

Second International HyMeX Workshop

2-4 June 2008

Ecole Polytechnique
Palaiseau, France

Second call



Context

The Mediterranean region features a near closed sea surrounded by very urbanized littorals and mountains from which numerous rivers originate. This results in a lot of interactions and feedbacks between oceanic-atmospheric-continental surfaces processes that play a predominant role on climate and its ecosystems. Moreover, they frequently cause extreme events (heavy precipitation and flash-flooding, strong winds and large swell, droughts) that produce heavy damages and human losses. The ability to predict such dramatic events remains weak because of the contribution of very fine-scale processes and their non-linear interactions with the larger scale processes. The Mediterranean climate is also influenced by both sub-tropical and mid-latitude climate dynamics and is therefore very sensitive to global climate change.

Research on the Mediterranean is currently limited in all the compartments (atmosphere, ocean, hydrology) by a lack of observations. The HyMeX program is a multi-disciplinary and multi-scale experimental program dedicated to the water cycle (HyMeX standing for "Hydrological cycle in the Mediterranean Experiment"). It aims at a better quantification and understanding of the hydrological cycle and related processes in the Mediterranean, with emphases put on high-impact weather events and regional Mediterranean climate.

HyMeX aims at producing a new long-term and highly temporally and spatially resolved data-set over the Mediterranean basin to:

1. provide an accurate description of the water cycle, its inter-annual to decadal variability and its trend in the context of global change,
2. understand how the Mediterranean water cycle processes contribute to the regional climate and intense Mediterranean events,
3. validate the regional oceanic, atmospheric and hydrological modelling systems and improve parameterizations.

HyMeX also aims at developing methodologies, data assimilation and modelling systems in order to improve the representation of the water cycle processes in weather prediction, regional climate studies, climate impact, and environmental research.

HyMeX focuses on the interactions and feedbacks between the various compartments (atmosphere, sea, continental surfaces) and thus associates major disciplines such as meteorology, oceanography, hydrology and climatology. In particular, HyMeX addresses key issues related to (1) the water budget of the Mediterranean basin, (2) the continental hydrological cycle and related water resources, (3) heavy precipitation and flash-flooding, (4) intense air-sea exchanges and (5) coastal dynamics.

Workshop objectives and program

The HyMeX white book issued in September 2007 after a revision process started at the 1st HyMeX workshop in January 2007 gives an overview of the state of the knowledge on the Mediterranean water cycle and outlines the open research questions needing investigation within the HyMeX program.

Based on the outcome of the HyMeX white book, this second HyMeX workshop aims at defining the key scientific issues that will be addressed within the HyMeX program, and the appropriate international scientific strategy. Outcomes of the workshop should contribute to the Science Plan and Implementation Plan documents of the program. This second workshop is therefore an important step in the HyMeX elaboration process and the definition of the actions to conduct at the international level. The program of this workshop includes:

- a limited selection of talks providing broad and relevant information with respect to the objectives of the workshop.
- series of parallel sessions of discussions, structured along the white book items and the different aspects of the experimental set-up (SOP, EOP, LOP) including the modelling strategy.
- sessions of posters with call for contributions to present on-going work on the Mediterranean water cycle.

The HyMeX white book is available to all on the HyMeX web site. ***The official language of the workshop is English.***

The detailed program will be available on the workshop web site.

Registration and accommodations

Registration for the workshop will have to be done via the form available online on the conference web site before:

April 23rd, 2008

The Ecole Polytechnique (Palaiseau) is easily accessible from Paris (or any Paris airports) through the Lozère station on the "RER B" (25 minutes from the centre of Paris). It is thus recommended to make reservation in hotels located in Paris since the hotel offer at Palaiseau is limited.

Abstract submission

Papers on all research topics related to the hydrological cycle in Mediterranean are welcome. The short abstracts for poster presentation can be submitted on line on the conference web site:

<http://www.cnrm.meteo.fr/hymex/>

The deadline for abstract submission is:

April 23rd, 2008

The abstracts will be accessible on this same web site. The authors will have also the possibility of uploading the electronic version of their poster. ***Short abstracts and posters should be written in English.***

Organizing committee

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Contacts

HyMeX and workshop web site:

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