

DRAFT NOTES FROM THE GEWEX/GWSP DINNER MEETING  
AUGUST 21, 2010  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, USA

On the evening of August 21, 2010, 18 experts from the Global Energy and Water Cycle Experiment (GEWEX) and the Global Water System Project (GWSP) gathered at Ivar's Salmon House in Seattle for a dinner meeting to consider areas where the two projects could increase their collaboration. GEWEX focuses on water cycle science with an increasing eye on applications and the use of the science, while GWSP has been more focused on the important role of fresh water in society, including science, governance and impacts of variability and change on people and their health and well-being. As noted by the GEWEX Scientific Steering Group (SSG) Chair, Kevin Trenberth, given the complementary nature of these activities, it behooves the projects to collaborate as much as possible.

After brief introductory comments that traced the genesis of the meeting and past GWSP and GEWEX collaborations, Drs. Janos Bogardi and Charles Vorosmarty outlined the goals of GWSP. They noted that GEWEX had been an active partner in the development of the GWSP plans and had representatives on its science committee. Key GWSP activities with links (or potential links) to GEWEX activities include Fast Track initiatives, the Digital Water Atlas, the Global Scale Initiative (GSI) and the Global Catchment Initiative (GCI). Janos Bogardi highlighted the upcoming GCI workshop in Bonn in December 2010. Given the complementary nature of the goals of the GWSP GCI activity and the Regional Hydroclimate Projects (RHPs), it was agreed that the potential synergies between the two efforts should be encouraged. In particular, those RHPs that had an interest in GCI issues could complete the questionnaires being addressed by the GCI watersheds.

**ACTION:** Information about the GCI conference will be forwarded to the individual RHP leads and they will be invited to contribute. (ACTION: Janos Bogardi, Rick Lawford)

**ACTION:** The GCI basin questionnaires will be circulated to the RHPs with an invitation to each of them to complete the questionnaire for a large river basin within their project area. (ACTION: Peter van Oevelen, Janos Bogardi)

**ACTION:** Specific linkages between GEWEX and GWSP were discussed in detail. Eric Wood noted that the Hydrologic Applications Project (HAP) already has connections with the GWSP's efforts in hydrologic modeling. There appear to be opportunities for hydrologic models to benefit from the databases of dams and reservoirs in the digital atlas that has been developed by GWSP. For its part, GEWEX would like GWSP to contribute to demonstrating the use and benefits of seasonal hydrological forecasts. The feasibility of preparing an annual report on the state of the world's water was discussed in some detail. Based on those discussions it was agreed that a white paper for review by the respective science groups and a 0.1 version of the

system should be developed. (ACTION: Eric Wood, Charles Vorosmarty, Christa Peters Lidard, and Dennis Lettenmaier)

**ACTION:** Jun Xia introduced the idea of organizing a joint GEWEX-GWSP conference. It was felt that this was a good idea but the Project Offices needed to review their respective meeting schedules to see when there might be a time when such a conference could be planned in the next year or two. (ACTION: Peter van Oevelen, Janos Bogardi)

**ACTION:** The possibility of holding a conference on adaptation to climate change by water resource managers was also discussed. It was noted that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) had delayed its plan to have a similar workshop due to the independent review of the IPCC. It was agreed that further consultations should be held with the IPCC Secretariat before launching activities in this area. (ACTION: Rick Lawford)

**ACTION:** The possibility of holding a side event at the World Climate Conference was discussed briefly. GWSP was invited to propose a session. (ACTION: Janos Bogardi, GWSP leads)

**ACTION:** It was agreed that a future opportunity for a future meeting involving more GEWEX and GWSP participants should be explored. (ACTION: Janos Bogardi, International GEWEX Project Office)

Other issues raised during the discussion that did not result in specific actions but merit further discussion include the governance of the ESSP projects, the synergies between downscaling activities in the RHPs and GLASS and their connection to GWSP, and the possible roles of regionalization, scaling and regional science issues in bringing GCI and the RHPs closer together. It was agreed that white papers would be a good way to explore some of these issues, particularly if they focused on water and biodiversity, or water and energy, or water and food security.