

**Figure S3.** Temporal pattern of severe drought in NAR and SAR during 1980-2018 as indicated by Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI). The variable on the y-axis is the number of grid cells with values < -1.5 (0.5 degrees spatial resolution), which indicate severe drought. Red refers to NAR and blue refers to SAR. The lines are loess regressions with standard error envelope (grey ribbon).