**The highlighted parts are modified.**

**Appendix A: Statistical parameters for model evaluation:**

The mean bias (MB) was calculated as follows:

(A1)

The mean error (ME) was calculated as follows:

(A2)

The normalised mean bias (NMB) was calculated as follows:

(A3)

The normalised mean error (NME) was calculated as follows:

(A4)

The root mean square error (RMSE) was calculated as follows:

(A5)

The correlation coefficient (R) was calculated as follows:

(A6)

The index of agreement (IOA) was calculated as follows:

(A7)

The normalised standard deviation (NSD) was calculated as follows:

(A8)

The normalised root mean square error (NRMSE) was calculated as follows:

(A9)

In the equations, and represent the simulated and observed value of a station respectively, represents the number of stations, and and represent the averages of the simulated and observed values respectively. represent the standard deviation over the observed value.