

Procedure for co-ordinated development of a scientific FLUXNET synthesis publication:

1. A call for proposals is open. All the participants can submit one or more proposals following the procedure explained below.
2. A compelling multi-site synthesis idea (no papers based on one or very few sites are possible in the context of Fluxnet synthesis activity. These papers should be organized and discussed directly between the PIs. Also for this work standardized datasets created for the Fluxnet database may be used)
3. Paper title, short outline (what do you want to look at and how), list of initial coordinator and proposing group, CVs of initial coordinator and proposing group, sites that initially would be involved (also generally like “all the forest sites” or “all the Boreal sites defined as....”) and rules that will be applied for co-authorship have to be communicated to the Scientific Moderation Committee (SMC)\* only at this address: Lathuile\_synthesis\_sc@lists.ornl.gov
4. Proposals can be sent from now. The email must contain the three documents required (outline, CV and co-authorship rules). Until May 15<sup>th</sup> all the proposals will be collected and then forwarded to the networks. After 15<sup>th</sup> of May it will be possible to send proposals but in case of topic overlap preference will be given based on time of submission.
5. SMC will:
  - a. check for overlaps and synergies
  - b. submit application to use data to regional network coordinator
  - c. both the SMC and the network coordinator will check for overlaps with ongoing activities. If an overlap will be found the two paper coordinators will be put in contact to find a solution (merge the activities, find how to differentiate...). ONLY, if conflicts between paper coordinators cannot be resolved by themselves, the SMC will give a strong advice on this issue. Although it is difficult to define analytically on which basis the SMC will decide about the advice, the number of proposal received from the single coordinator (giving preferences to the people that don't have other proposals active) and the contribution to the dataset (giving preference to more substantial contribution) will be considered for sure in a common sense decision.
  - d. when assigned, the topic will be posted on the webpage with outline and contact and an email will be sent to all data providers involved (flux data and also spatial data) to give input and participate
6. Scientific communication will be then between lead authors and co-authors (and until the end data providers and SMC should be kept in the e-mails that discuss the topic, circulate drafts etc.)

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