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## **GEWEX Global Data Sets: An Overview and Perspective**

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The Global Energy and Water cycle Experiment (GEWEX) is the core project in the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) concerned with studying the dynamics and thermodynamics of the atmosphere and interactions with the Earth's surface. Within the framework of GEWEX many global data sets related to the energy and water cycle have been developed and are still being developed. Most of the data sets can be linked to at least one of the GEWEX Panels namely the GEWEX Radiation Panel (GRP), the GEWEX Modelling and Prediction Panel (GMPP) and the Coordinated Energy and water cycle Observations Project (CEOP). This presentation will outline the historical data sets that are available and will present the plans for new data sets that are to be released. A rationale for the development of these data sets within GEWEX is being given and where possible links to other international programs is presented.