions (WH_{ex} : *ex situ* water harvesting, WH_{in} : *in situ* water harvesting, SI: supplemental irrigation).

| Study | Method | Region | Result |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------|--|
| AgWater Solutions (2012) | WH_{in} and fertilizer, modeling study | sub-Saharan Africa | Potential to expand WH_{in} to 52 million ha in SSA, massive yield increases (Maize, Sorghum, Millet) |
| Andersson et al. (2011) | WH_{ex} , modeling study (SWAT) | South Africa | ~0% (due to high nitrogen stress, +30% with ecological sanitation) |
| Araya & Stroosni-jder (2010) | WH_{in} , tied ridges, mulch | Ethiopia | Barley yield +44%, soil evaporation reduced by 50 to 80% |
| Barron et al. (1999) | WH_{ex} + SI | Kenya | 70mm SI increase yields by 70% on average and prevent crop failure during drought |
| Barron & Okwach (2005) | WH_{ex} + SI | Kenya | Maize yields +36% |
| Biazin et al. (2012) | WH review | sub-Saharan Africa | Micro catchments can increase soil moisture by 30%, surface runoff reduced by 60% |
| Bos et al. (2009) | SMC, mulching SMC, mulching | plastic organic | General Yields +10 to 30%, soil evaporation reduced by 50 to 80% Soil evaporation reduced by 25% (50% soil surface covered by organic crop residues) |
| Botha et al. (2007) | WH_{in} | South Africa | Maize and soy yields +50% over six seasons |
| Bu et al. (2013) | Mulching | China | Maize yield +17 to 70% (gravel mulching) and +28 to 88% (plastic mulching) |
| Enfors et al. (2011) | WH_{in} , conservation tillage | Tanzania | Maize yield +17 to 41% |
| Fox & Rockström (2000) | WH_{ex} + SI | Burkina Faso | Sorghum grain yield +41% (+181% SI + fertilizer) |
| Fox & Rockström (2003) | WH_{ex} + SI | Burkina Faso | Sorghum grain yield +56% (+208% SI + fertilizer) |
| Hensley et al. (2000) | WH_{ex} + SI, conser-vation tillage | South Africa | Maize and Sunflower yields +50% |
| Kahinda et al. (2007) | WH_{ex} + SI, case study and modeling (APSIM) | Zimbabwe | Yield gap reduced by 53% (kg ha^{-1}) |
| Kronen (1994) | Conservation tillage (tied-furrow) | Zimbabwe | Cotton, sorghum, maize yields +42, 21, and 25%, respect. over 7 seasons |
| Lebel et al. (2015) | WH_{ex} + SI, model-ing study | sub-Saharan Africa | Maize yields +9 to 39%, water gap bridged by up to 40% |
| Liu et al. (2014) | SMC, mulching | plastic | China, nationwide Yields +20 to 35% (grain) +20 to 60% (cash crop), plastic film mulching in China reached ca. 20 million ha |

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|---------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| Ngigi et al. (2005) | $WH_{ex} + SI$ | Kenya | 50 m ³ farm pond and drip irrigation prevent crop failure; adequate for supplemental irrigation 300–600 m ² |
| Oweis (1997) | $WH_{ex} + SI$ | Syria | Wheat yields +28% to 356% |
| Oweis & Hachum (2006) | $WH_{ex} + SI$ | Syria | Wheat yields +176% on average over three seasons |
| Pretty et al. (2006) | Various conservation agriculture interventions | 57 countries | Average yield increases by 79% |
| Rockström et al. (2009) | Conservation farming (zero tillage, water harvesting, fertilizer) | Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia | Maize and Tef yields +20 to 200% |
| Rost et al. (2009) | $WH_{ex} + SI$, WH_{in} , modeling study | Global | Global crop NPP +27 to 82% (different scenarios) |
| Sauer et al. (1996) | Residue mulching | US | Maize yield +34 to 50% |
| Sivannapan (1992) | SI | southern India | Yield (various crops) +70 to 120% |
| Somme et al. (2004) | WH_{in} | Syria | Shrub survival rate increased by +70 to 90% |
| Tsubo & Walker (2007) | $WH_{ex} + SI$, modeling study | South Africa | Maize yields +12 to 62% |
| Welderufael et al. (2008) | Conservation tillage | Ethiopia | Maize yield +25 to 35% |
| Zhu & Yuanhong (2006) | $WH_{ex} + SI$ | China, large-scale study | Crop yields +20 to 88%, +40% on average |
| Walker et al. (2005) | $WH_{ex} + SI$, WH_{in} , modeling study | South Africa | Maize yields +50% |
| Wisser et al. (2010) | $WH_{ex} + SI$, modeling study | Global | Cereal production +35% (medium scenario) |

Table S2: CMIP5 model and group names used in this study

| Modeling Center (or Group) | Institute ID | Model Name |
|---|--|------------------------------|
| Beijing Climate Center, China Meteorological Administration | BCC | BCC-CSM1.1 BCC-CSM1.1(m) |
| National Center for Atmospheric Research | NCAR | CCSM4 |
| Community Earth System Model Contributors | NSF-DOE-NCAR | CESM1(CAM5) |
| Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization in collaboration with Queensland Climate Change Centre of Excellence | CSIRO-QCCCE | CSIRO-Mk3.6.0 |
| The First Institute of Oceanography, SOA, China | FIO | FIO-ESM |
| NOAA Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory | NOAA GFDL | GFDL-CM3 GFDL-ESM2G |
| NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies | NASA GISS | GISS-E2-H GISS-E2-R |
| National Institute of Meteorological Research/Korea Meteorological Administration | NIMR/KMA | HadGEM2-AO |
| Met Office Hadley Centre (additional HadGEM2-ES realizations contributed by Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais) | MOHC (additional realizations by INPE) | HadGEM2-ES |
| Institut Pierre-Simon Laplace | IPSL | IPSL-CM5A-LR IPSL-CM5A-MR |
| Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology, Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute (The University of Tokyo), and National Institute for Environmental Studies | MIROC | MIROC-ESM MIROC-ESM-CHEM |
| Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute (The University of Tokyo), National Institute for Environmental Studies, and Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology | MIROC | MIROC5 |
| Meteorological Research Institute | MRI | MRI-CGCM3 |
| Norwegian Climate Centre | NCC | NorESM1-M NorESM1-ME |

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