



Global Water Cycle observational and research contributions to reducing the societal impacts of unusual weather and climate

R. Lawford (1)

(1) International GEWEX Project Office, Silver Spring, MD, 20910-5641, USA
(lawford@umbc.edu / Phone: +301-565-8345)

During the past decade there has been significant progress in the development of capabilities to provide better information and predictions for anticipating, monitoring and recovering from unusual hazardous weather and seasonal climate anomalies. Some of this progress has come through research projects such as the Global Energy and Water Cycle Experiment (GEWEX) and through Earth Observation programs such as the Integrated Global Water Cycle Observations (IGWCO) theme under the Integrated Global Observing Strategy Partnership. IGWCO activities also provide a framework for influencing the development of global observing systems and for providing the infrastructure for making information from these advanced systems to those who are most at risk.