

PREFACE



This compendium has been prepared for the benefit of the AMAP workshop in Oslo May 14–16, 2007, the Norklima-project (funded by the Norwegian Research council), the IPY-project EALÁT, Norwegian–Chinese collaborations, and a summer course organized by the Department of Meteorology and Climatology (EU FP6 Madame Curie action, STATME “Summer School in Statistical Downscaling”), University of Lodz, Poland, June 18–22, 2007. As climate change appears to have increasingly greater effect on local climate, the question of implications for the ecosystem and society becomes more and more pressing. It is especially true for “impact studies” which rely on local climate parameters as inputs for calculating the effect on the biosphere or on society. Another motivation behind this compendium is the notion of the need for an illustrated and easily read comprehensive text on empirical–statistical downscaling,

starting from the basic principle and containing plenty of working examples. The compendium is based on numerous reports on downscaling and previous notes used in teaching statistics at the University of Bergen and Gothenburg. We hope that this compendium also will help researchers working on impact studies.