



A global soil moisture in-situ network for satellite remote sensing of soil moisture

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Soil moisture information is critical for understanding the global water and energy cycles, for predicting precipitation, and for advising local water resource managers. Based on theory and experiments to date there is a general agreement that both short and long term improvements in our understanding of the water cycle and our ability to model it should be possible with an integrated global soil moisture observing system. Improving these global observations is needed on a priority basis. One group that actively is establishing a global in-situ soil moisture network is the International Soil Moisture Working Group as part of the Global Energy and Water Cycle Experiment (GEWEX). Coordination with other activities under the same topic that are currently being undertaken by other groups is necessary. This presentation focuses on the necessity of this coordination in particular if these data are to be used with respect to satellite remote sensing of soil moisture. Shows the progress that has been made up to date by the various activities and where that in particular is of value to the international science community that deals with remote sensing of soil moisture.