



Northern Eurasia Earth Science Partnership Initiative (NEESPI) during the past 12 months: An Overview of the Current Status

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Four years ago NEESPI was launched with the release of its Science Plan (<http://neespi.org>). Gradually, the Initiative was joined by numerous international projects launched in EU, Russia, the United States, Canada, Japan, and China. Currently, serving as an umbrella for more than 130 individual research projects (always with an international participation) with a budget close to 15M US dollars annually, the Initiative is in full swing. Several NEESPI Workshops and Sessions at the International Meetings were held since April 2008 when we presented our Status Report to the Assembly the last time. The Workshops strengthen the NEESPI grasp on climatic and hydrological modeling and regional NEESPI components in the Arctic and Eastern Europe. Two volumes of the NEESPI Workshop Proceedings have been published recently (Groisman and Reissell 2009; Groisman and Ivanov 2009), one book (Gutman 2009) is currently in press, and the Initiative progress overview paper is scheduled to appear in the May issue of The Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. Following the recommendations of the Aspen Global Change Institute Workshop (http://neespi.org/meetings/Aspen2007_Workshop_Report_web.pdf), the NEESPI research focus has begun to shift from organizing improved environmental monitoring of the region and studying of individual environmental processes towards modeling and its ability to project the future state of climate, environment, and societies in the NEESPI domain. Soon after the past EGU Meeting in April 2008, this focus within NEESPI, received an intergovernmental level of support being included in a Memorandum of Understanding for Collaboration in the Fields of Meteorology, Hydrology, and Oceanography between the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring. The new focus will require a higher level of integration of observation programs, process studies, and modeling, and across disciplines.

References:

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