

**Global Soil Wetness Project (GSWP)
Status report for January – July 2003**

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All up-to-date information is posted at the GSWP website: <http://www.iges.org/gswp/>

► GSWP-2 data sets for parameter specification, meteorological forcing, and validation have been produced. The data sets are based on the ISLSCP-Initiative II data, but many of the fields represent additional processing, such as the production of “hybrid” data sets combining gridded observations (low temporal resolution) with model reanalysis (high time resolution). This hybridization removes systematic errors in the reanalysis data, providing a superior set of forcing data for the land surface models.

► The data sets described above have been posted online for community access. There are three DODS servers for accessing the data directly over the internet:

- North America: <http://www.monsoondata.org:9090/dods/>
- Europe: <http://dods.ipsl.jussieu.fr/>
- Asia: <http://ftp.tkl.iis.u-tokyo.ac.jp:9090/dods/>

The DODS (now called OpenDAP) framework allows clients such as model codes, visualization software, or other programs to access large and varied data sets from servers on the internet, just as if they were accessing files on local computer disks

(<http://www.unidata.ucar.edu/packages/dods/>, <http://opendap.org/>). To use this new technology, some additional software must be installed on the client’s home system (usually DODS-enabled libraries for existing software or compilers). An FAQ page has been set up to help GSWP participants with these and other issues at: <http://www.iges.org/gswp/faq.html>. Additionally, data are now being made available for download by HTTP from the European site, and by FTP from the North American site for those who cannot access any of the servers above because of firewall, compiler, or other issues.

► An automated data submission portal has been established at the GSWP Inter-Comparison Center (ICC) at the U. Tokyo (<http://www.tkl.iis.u-tokyo.ac.jp:8080/gswp2/>).

► The revised deadline for the baseline simulation for GSWP-2 is 15 September 2003. At least 10 models have begun the baseline simulations as of early July, with as many as 10 more expected to participate.

► There will be a GSWP-2 session at the AMS 18th Conference on Hydrology, AMS Annual Meeting (Seattle, Washington, USA, 11-15 January 2004) to present preliminary results of the experiment.

► Plans are being made for a collaborative effort between GRP and GMPP. Bill Rossow has been communicating with Paul Dirmeyer and Jan Polcher about using GSWP estimates of surface (latent and sensible) heat fluxes over land for helping to close the global surface energy budget. GSWP will also pursue sensitivity studies using ISCCP estimates of surface radiation for model forcing, compared to SRB and reanalysis estimates, to understand how uncertainty in our estimates of radiation propagate into the terrestrial hydrologic cycle.