

New format of EWGLAM/SRNWP meetings

Why ?

Initiated by a proposal for in-depth changes from Per Unden in March 2005, a lively debate took place along the last EWGLAM meeting (Ljubljana, October 4th). It was discussed how to make the next annual EWGLAM/SRNWP meetings more attractive and more efficient. The objective is both to provide an overview of the main progress in NWP along the past year over whole Europe and to representatives from all European NMSs, and to allow decision making for enhanced collaboration between consortia. The new joint meeting will include the following :

1. Official presentations

National presentations will keep the form of posters introduced by a 5mn talk presenting the most important issues, in operations or research. Besides a table of operational applications will be updated, each partner filling a predefined standard form (instead of the present maintenance of a list by DWD).

Group reports will be shorter, reduced to 15 mn, and present the main strategic points for each of the five consortia (ALADIN, COSMO, HIRLAM, LACE, UK).

The ECMWF presentation won't change, neither in length (30 mn) nor in content. A similar EUMETSAT presentation could be added in the future.

2. Thematic presentations

They will be divided in scientific domains (data assimilation, dynamics, predictability, physics, ...), shared between consortia (with 2h-2h½ per consortium for all topics), and include general overviews as well as scientific presentations on innovative issues, and discussions (at least 15 mn per topic). Each consortium will define which partition best reflects its achievements along the last year. The consortia leaders, the SRNWP coordinator, and the local organiser will between them agree on the detailed programme and check that relevant area leaders or scientists are invited (a sort of Programme committee).

3. Business meetings

That's where will be decided how to work together. It should take half a day.

The SRNWP meeting, prepared by the SRNWP coordinator, will be kept in more or less the same format.

It will be followed by discussions in small groups, involving mainly part of the management groups of consortia.

4. Participation

The length of the meeting will be increased, by half a day as a beginning (hence 3.5 days in 2006), more if new meetings are a real success, drawing more and more scientists.

Consortia should try to send more persons from the management groups or thematic coordinators. The 2005 SRNWP presentations for Lead Centres were a typical example of what should be avoided.

And young scientists are welcome to EWGLAM/SRNWP meetings : this is a friendly and useful introduction to NWP life for them, and this brings some fresh ideas to the workshops.