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TITLE: Northern Eurasia Earth Science Partnership Initiative in 2013: An Update

ABSTRACT BODY: Eight years ago Northern Eurasia Earth Science Partnership Initiative (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. Throughout its duration, NEESPI served and is serving as an umbrella for more than 160 individual international research projects. Currently, the Initiative is in full swing. The total number of the ongoing NEESPI projects (as on July 2013) is 50 and has changed but slightly compared to its peak (87 in 2008).

The past one and one-half years (2012-through mid-2013) were extremely productive in the NEESPI outreach. We organized five Open Science Sessions at the three major Geoscience Unions/Assembly Meetings (AGU, EGU, and JpGU) and four International NEESPI Workshops. The programs of two of these Workshops (in Irkutsk and Petrozavodsk, Russia) included Summer Schools for early career scientists.

The list of publications of NEESPI scientists was still incomplete at the time of preparation of this abstract. A large suite of NEESPI articles (59) is currently at different stages of review process for the Forth Special NEESPI Issue of "Environmental Research Letters" (<http://iopscience.iop.org/1748-9326/focus/NEESPI4>). In the past 12 months, we continued releases of the latest findings in the NEESPI domain in regional monographs with publication of two such monographs devoted to Siberia and Dryland East Asia (Groisman and Gutman eds. 2013 and Chen et al. 2013).

Keeping in mind an orderly completion of NEESPI in 2015 and a desire of the NEESPI project leaders and their numerous associates to continue studies of the Northern Eurasia role in the Earth System within the FUTURE EARTH Mega Program, we have begun development of the new set of scientific ideas for regional projects for the post-NEESPI period. The goal is to formulate these ideas (science questions) in such way that they will secure fruitful regional and global research for the next decade (as the NEESPI Science Plan did in 2004) and will use new tools that became available (such as Earth System Models, new remote sensing products and field campaigns). These ideas will be discussed at the Meeting.

Cited references:

Groisman and Gutman (eds), 2013: Environmental Changes in Siberia: Regional Changes and their Global Consequences. Springer, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 357 pp.

Chen J, Wan S, Henebry G, Qi J, Gutman G, Sun G and Kappas M (eds), 2013: Dryland East Asia: Land Dynamics Amid Social and Climate Change. Beijing: Higher Education Press and Berlin: De Gruyter.

CURRENT SECTION/FOCUS GROUP: Global Environmental Change (GC)

CURRENT SESSION: GC049. Environmental, Socio-Economic and Climatic Changes in Northern Eurasia and their Feedbacks to the Global Earth System

INDEX TERMS: 1699 GLOBAL CHANGE General or miscellaneous, 1655 GLOBAL CHANGE Water cycles, 1615 GLOBAL CHANGE Biogeochemical cycles, processes, and modeling , 1637 GLOBAL CHANGE