

## **TCO FLUXNET Synthesis Terms of Reference:**

### **Terms of Reference for the Science Moderation Committee**

The SMC provides leadership to the FLUXNET synthesis activities, including:

- promoting synthesis activities among the FLUXNET community
- guiding the preparation of the FLUXNET data base
- coordinating the synthesis activities:
  - soliciting proposals,
  - organizing the proposals into thematic groups
  - appointing theme leaders
  - responding to the concerns and recommendations of the theme leaders
  - identifying areas of overlap or duplication and working with the theme and network leaders to refocus the proposals so as to resolve conflicts
- developing data fair use guidelines and ensuring that the guidelines are followed
- ensuring that each contributing network is adequately engaged, so that their scientific involvement and paper authorship is commensurate with their data contribution
- working to resolve any conflicts that arise

The SMC consists of representatives of different regional networks and FLUXNET: D. Baldocchi, J. Chen, B. Law, H. Margolis, D. Papale, M. Reichstein, C. von Randow

### **Terms of Reference for the Theme Leaders**

The theme leaders report to the SMC. They are responsible to

- coordinate activities among the theme PIs
- avoid duplication of effort within their theme by facilitating discussion among theme participants and refocusing proposals where necessary

- communicate data fair use and authorship guidelines to each theme participant
- make recommendations to the SMC on the resolution of conflicts if conflicts arise

### **Data Policy and Fair Use Guidelines**

- The final FLUXNET synthesis database has been released in September 2007. A new version of the database will be released after one or two years
- Through September 2008, only contributors to the FLUXNET database are eligible to use data from the TCO Fluxnet data base, and only in the context of the pre-approved FLUXNET synthesis papers. PIs and regional networks can however make their data more easily available to others under a fair use policy by writing a short note to the SMC. These data will then be available for download subject to existing fair use policies. PIs will still be informed about downloads when they occur.
- All data users agree to abide by the fair use guidelines and accept the recommendation of the SMC when conflicts arise
- Under no circumstances can the data be circulated to other people, even to co-authors, that are not listed in the proposal, because of conditional agreements with different networks. Co-authors that need to access the data must first send a request to the SMC that they will forward this to the networks for approval.
- Data providers will be kept fully informed of the use of their data. Data-use plans are made public in the [www.fluxdata.org](http://www.fluxdata.org) website in the form of the proposals posted there. Site PIs may withdraw their data from

specific analyses carried out although they should give a reason for this to the proposer and SMC..

- All data providers will be invited to give intellectual input to the studies that use their data.
- Significant intellectual input should lead to co-authorship. Data contribution may lead to group co-authorship if possible with the journal. The final decision on co-authorship is with lead author; each lead author must inform the data providers of co-authorship plans early in the process. All the PIs can request that specific sentences be inserted into the acknowledgment section.

- Scientific communication will be between lead authors and co-authors. Until the final manuscripts are accepted, the data providers must be kept in the e-mail traffic that discusses the topic, circulates manuscript drafts, etc. The data providers must however maintain these information as confidential.
- Lead authors are responsible to appropriately acknowledge the contributions of each contributing network and their funding agencies in all presentations and publications that result from the TCO FLUXNET synthesis.