

WCRP Global Precipitation EXperiment (GPEX) Scientific Steering Group Meeting

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Introduction

The meeting was held in a hybrid format enabling members to meet in person on 7&8 March, Kyoto, and connect virtually, providing an important opportunity for direct exchange and in-depth discussions on the next phase of GPEX development, including scientific priorities, coordination activities, stakeholder engagement, and future strategic directions.

During the meeting, each Working Group (WG) presented and discussed its ongoing and planned activities, future areas of work, and potential directions for development. These meeting notes are intended to serve both as a summary of the discussions and as an action-oriented reference framework to support WG members and the WCRP Secretariat in coordinating and guiding GPEX activities during 2026–2027.

Workshop Day 1 Topics - 7 March

1. Reflections of the GPEX Multistakeholder Workshop

The discussion reflected on the overall outcomes of the GPEX Multistakeholder Workshop and identified several strategic themes and open questions for the next phase of GPEX development. Participants agreed that the workshop successfully broadened engagement beyond the immediate GPEX community and created momentum around coordinated precipitation science activities, particularly in relation to high-impact precipitation systems and the proposed Years of Precipitation (YoP) framework.

a. Private sector engagement and scientific integrity

A significant part of the discussion focused on the role of the private sector, particularly following the participation of Tomorrow.io and other external stakeholders in the workshop. Participants acknowledged the increasing importance of engaging with private actors as providers of high-resolution datasets, observational capabilities, AI/ML expertise, and technological innovation.

At the same time, there was a strong consensus that GPEX should not endorse commercial products or forecasting services. Instead, any engagement should be framed around scientific collaboration, including data access, benchmarking, uncertainty assessment, process understanding, and peer-reviewed scientific evaluation. Several participants highlighted that the value of such collaborations should remain aligned with GPEX's scientific objectives and societal relevance, while preserving the programme's scientific independence and credibility.

The discussion also highlighted the need to better define the expectations, benefits, and responsibilities associated with private sector engagement. Questions were raised regarding what GPEX would gain from such collaborations, what external partners would expect in return, and how collaborations could be structured in a transparent and scientifically meaningful manner. Existing examples and frameworks for engagement between climate research initiatives and private actors were suggested as useful references.

b. GPEX identity, branding, and value proposition

The need to strengthen the identity and visibility of GPEX emerged as a key issue during the discussions. While participants agreed that GPEX is scientifically well-grounded, it currently lacks a sufficiently clear and recognizable profile within the broader precipitation and climate research landscape. Several members noted that branding efforts, such as the development of a logo, visual identity, newsletters, and social media presence, would be useful, but should follow a more fundamental clarification of GPEX's value proposition and scientific positioning.

A central point of discussion was how GPEX differentiates itself from other precipitation-related initiatives. Participants emphasized that GPEX should more clearly position itself around high-impact precipitation systems and extremes, particularly through its focus on the four systems currently identified within GPEX activities. The importance of better articulating the links between observations, modelling, process understanding, and societal relevance was also highlighted.

The discussion further stressed the need for more active and continuous communication and community engagement. Suggestions included regular newsletters, social media activities, town hall discussions at conferences, and stronger interaction with funding agencies, operational communities, professional societies, and regional stakeholders. Participants also noted that improved communication would help better convey the added value of GPEX coordination efforts, including field campaign coordination, benchmarking activities, and the integration of observations and modelling communities.

c. Scientific scope and positioning of GPEX

The discussion highlighted the need to move beyond a narrow perception of GPEX as a rainfall-focused initiative. Participants emphasized that GPEX should address the full spectrum of precipitation, including snowfall and extreme events such as floods, cloudbursts, and intense convective systems. In this context, several members stressed the importance of more clearly positioning GPEX around high-impact precipitation systems and extremes, particularly through the four systems currently identified within GPEX activities.

The concept of “high-impact precipitation systems” emerged as an important framing to better connect precipitation processes with societal impacts and risks. Participants also highlighted the importance of strengthening the links between observations, process understanding, modelling, and prediction, including the role of AI/ML and the integration of emerging observational datasets.

At the same time, members acknowledged that communicating the contribution of GPEX to model development, benchmarking, and predictive capabilities remains challenging. Several participants noted the need to better demonstrate how precipitation observations, field campaigns, and coordinated analyses can contribute to improved model representation and understanding of precipitation extremes across regions and timescales.

d. Data, observations, and the role of AI

Participants underlined the importance of reliable and high-quality observational data, particularly disaster risk reduction, climate applications, and the evaluation of high-impact precipitation systems. Discussions emphasized that while a large number of observational datasets already exist, major challenges remain in terms of coordination, accessibility, interoperability, uncertainty quantification, and long-term sustainability of datasets and observing activities. The importance of connecting field campaigns, observational networks, space agencies, and modelling communities was repeatedly highlighted.

Several participants stressed the need for GPEX to play a stronger role in facilitating awareness of existing observations and datasets, particularly in data-sparse regions and for underrepresented precipitation regimes. The value of coordinated observational inventories, field campaign databases, and benchmarking activities was also emphasized.

The increasing role of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) in precipitation observations, data processing, and modelling was another key point of discussion. Participants noted that many emerging datasets and products already rely heavily on AI/ML approaches, including for observational

retrievals, data processing, and model development. This raised broader questions regarding whether GPEX should contribute to community discussions and possible guidance on the scientific use, evaluation, and limitations of AI/ML approaches within precipitation science.

e. Stakeholder engagement and continuity

The workshop was widely seen as successful in bringing together a diverse range of stakeholders and initiating new discussions across research, operational, and private-sector communities. Participants particularly welcomed the interactions with external partners, operational agencies, and emerging private-sector actors, noting that these exchanges helped broaden the visibility and relevance of GPEX activities.

At the same time, several members highlighted that the current stakeholder engagement remains more strongly connected to the weather and operational forecasting communities, with a need to strengthen engagement with the broader climate community, funding agencies, philanthropic organisations, and sectors such as insurance and risk assessment. The importance of engaging space agencies, regional stakeholders, and funding bodies early in the process was also emphasized, particularly in relation to field campaign coordination and the proposed Years of Precipitation framework.

Participants stressed that maintaining momentum beyond the workshop would require more structured and continuous engagement mechanisms. Suggestions included regular newsletters, webinars, town halls, stronger conference presence, and more active interaction with professional societies and stakeholder communities. The discussion also highlighted the need to better articulate the value proposition of GPEX and the benefits of participation, including through coordinated field campaigns, benchmarking activities, visibility, and international scientific networking.

f. Field campaigns and coordination

Field campaigns were identified as one of the key strengths and distinctive features of GPEX, providing a unique opportunity to connect observations, modelling, benchmarking activities, and societal applications across regions and precipitation systems. Participants emphasized that coordinated field campaigns could serve as a central mechanism for strengthening international collaboration and improving the integration of observations with process understanding and model evaluation.

The discussion highlighted the importance of building a more coordinated overview of ongoing and planned field campaigns, including through the development of a global inventory and stronger interaction with campaign. Particular attention was given to improving coordination in underrepresented regions, especially in the Southern Hemisphere, mountainous regions, and data-sparse areas. The need for stronger engagement with space agencies, observational programmes, and other data providers was also repeatedly emphasized.

Several members stressed that the value of GPEX coordination lies not only in visibility and networking, but also in enabling more coherent cross-regional analyses, shared methodologies, and stronger links between observations and modelling activities. In this context, improving synergies and interactions across the working groups was identified as essential to maximise scientific impact and ensure coherence across GPEX activities.

Item	Scope	Key Action	Lead & Timeline
Private sector engagement framework	Define conditions for collaboration (data access, scientific validation, non-endorsement of products)	Develop ToR for private sector engagement	WCRP / GPEX Co-chairs Done

GPEX value proposition & communication	Clarify scientific positioning (focus on extreme and high-impact precipitation systems) and improve visibility	Develop communication strategy (key messages, branding, outreach tools- newsletter, social media channels)	GPEX / WCRP Secretariat tbd
Data coordination & governance	Improve integration, accessibility, and sustainability of datasets; address data constraints; explore AI/ML role	Define data coordination approach and potential guidance on AI/ML use	WG2 / WG3 tbd
Stakeholder engagement	Expand engagement to underrepresented stakeholders (climate, insurance, funders) and strengthen partnerships	Develop stakeholder engagement plan and promote case studies demonstrating societal impact	All WGs / WCRP Secretariat tbd
Field campaign coordination	Strengthen coordination across regions and improve collaboration between working groups	Establish coordination mechanism for field campaigns and cross-WG activities	WG1 + all WGs tbd

2. Working Group Short-term priorities for 2026

WG1 – Field Campaigns & Observations

WG1 discussions focused on strengthening the coordination and visibility of precipitation-related field campaigns globally, particularly in the context of the proposed Years of Precipitation (YoP) framework. Participants emphasized that one of the key roles of GPEX should be to act as a coordination platform connecting ongoing and planned campaigns across regions and high-impact precipitation systems, while strengthening links between observations, modelling, and broader community activities.

A major priority identified for 2026 is the development of a structured global overview of field campaigns, including both large international campaigns and smaller regional activities. Members stressed that the value of GPEX coordination should extend beyond designated anchor projects, helping to increase visibility, foster connections, and support scientific exchange across a wider range of initiatives. In this context, discussions also highlighted the need to clarify different forms of engagement with GPEX, including the distinction between anchor projects and endorsed activities.

Participants discussed the importance of proactive outreach to campaign PIs, funding agencies, operational communities, and partners. Opportunities for coordination were identified around atmospheric rivers, tropical cyclones, monsoons, and mesoscale convective systems, including possible synergies between activities in Asia, the Southern Hemisphere, and mountainous regions. Potential coordination efforts involving radiosonde launches, ship-borne observations, and regional observational activities were also discussed.

The discussion further emphasized the importance of improving coordination with space agencies and strengthening alignment between field campaigns, WG2 benchmarking activities, and WG3 modelling and process-understanding efforts. Questions related to data access, FAIR principles, operational radar observations, and broader data-sharing expectations were also raised as important issues requiring further discussion within GPEX.

Action	Notes	Timeline
Send outreach letters to PIs, agencies, and funders	Based on Jeff's draft; aim to initiate alignment of field campaigns with GPEX priorities and YoP	May 2026
Develop webpage with global inventory of field campaigns	Include campaigns by region and HIPS; cover both large and small campaigns (not limited to anchor projects)	2026
Clarify expectations for endorsed activities	Including reporting expectations, engagement with GPEX activities, and basic alignment with FAIR data-sharing principles	2026

Other Supporting aspects

- Use outreach to engage key initiatives (AsiaPEX, TC groups, etc.)
- Promote coordination with funders and partners
- Strengthen links with WG2–WG3 (data & modelling)

WG2 – Data & Observations

WG2 discussions focused on precipitation datasets, benchmarking activities, and the development of coordinated evaluation frameworks across the four high-impact precipitation systems. Participants emphasized the importance of producing concrete scientific outputs aligned with the AR7/IPCC timeline, while also strengthening the connection between observations, benchmarking, and modelling activities.

A major priority identified for 2026 is the development of structured benchmarking activities across atmospheric rivers, mesoscale convective systems, tropical cyclones, and monsoons. The proposed approach combines precipitation product intercomparison, coordinated case studies, and process-oriented evaluation metrics, leveraging both past field campaigns and dense observational networks. Participants also highlighted the importance of including ERA5 reanalysis and assessing uncertainties across regions, datasets, and precipitation regimes.

Strong emphasis was placed on improving precipitation datasets in regions where observations remain limited, particularly in Asia, Africa, mountainous regions, and areas affected by strong topographic influences. Discussions highlighted the scientific importance of preserving station-scale information and better representing extremes in gridded precipitation products.

The increasing role of AI/ML-based precipitation products and modelling approaches was also identified as an important emerging topic. In this context, WG2 proposed closer collaboration with WG3 on the evaluation of AI-based models and precipitation products, including the use of multi-year simulations and common benchmarking frameworks.

Action	Notes	Timeline
Paper on precipitation drivers across datasets	Assess representation of precipitation drivers across products and datasets; aligned with AR7/IPCC timeline	March 2027
Paper on monsoon precipitation comparison	Include different precipitation datasets; cover Asian winter monsoon (lead: Akiyo)	March 2027
AI/ML model performance comparison (with WG3)	Evaluate AI-based models and products using multi-year precipitation simulations and benchmarking approaches	2026

Benchmarking of four precipitation drivers	Identify leads per driver; define coordinated case studies, metrics, and variables; connect with existing field campaigns	2026–YOP
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WG3 – Modelling

WG3 discussions focused on identifying major gaps in precipitation modelling and strengthening the links between modelling, observations, and process understanding across the four high-impact precipitation systems. Participants emphasized that one of the main goals of WG3 is not only to evaluate model performance, but also to better understand why models succeed or fail in representing key precipitation processes and extremes.

A major priority for 2026 is the preparation of a review paper assessing current gaps in precipitation modelling, including a survey of ongoing modelling initiatives and km-scale activities. The paper is intended as a major scientific contribution aligned with the AR7/IPCC timeline and is expected to help identify priorities for future coordinated modelling efforts. Discussions highlighted that the review should also help observational scientists identify key measurement needs relevant for model development and evaluation.

Strong emphasis was placed on strengthening collaboration with CORDEX, particularly in relation to coordinated analyses of CMIP6 simulations across the four precipitation drivers. Participants discussed the importance of evaluating how models represent precipitation processes across scales, regions, and resolutions, including the influence of aerosols, land-use change, and other anthropogenic forcings.

The discussions also highlighted the importance of stronger connections with WG1 field campaigns and observational activities. Several members emphasized that coordinated regional case studies, linked to field campaigns and observations, would provide a more effective framework than purely generalised modelling assessments. Potential synergies with ANDEX and other regional initiatives were also discussed.

Action	Notes	Timeline
Review paper on precipitation modelling gaps (incl. survey of initiatives)	Survey ongoing modelling activities to identify major gaps and priorities; main scientific output aligned with IPCC AR7 timeline	Sept 2026 (→ AR7 2027)
Engage with CORDEX on precipitation drivers analyses	Coordinate analyses of CMIP6 simulations across precipitation drivers, projections, and model resolutions.	May 2026
Strengthen links with WG1 and ANDEX (obs–modelling connection)	Connect field campaigns and observations with modelling activities through coordinated case studies.	Ongoing

WG4 – Capacity Development

WG4 discussions focused on capacity development, regional collaboration, and strengthening precipitation observation infrastructure, particularly in regions with limited observational capacity and high vulnerability to extreme precipitation. Participants emphasized the importance of building long-term capacity not only through training activities, but also through improved data access, metadata availability, knowledge sharing, and stronger regional networks.

A major priority for 2026 is the proposed APN project on establishing a regional alliance for extreme precipitation observations in South Asia through high-resolution automatic weather stations (AWSs). The project aims to support activities related to AWS maintenance, calibration, quality control, metadata coordination, and regional collaboration. Discussions also highlighted the importance of linking such efforts with local communities, universities, NMHSs, and operational applications.

WG4 also discussed the need to strengthen coordination with WMO and other partners on AWS data sharing, observational infrastructure, and capacity development activities. The potential development of AWS metadata inventories and regional observation listings was identified as an important contribution to broader GPEX coordination efforts.

Communication and community engagement were also identified as important priorities. Participants proposed contributions to WCRP newsletters, development of WG webpages, and showcasing country-level and regional activities through different communication channels. The role of newsletters and community-oriented outreach in strengthening the visibility and impact of GPEX capacity development activities was emphasized.

Action	Notes	Timeline
Finalize APN proposal	Regional Alliance for Extreme Precipitation Observation (South Asia AWS capacity development, quality management, training)	End of March 2026
Develop communication outputs (newsletter, webpage, WG4 site)	Share country activities, capacity development initiatives, and promote unified understanding (incl. extremes)	April 2026
Develop AWS metadata inventory and observations listings	Regional/global listing of automatic weather stations to support data availability and coordination	End 2026
Initiate collaboration with WMO on AWS data	Coordinate data exchange and alignment with WMO frameworks (Toru–Jakob)	April 2026

3. Years of Precipitation

The discussion confirmed several key strategic decisions for GPEX related to the Years of Precipitation (YoP) initiative. Members agreed that the YoP period will officially take place from **2028 to 2030**, with a preparatory phase during 2026–2027 to allow sufficient time for coordination, stakeholder engagement, field campaign alignment, and the development of funding proposals. The discussion highlighted the importance of ensuring that YoP is launched when the community is scientifically and operationally prepared, rather than starting prematurely without sufficient coordinated activities in place.

Participants emphasized that the preparatory phase should focus on strengthening international coordination across ongoing and planned field campaigns, increasing engagement with funding agencies and operational partners, and improving visibility of GPEX activities. The role of YoP as a framework to connect observations, modelling, benchmarking, and societal applications across the four high-impact precipitation systems was repeatedly highlighted.

The group also agreed to adopt the terminology “high-impact precipitation systems - HIPS” as the common framing across GPEX activities and communications, replacing previously used terms such as “precipitation drivers” and “organized storms.” Members acknowledged that while the terminology may not be scientifically perfect, it provides clearer and more accessible framing for communication with

broader communities and stakeholders. Discussions highlighted the importance of linking these systems to both extreme precipitation and societal impacts.

A major discussion focused on the establishment of a more flexible endorsement framework under GPEX. Participants agreed on a two-tier system combining existing Anchor Projects with a broader endorsement mechanism based on letters of support. The new endorsement approach is intended to allow a wider range of activities, including smaller projects, regional initiatives, modelling activities, and projects from resource-constrained regions to engage with and contribute to GPEX objectives.

Discussions emphasized that endorsement should strengthen visibility, coordination, and alignment with YoP activities, while remaining explicitly non-financial. The endorsement process will be based on a short justification of alignment with GPEX objectives and will be managed by the Co-Chairs, with consultation of Working Group Co-Chairs where needed. Participants also stressed the importance of establishing clear expectations for endorsed activities, including reporting, participation in GPEX activities, and basic alignment with FAIR and data-sharing principles.

Action	Notes	Timeline
Prepare and launch communication for YoP (2028–2030)	Includes WCRP/WMO announcement, outreach material, newsletters, and communication activities	2026; WCRP Secretariat (ASAP – note that this is still awaiting JSC’s approval)
Develop YoP preparation phase (pre-2028)	Coordinate field campaigns, engage funding agencies, and align proposals with YoP objectives	2026–2027 All WGs / WCRP Secretariat
Adopt and communicate “high-impact precipitation systems- HIPS” terminology	Ensure consistent use across documents and communication materials	2026 All WGs / WCRP Secretariat
Establish endorsement mechanism (letters of support)	Define two-tier system (Anchor Projects + general endorsements); criteria: 1-page justification; process: decision by Co-chairs (with WG consultation if needed, no SSG vote); requirements: annual reporting, participation in GPEX-related meetings as needed, and alignment with FAIR/data-sharing principles; include clear disclaimer on the requirements and expectations	2026 All WGs / WCRP Secretariat
Communicate value of GPEX endorsement to agencies and partners	Clarify benefits of endorsement (visibility, alignment with YoP, support for funding proposals), especially for globally coordinated field campaigns and resource-limited regions	2026 All WGs / WCRP Secretariat

4. APN Proposal Discussion

The SSG discussed the proposed APN project focused on strengthening automatic weather station (AWS) capacity and regional collaboration on extreme precipitation observations in South Asia. The proposal aims to establish a regional framework across Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, and India to improve AWS maintenance, calibration, quality control, metadata coordination, and data reliability, while strengthening links between observations, operational applications, and research activities.

Participants highlighted the importance of supporting long-term regional collaboration and building sustainable observational capacity in regions highly vulnerable to extreme precipitation. The proposal also includes activities related to practical guidelines, hands-on training, knowledge exchange, site visits, and the integration of AWS observations with radar, satellite, and reanalysis datasets. Discussions emphasized the broader value of such activities for both local communities and regional precipitation science efforts under GPEX WG4.

The concept note was positively evaluated and successfully passed the first selection stage. The group agreed to proceed with the preparation and submission of the full proposal by 30 March 2026. Reviewer's feedback highlighted the scientific relevance and regional importance of the proposal, while also noting concerns regarding the ambitious timeline and relatively limited budget for the proposed scope of work. Participants acknowledged these challenges and discussed the importance of positioning the project as a foundation for longer-term regional collaboration and future follow-up activities.

The discussion also highlighted potential synergies with WMO activities related to AWS observations, metadata coordination, and data sharing, as well as opportunities to showcase these activities through newsletters, webpages, and broader GPEX communication efforts.

Workshop Day 2 Topics- 8 March

1.Engagement with external partners (private sector)

The discussion focused on defining a possible framework for engagement with private-sector partners, particularly following the participation of Tomorrow.io in the GPEX Multistakeholder Workshop. Participants agreed that any collaboration should remain strongly science-focused and centered on data access, scientific evaluation, benchmarking, and process understanding, while explicitly avoiding any form of product endorsement or promotion of operational forecasting services.

Several members highlighted the scientific value of engaging with private-sector actors that provide high-resolution observational datasets, satellite capabilities, AI/ML expertise, and technological innovation relevant to precipitation science. Discussions particularly focused on the potential use of satellite observations, including high-frequency precipitation products and profiling information, to support field campaigns, coordinated case studies, benchmarking activities, and model evaluation across the four high-impact precipitation systems.

The role of GPEX was framed as acting as a bridge between the scientific community and private-sector partners, helping facilitate scientifically meaningful collaborations while preserving transparency, open scientific exchange, and scientific independence. Participants repeatedly stressed that any engagement should ensure that datasets made available for GPEX activities can be used openly within the scientific community for peer-reviewed research and intercomparison activities.

The discussion also explored possible collaboration topics with Tomorrow.io, including precipitation data intercomparison and benchmarking, AI/ML applications, coordinated case studies, and capacity development activities. Members emphasized that collaboration should evolve gradually and naturally, starting with focused pilot activities and clearly defined scientific objectives. The importance of keeping any agreement simple, transparent, and scientifically driven was also highlighted.

Action	Notes	Timeline
Develop Terms of Reference for private sector collaboration	Define principles and conditions for engagement, including scientific independence, data use for research, and no product endorsement	2026 Done- updating
Develop collaboration concept note with Tomorrow.io	Define potential collaboration topics including data access, benchmarking, intercomparison, AI/ML applications, coordinated case studies, and possible pilot activities; circulate to SSG/WGs for input	2026; April-May (Ongoing)
Explore engagement with additional external partners	Continue discussions with private-sector, operational, and observational partners relevant to GPEX activities	Ongoing

2. GPEX Community Resources (Knowledge Hub / Africa platform)

A proposal was presented to develop a GPEX precipitation knowledge and resource platform, starting with a prototype focused on precipitation observations and datasets over Africa. The objective is not to create a central data repository, but rather to provide a structured entry point linking existing datasets, observational resources, field campaigns, and related information relevant to precipitation science and capacity development.

Participants highlighted the value of such a platform for improving visibility and accessibility of observations, particularly in data-sparse and high-risk regions. Discussions emphasized that the platform could support capacity development, regional modelling activities, awareness of available datasets, and identification of observational gaps across regions and precipitation regimes. The importance of including metadata, dataset descriptions, guidance on data access, and quality-related information was also stressed.

The prototype platform developed by the WG1 Co-Chair, Samson, was positively received and supported by the SSG as a useful starting point that could gradually evolve and expand to other regions and activities under GPEX and the Years of Precipitation framework. Several members noted that maintaining a coordinated overview of field campaigns, datasets, and observational resources in one place would already represent a valuable contribution for many communities.

Participants also discussed the longer-term potential to extend similar approaches to other regions, including South Asia and South America, while maintaining a lightweight and coordination-focused structure rather than a data-hosting function.

Action	Notes	Timeline
Develop African precipitation knowledge hub	Web platform linking existing datasets, field campaigns, and observational resources (without hosting data)	2026
Define structure and content of platform	Include metadata, dataset descriptions, data access guidance, and quality related information	2026
Explore concept extension to other regions	South Asia, South America and other regions	Ongoing

3. SSG Membership

The SSG reviewed its current composition and discussed the need to strengthen expertise, regional representation, and broader community engagement within the group. Members agreed to launch an

open call for additional SSG members to help address existing gaps in expertise and improve representation across regions and scientific communities relevant to GPEX activities.

Particular emphasis was placed on strengthening expertise related to high-mountain precipitation, regional precipitation extremes, and underrepresented regions, including Central Asia and the MENA region. Participants also highlighted the importance of ensuring balanced representation in terms of gender, regional diversity, and the inclusion of early- and mid-career researchers (EMCRs).

The discussion further emphasized the importance of identifying active contributors already engaged in GPEX Working Groups, field campaigns, and community activities, while also encouraging broader outreach to external communities and emerging researchers. Members noted the importance of periodically reviewing SSG engagement and activity levels to ensure continued participation and effectiveness within the group.

In this context, it was agreed that members who have been inactive over an extended period may be contacted to discuss stepping down from the SSG, allowing opportunities for new members and expertise to be brought into the group.

Action	Notes	Timeline
Review SSG engagement and participation	Contact inactive members, where appropriate, to discuss possible transition from the SSG and enable renewal of expertise	2026; WCRP Secretariat
Launch open call for SSG membership. Ensure balanced representation	Target expertise: high mountain precipitation, Central Asia/MENA regions Gender, EMCR, regional diversity	2026
Engage WG members in candidate identification	Encourage applications from active contributors	2026

4. General Item

The group discussed improving communication, visibility, and coordination, including the potential development of a GPEX website and stronger use of conferences and meetings for engagement.

Action	Notes	Timeline
Explore development of GPEX website	Central hub for field campaigns, knowledge resources, and communication	2026 WG1/WCRP Secretariat
Support WG meetings at conferences	AMS, EGU, AOGS, etc.	Ongoing-All
Share funding and meeting opportunities	Via Secretariat and network coordination	Ongoing- WCRP

Annex 1 - List of Participants

Name	Category
Maria Laura Bettolli	WG3 Co-Chair
Samson Hagos	WG1 Co-Chair
Annalisa Cherchi	GPEX Co-Chair
Hui Su	WG2 Co-Chair
Kyung-Ja Ha	SSG member
Robert Jeff Trapp	GPEX Co-Chair
Ruby Leung	SSG member
Toru Terao	WG4 Co-Chair
Akiyo Yatagai	WG3 Co-Chair
Takeshi Enomoto	SSG member
Lincoln Alves	SSG member
Xubin Zeng	SSG member
Adrian Tompkins	SSG member
Stefan Sobolowski	SSG member
Hindumathi Palanisamy	WCRP Secretariat
Liwa Wang	WCRP Secretariat
Jakob Steiner	WG4 Co-Chair
Silke Troemel	SSG member

Annex 2 –Agenda

Day 1 – Reflection on Workshop Outcomes & Strategic Planning (7 March)

Time	Agenda Item	Notes
09:30–10:00	- Opening & Objectives - Workshop outcomes – overall synthesis	Welcome and overview of SSG meeting objectives Annalisa, Jeff and Hindumathi: key takeaways from the Multistakeholder Workshop and overall GPEX perspective
10:10–10:15	Coffee break	
10:15–12:30	- Working Group reflections - Short-term priorities for 2026	WG1–WG4 reflections on workshop outcomes and implications for their activities. Each WG outlines short-term goals and priorities for 2026.
12:30–13:30	Lunch	
13:30–14:30	Years of Precipitation (YoP)	Discussion on YoP framework and implementation
14:30–15:45	Field campaign / project endorsement under YoP	Process for endorsing field campaigns/projects and next steps once endorsed
15:45–16:15	Coffee break	
16:15–17:15	GPEX community resources	Discussion on engagement with the 'Precipitation Measurements over Africa' platform- Samson's proposal
17:15–17:30	Wrap-up Day 1 (if needed)	Points to be discussed on Day 2

Day 2 – Partnerships & Governance (8 March)

Time	Agenda Item	Notes
09:30–10:30	Engagement with external partners	- Discussion on collaboration with external partners including Tomorrow.io, DI Labs - Terms of References and governance
10:30–11:00	APN Proposal Discussion	Proposal pre-accepted; discussion on scope and input before final submission (deadline: 30 March)
11:00–11:15	Coffee break	
11:15–12:15	SSG Membership Discussion	Membership structure, representation and future engagement
12:15–12:30	Closing	- Hindumathi to mention about the workshop proceedings and SSG summary reports – timeline for these? - Other items. - Annalisa and Jeff to thank and close the meeting.

