

NEESPI Data and Publication Policies and Data Policy Implementation

Introduction. The data collected by the NEESPI scientists represent a significant public investment in research (in this context the term “data” includes observation data, metadata, products, information, algorithms, documentation, models, images, and research results). NEESPI scientists hold these data in public trust to promote comprehensive, long-term Earth science research. Accordingly, NEESPI has adopted data policies consistent with existing international polices and data exchange principles to maximize access to data and to keep user costs as low as possible. This policy applies to all data archived, maintained, distributed or produced by the NEESPI scientists/institutions. We, however, make a distinction between the Datasets created or substantially modified through NEESPI and those that have been property of the NEESPI scientists/institutions prior to their joining the Initiative.

NEESPI data and publication policies are as follows:

1. **Data generated by NEESPI** will become public domain and will be permanently archived in the NEESPI country where the research was conducted and at the centralized (or distributed) NEESPI **Services and Data Support Centers, (NSDSC)**. Only validated and accepted-for-distribution data will be archived at NSDSCs. These Centers will provide data documentation and tools to search and distribute these data. Implementation of the NEESPI data policy will be tasked to NSDSCs.
2. NEESPI researchers are encouraged to share all NEESPI-related data with other NEESPI partners during research and validation and prior to submission to NSDSC, thus utilizing the advantages of a collaborative NEESPI environment. We do not expect that data which have been property of the NEESPI scientists/institutions prior to their joining the Initiative will become automatically available to all NEESPI researchers. However, if these data holdings were a prerequisite to joining the NEESPI Research Team, it is expected that (a) the data holders will be partners of the researchers, (b) the research projects, which involve the use of these data, have to allocate resources to modernize (update, quality control, describe, and make the data useable for particular tasks of these projects), and only thereafter, (c) a new modernized data set become a part of the **NEESPI generated datasets**. As a rule, only validated and accepted-for-distribution data will be archived at NSDSCs.
3. There will be no periods of exclusive rights to publish NEESPI results. Exceptions are possible for students where graduation requirements prohibit publication of results prior to acceptance of a Thesis.
4. Individual investigators may make their own data more widely available at any time. External investigators (i.e., non-NEESPI researchers) will be given access to these data as soon as the data have been submitted to any of the NSDSCs after validation.
5. Each NEESPI module is responsible for establishing a time schedule for data exchange within the projects and data delivery to one of the NSDSCs. The time limit for data delivery to the NSDSCs will be not more than one year.
6. Data should be analyzed cooperatively by all scientists involved in obtaining them. Especially cooperation across disciplines and among Northern Eurasian, European, Japanese, and North American researchers should be encouraged. Publications resulting from work under NEESPI

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should be co-authored by all scientists who have participated substantially in the work, unless some participants choose not to be on the authors' list. The same applies to presentations at meetings. Users of unpublished data should contact the data providers well in advance of producing and submitting a manuscript, in order to inform the providers of intended use. Special effort by each non-Northern Eurasian researcher should be put into integration of Northern Eurasia researchers in their work and in the publication of the results.

7. NEESPI will resist all attempts to convert itself into a "gated community" regarding the data accumulated during the course of the NEESPI research. This means that the Initiative fully supports WMO Resolution 40 and similar recommendations of International Science Organizations related to unrestricted distribution and sharing for scientific purposes of the Earth Sciences Information.
8. Where data are used for modeling or integrating studies, the scientist collecting the data will be credited appropriately, either by co-authorship or by citation. The data collectors should be informed of publication plans well in advance of submission of a paper, given an opportunity to read the manuscript, and be offered co-authorship. In cases where data from other investigators are a minor contribution to a paper, the data should be referenced by a citation. Users of the data must always state the source of the data.
9. Specific constraints for certain data sources (e.g., satellite products, global meteorological analysis, etc.) may be subject to copyright restrictions, which are more limiting than this NEESPI data policy. It is up to the NEESPI Steering and Coordination Committee (NSCC) or their designee to take the first steps in making contacts with officials and institutions in order to prepare specific agreements that will allow NEESPI scientists to use the data.

Implementation of the NEESPI data policy will be mostly provided via the NEESPI Services and Data Support Centers, NSDSC. These Centers are tasked to provide all possible support within the area of their responsibility to the current NEESPI researchers and to promote NEESPI, thus facilitating further involvement of prominent scientists and research groups in the studies that address the objectives outlined in the NEESPI Science Plan. A suite of funding requests have been (are, will be) submitted to National Agencies to secure this task.

Currently, the following NEESPI Services and Data Support Centers have been established or are in the process of organization:

- The Joint NEESPI Services and Support Center for Hydrometeorology based at World Data Centers A and B for Meteorology, respectively at NOAA National Climatic Data Center, Asheville, North Carolina, USA and Russian Research Institute for Hydrometeorological Information, Obninsk, Russia.
- The NEESPI Integrated Services and Data Support Center for Eastern Asia based at Beijing Climate Center of Chinese Meteorological Administration, Beijing, China.
- The NEESPI Services and Data Support Centers for Remote Sensing based at Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Maryland, USA and at ScanEx Corporation, Moscow, Russia.

Other NEESPI Services and Data Support Centers may be created if needed.