

## Northern Eurasia Earth Science Partnership Initiative

This article has been downloaded from IOPscience. Please scroll down to see the full text article.

2009 Environ. Res. Lett. 4 045001

(<http://iopscience.iop.org/1748-9326/4/4/045001>)

View [the table of contents for this issue](#), or go to the [journal homepage](#) for more

Download details:

IP Address: 38.107.179.212

The article was downloaded on 22/02/2012 at 03:51

Please note that [terms and conditions apply](#).

## PREFACE

# Northern Eurasia Earth Science Partnership Initiative

**Pavel Groisman**

National Climatic Data  
Center, National Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Administration,  
Asheville, NC 28801, USA  
[pasha.groisman@noaa.gov](mailto:pasha.groisman@noaa.gov)

**Amber Soja**

Research and Technology  
Directorate, NASA Langley  
Research Centre, VI 23681,  
USA  
[amber.j.soja@nasa.gov](mailto:amber.j.soja@nasa.gov)

The Northern Eurasia Earth Science Partnership Initiative (NEESPI) was launched five years ago with the release of its Science Plan (<http://neespi.org>). Gradually, the Initiative was joined by numerous international projects and launched in the European Union, Russia, United States, Canada, Japan, and China. Currently, serving as an umbrella for more than 130 individual research projects (always with international participation) and with a \$15M annual budget, this highly diverse initiative is in full swing. Since the first NEESPI focus issue (Pavel Groisman et al 2007 *Environ. Res. Lett.* **2** 045008 (1pp)) in December 2007, several NEESPI Workshops and Sessions at International Meetings have been held that strengthen the NEESPI grasp on biogeochemical cycle and cryosphere studies, climatic and hydrological modeling, and regional NEESPI components in the Arctic, non-boreal Eastern Europe, Central Asia, northern Siberia, and mountainous regions of the NEESPI domain. In May 2009, an overview NEESPI paper was published in the *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society* (BAMS) (Pavel Groisman et al 2009 *Bull. Am. Met. Soc.* **90** 671). This paper also formulated a requirement to the next generation of NEESPI studies to work towards attaining a higher level of integration of observation programs, process studies, and modeling, across disciplines. Three books devoted to studies in different regions of Northern Eurasia prepared by the members of the NEESPI team have appeared and/or are scheduled to appear in 2009. This (second) ERL focus issue dedicated to climatic and environmental studies in Northern Eurasia is composed mostly from the papers that were presented at two NEESPI Open Science Sessions at the Annual Fall Meeting of the American Geophysical Union (December 2008, San Francisco, CA) and at the General Assembly of the European Geosciences Union (April 2009, Vienna, Austria), as well as at the specialty NEESPI Workshops convened in Jena, Helsinki, Odessa, Urumqi, Krasnoyarsk, St Petersburg, and Bishkek during the past two years. As in the first NEESPI focus issue, papers that make up this second issue can be divided into five major topics:

- climate and hydrology;
- land cover and land use;
- the biogeochemical cycle and its feedbacks;
- cryosphere;
- human dimension.

However, this partitioning is less rigid compared to the partitioning in the first Issue. Following the requirement of a higher level of integration outlined in the BAMS paper, many papers in this issue respond to two or even three of the topics listed above.