**Supplementary Section**

1. **b)**

**A map of africa with red and blue colors

Description automatically generatedA map of africa with red and blue spots

Description automatically generated**

**c) A map of africa with red and blue spots

Description automatically generated**

**Fig. S1.** Precipitation (OND) and Niño3.4 correlation. Same as Fig. 1 a, b and c respectively, but CHIRPS data is used instead of ERA5 and the period considered is ‘1981-2021’ instead of ‘1948-2021’.

1. b)

A map of africa with red and blue spots

Description automatically generatedA map of africa with red and blue spots

Description automatically generated

c) A map of africa with red and blue spots

Description automatically generated

**Fig. S2.** Precipitation (OND) and IOD correlation. Same as Fig. 2 a, b and c respectively, but CHIRPS data is used instead of ERA5 and the period considered is ‘1981-2021’ instead of ‘1948-2021’.