



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The Satellite Snow Product Intercomparison and Evaluation Experiment



invites the scientific community to participate at the

1st International Satellite Snow Products Intercomparison workshop (ISSPI)

Monday, 21 July 2014 to Wednesday, 23 July 2014

**NOAA Center for Weather & Climate Prediction (NCWCP)
5830 University Research Court, College Park, Maryland, USA**

see <http://calvalportal.ceos.org/projects/snowpex>

BACKGROUND

Seasonal snow is a main element of the global water cycle and climate system. Due to the strong influence on the radiation and energy balance, changes in snow extent tend to amplify climate fluctuations. Terrestrial snow covers up to 50 million km² of the Northern Hemisphere in winter, and is characterized by high spatial and temporal variability. Therefore satellite observations provide the only means for timely and complete observations of the global snow cover. The recently published *2013 IPCC Working Group 1* report identified seasonal snow as significantly decreasing during recent decades. The importance of producing better global scale snow cover data sets has been addressed in the WCRP-CliC Workshop on “WCRP Grand Challenges of the Cryosphere in a Changing Climate”, held in Tromsø, 16-18 Oct. 2013. Also in the WMO Global Cryosphere Watch Workshop in January 2013 the need of intercomparing snow products from various sensors and methods was identified.

This is the first of two international workshops with the aim to bring together scientists and institutions working in seasonal snow pack monitoring in order to assess the quality of current satellite-based snow products derived from EO data and work out guidelines for improvement. Scientists are encouraged to submit abstracts for presentations and posters for the workshops.

OBJECTIVES OF THIS WORKSHOP

- To review algorithms and satellite products for snow extent and snow water equivalent (continental to global coverage)
- To elaborate guidelines for generation of reference / validation data (i.e. from high resolution satellite images, in-situ data; etc.)
- To elaborate concepts, protocols and guidelines for intercomparison and validation of snow products
- To review and discuss uncertainty characterisation of satellite snow products

EXPECTED OUTCOME OF THE WORKSHOP

- Description of algorithms and snow products
- Concept, protocols and procedures for validating and intercomparing products
- Definition of key regions and key periods for validation and quality assessment
- Procedures for generating reference data for product intercomparisons
- Coordinated plan of validation activities and intercomparison

THEMES

- Continental to global snow extent products: algorithms, products, etc.
- Continental to global snow water equivalent products: algorithms, products, etc.
- Generation of reference data sets, key regions and key periods
- Methods and protocols for validation and quality assessment of global snow products
- Uncertainty characterisation of snow extent and SWE products

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Abstracts should be written in plain text on one A4 page and submitted before **15th May 2014**. Both selected papers from oral and poster sessions will be published at the conference. Electronic registration and abstract submission is at <http://calvalportal.ceos.org/projects/snowpex>

REGISTRATION

Registration is open until **15 May 2014**. Participation at the workshop is free of charge. Online registration at <http://calvalportal.ceos.org/projects/snowpex>.

WORKSHOP WEB SITE

Updated information is provided at <http://calvalportal.ceos.org/projects/snowpex>.

IMPORTANT DATES

1 st workshop announcement	10 March 2014
Abstract submission	15 May 2014
Registration	15 May 2014
Notification of acceptance and preliminary programme	9 June 2014
1 st International Satellite Snow Products Intercomparison Workshop (1 st ISSPI)	21-23 July 2014

SCIENTIFIC ORGANISING COMMITTEE

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