



## 2<sup>nd</sup> TERENO - OZCAR Conference

Bonn | Germany | 25-28 SEPTEMBER 2023

# The International Soil Moisture Network (ISMN): A permanent service for delivering long-term, in-situ soil moisture data

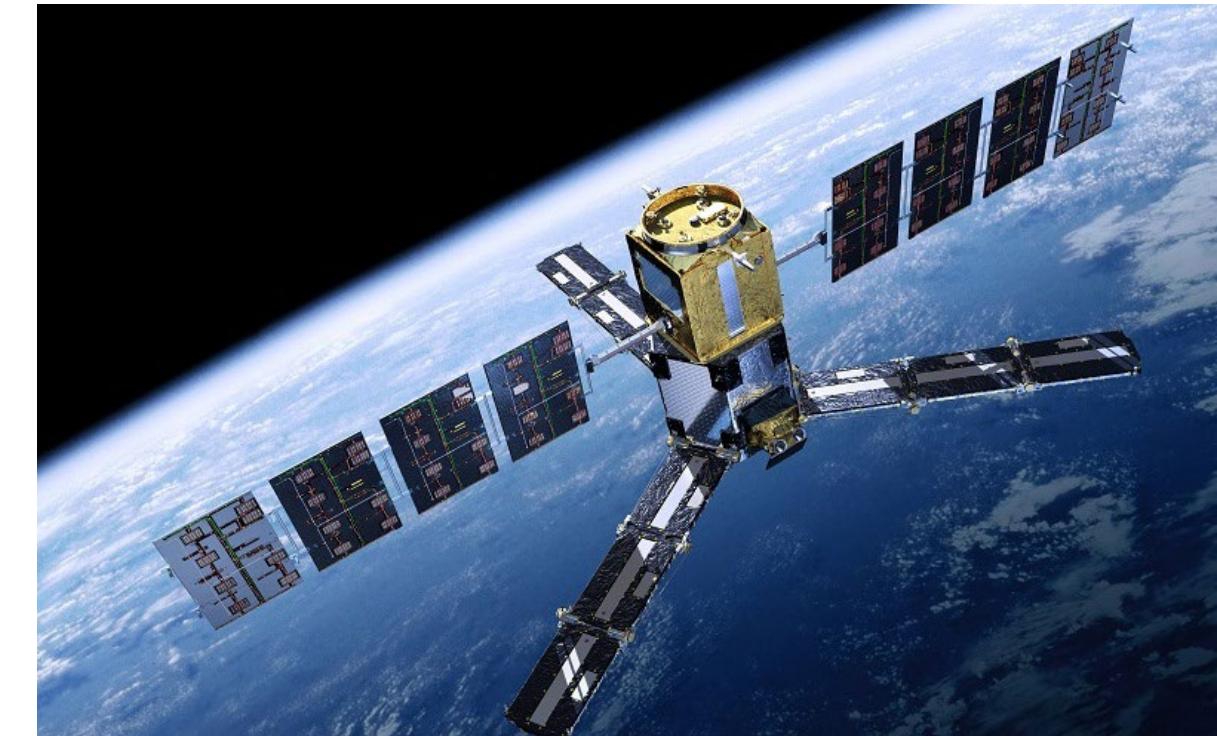
**Wolfgang Korres, Matthias Zink, Fay Boehmer, Tunde Olarinoye, Stephan Dietrich, Kasjen Kramer, Irene Himmelbauer, Lukas Schremmer, Ivana Petrakovic, Daniel Aberer, Wouter Dorigo, Roberto Sabia, Raffaele Crapolicchio, Klaus Scipal, Philippe Goryl**

contact: [ismn@bafg.de](mailto:ismn@bafg.de)

# Motivation



source: pixabay.com



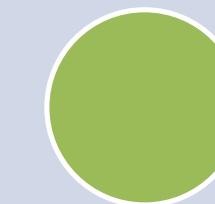
source: www.esa.int



**2009**  
**ISMN is**  
**established**  
**at TU Wien**

**2017**  
**GTN-H Panel**  
**Meeting**

**2018**  
**Start of**  
**negotiations**  
**with the**  
**German**  
**Government**



### **2021/2022** **ISMN Migration**

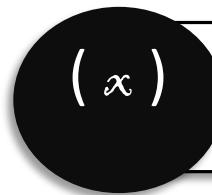
- Jan: Financial clearance
- Nov 2021 - May 2022: Recruitment of staff
- Feb 2021 - June 2022 technical transfer from software stack and data to new host
- Jul – Dec 2022: Parallel operations
- Legal Clearance

**2023 ISMN in**  
**production at**  
**ICWRGC/BfG**

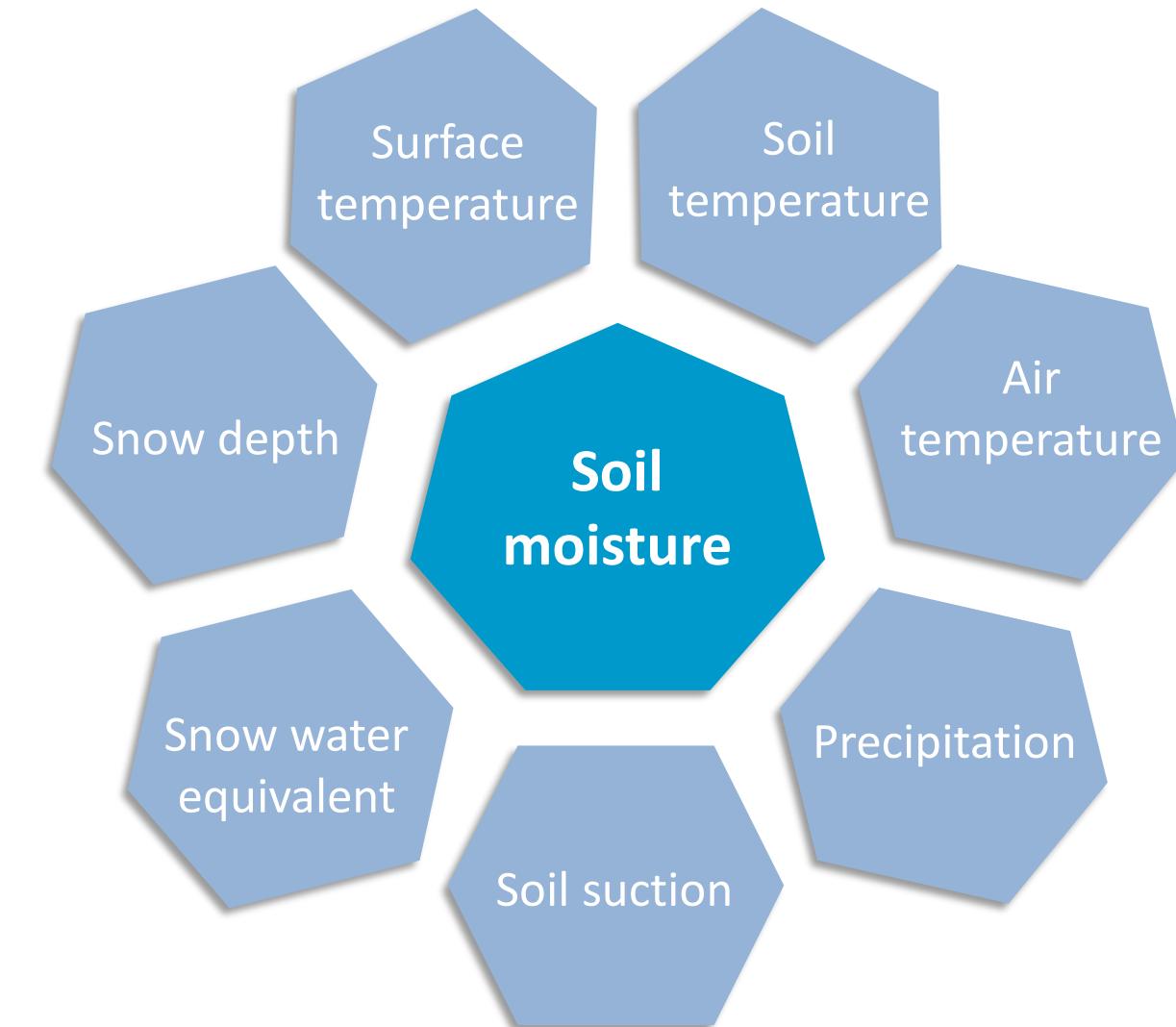
- Application for auspices of WMO und FAO
- Set up of a advisory board
- Increase data acquisition activities
- Improve robustness and maturity of the service



In situ data + metadata

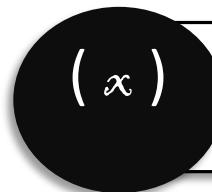


**Soil moisture + 7 additional variables**  
integrated in the DB

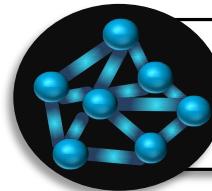




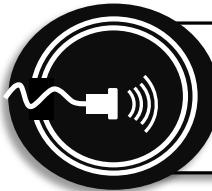
In situ data + metadata



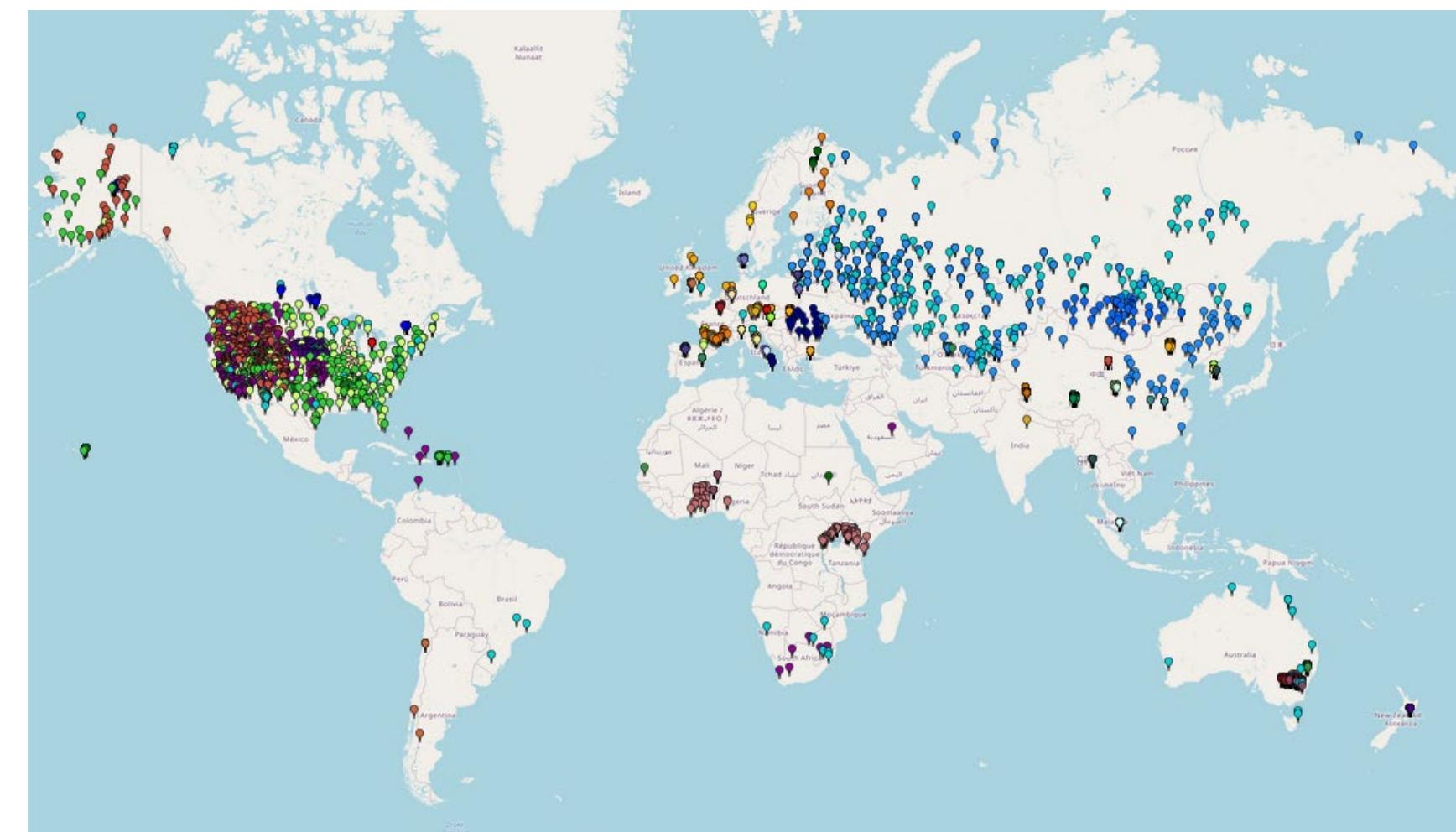
Soil moisture + 7 additional variables  
integrated in the DB



77 networks participate  
(June 2023)



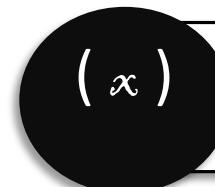
>3,000 stations with > 11,000  
timeseries integrated (June 2023)



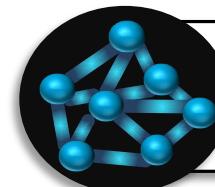
Distribution of the soil moisture stations



**In situ data + metadata**



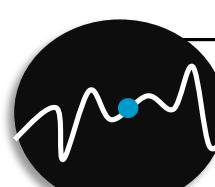
**Soil moisture + 7 additional variables**  
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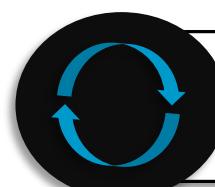
**77 networks** participate  
(June 2023)



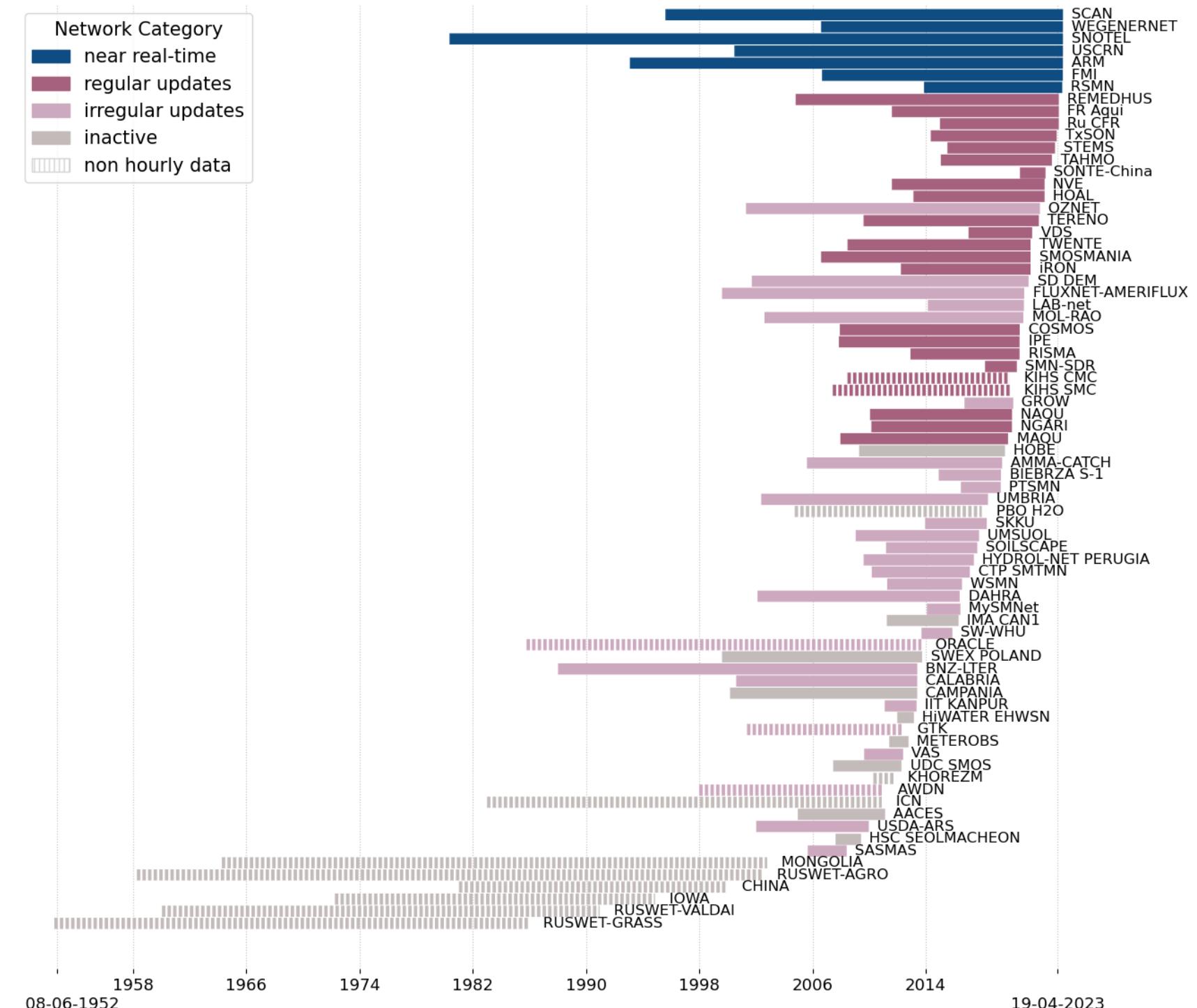
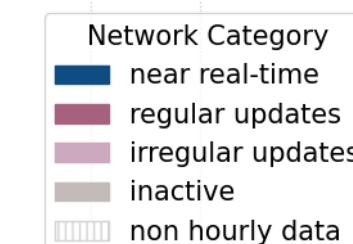
**>3,000 stations with > 11,000**  
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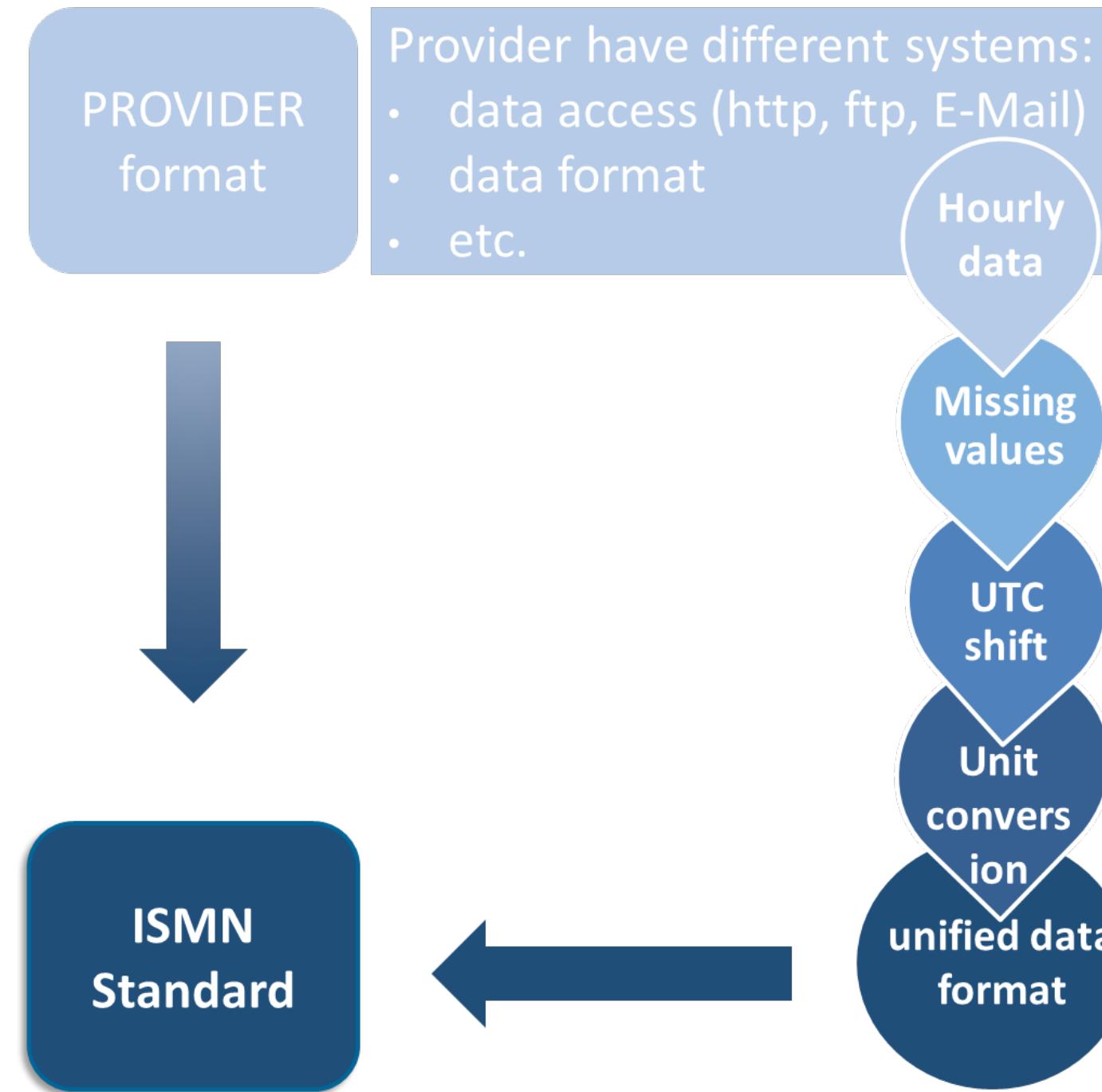
Time series available from **1952** up  
to **near real time** (see graph)



**Daily update of 7 NRT networks →**  
**~1,000 stations** (June 2023)

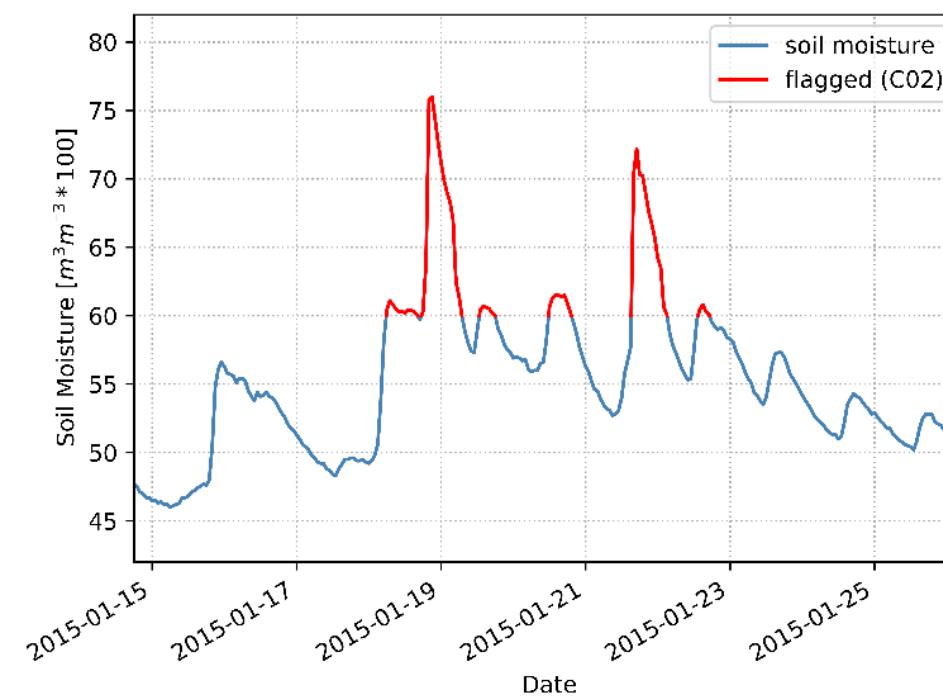


# Data harmonisation

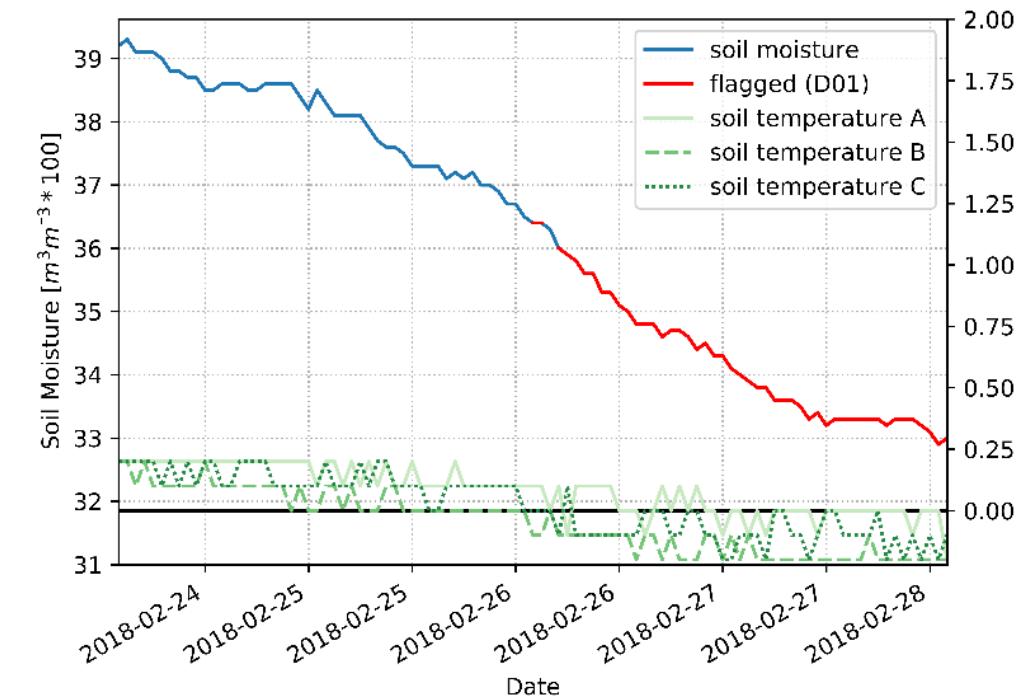


# Data quality flagging

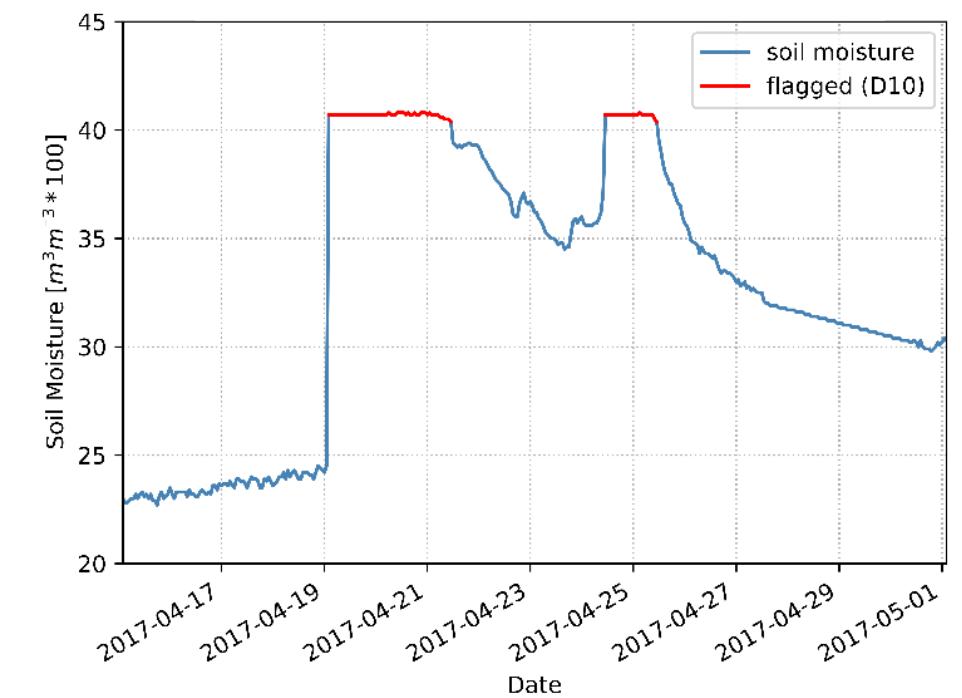
1) Geophysical Dynamic Range  
thresholds for all variables



2) Geophysical Consistency  
check plausibility with other variables, i.e.,  
soil temperature and precipitation



3) Spectrum– Based Approach  
detection of spikes and plateaus



- 💧 Keeping flags from provider
- 💧 quality flag added to each data point

user: Tunde

**Networks**

Africa    Americas    Asia    Europe    Oceania

**Time range**

from 1950/01/01 to 2023/03/14

1950      2023

**Area**

Latitude -90 90      Longitude -180 180

Draw      Clear

Draw a rectangle with SHIFT + mouse click

**Sensor**

All Variables      Depth cm 0 cm 255

- Soil Moisture
- Soil Temperature
- Air Temperature
- Precipitation
- Snow Depth
- Snow Water Equivalent
- Surface Temperature
- Soil Suction

**Station environment**

All climates       All landcovers

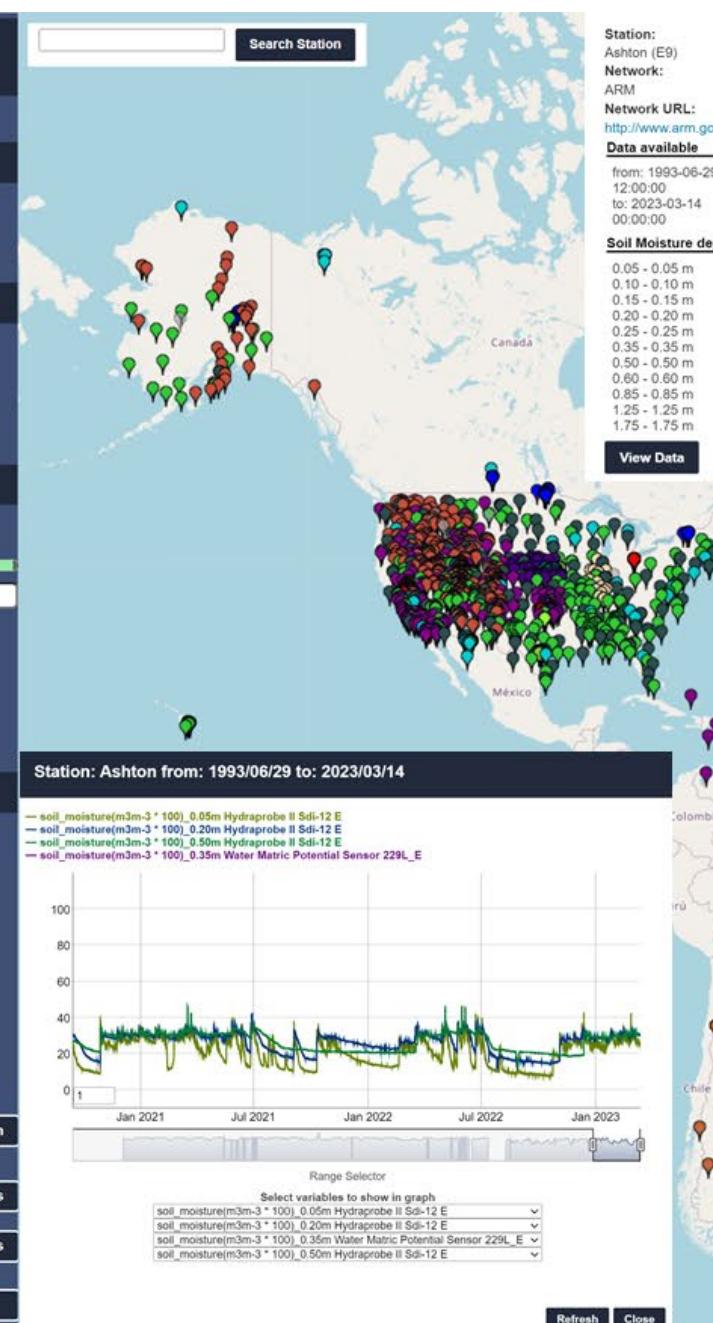
- Tropical
- Arid
- Temperate
- Cold
- Water
- Polar
- Crop land
- Tree cover
- Grassland
- Lichens and mosses
- Sparse vegetation
- Urban areas
- Bare areas
- Water bodies
- Permanent snow and ice

10925 Soil Moisture time series selected

Refresh      Hide Options      Your requests

Reset All      Download

Complete archive (created: 17-03-2023)



user: Tunde

**Networks**

Africa    Americas    Asia    Europe    Oceania

**Time range**

from 1950/01/01 to 2023/03/14

1950      2023

**Area**

Latitude -90 90  
Longitude -180 180

Draw      Clear

Draw a rectangle with SHIFT + mouse click

**Sensor**

All Variables      Depth

Soil Moisture      cm 0 cm 255

- Soil Temperature
- Air Temperature
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**Station environment**

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- Tropical
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10925 Soil Moisture time series selected

Refresh      Hide Options      Your requests      +      -

Reset All      Download

Complete archive (created: 17-03-2023)      1000 km      1000 mi

FRM4SM

## Download

You are about to download the following data:

**Networks:**  
AACES, CALABRIA, COST<sup>x,y,z</sup>

**Variables:**  
Soil Moisture,

**Climates:**  
Tropical, Arid, Temperate, Cold, Water, Polar

**Landcovers:**  
Crop land, Tree cover, Grassland, Lichens and mosses, Sparse vegetation, Urban areas, Bare areas, Water bodies, Permanent snow and ice

**Time range:**  
from 2022/04/21 until 2023/04/21

**Number of Soil Moisture timeseries selected:**  
0

**Choose Format:**

Variables stored in separate files (Header+values) (zipped) ([View Specifications](#))

Variables stored in separate files (CEOP formatted) (zipped) ([View Specifications](#))

**Gap filling:**

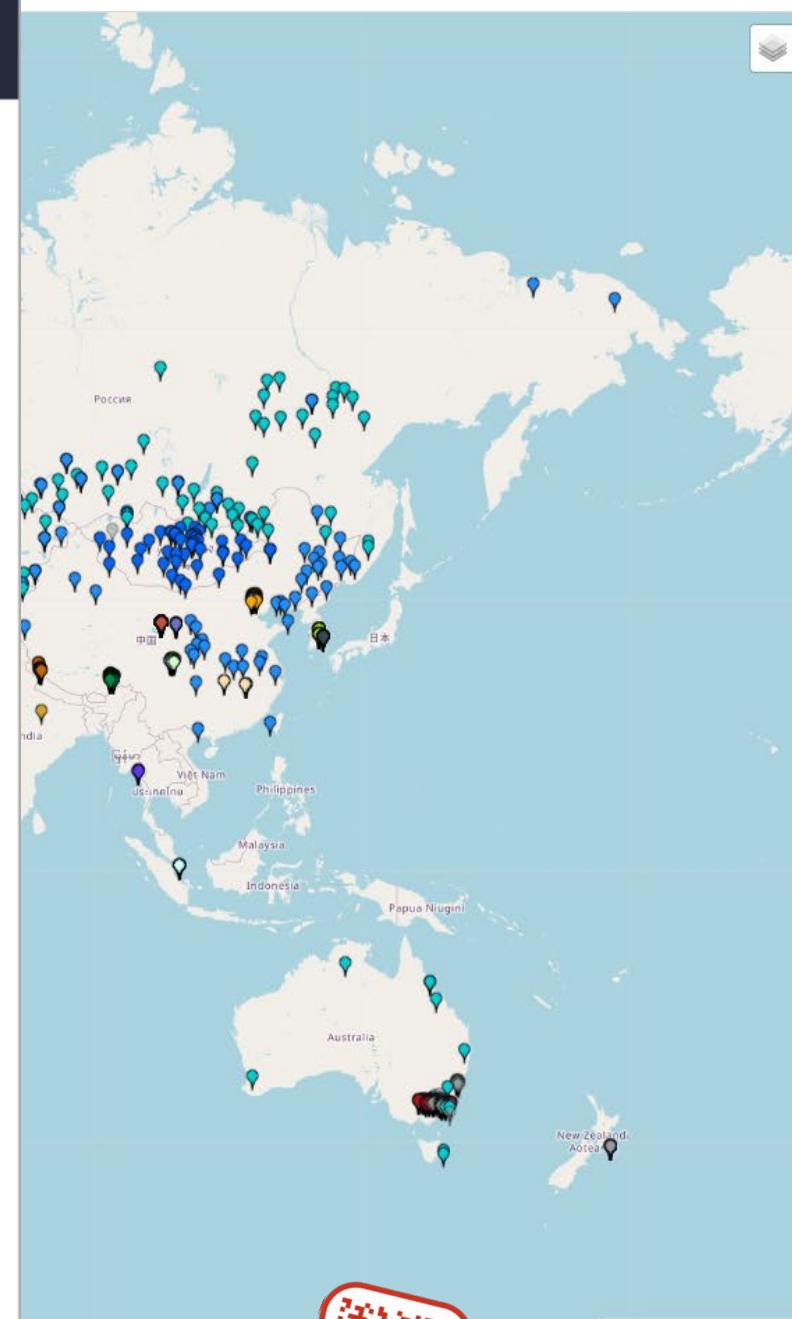
Fill data gaps with NaN values (to always have 24 data points per day)

**Quality flags:**

Only download observations tagged as "Good" by the [ISMN QC](#)

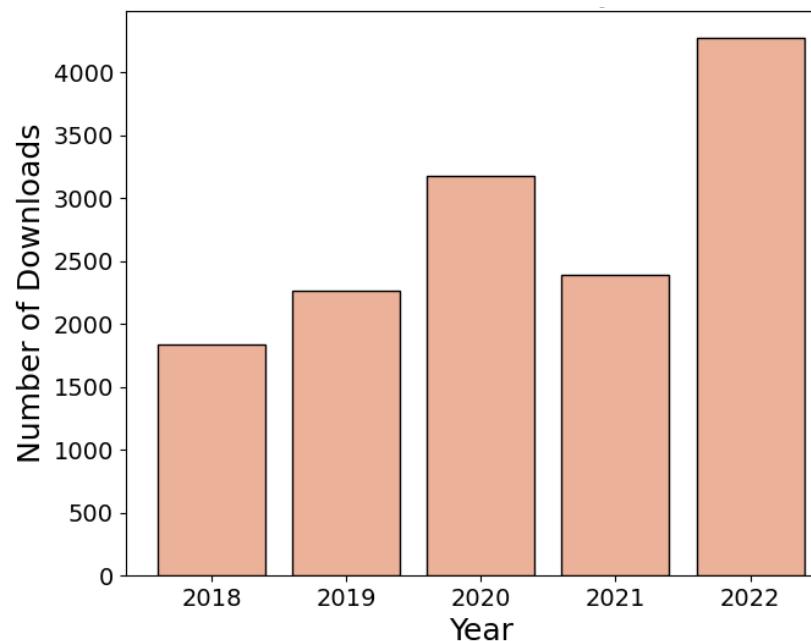
Large data requests may require hours of processing time. If your request is not ready within 30 seconds you will receive an email with a download-link. The data can be downloaded within 20 days.

**Download**      **Close**

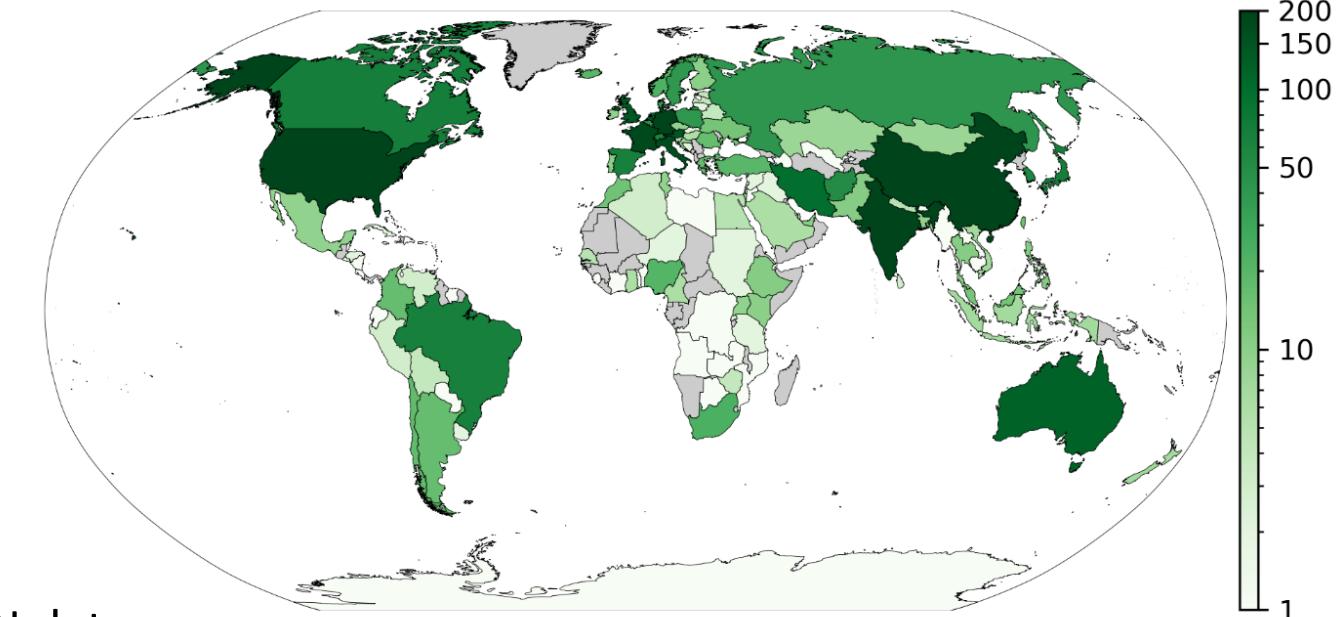


# ISMN data usage

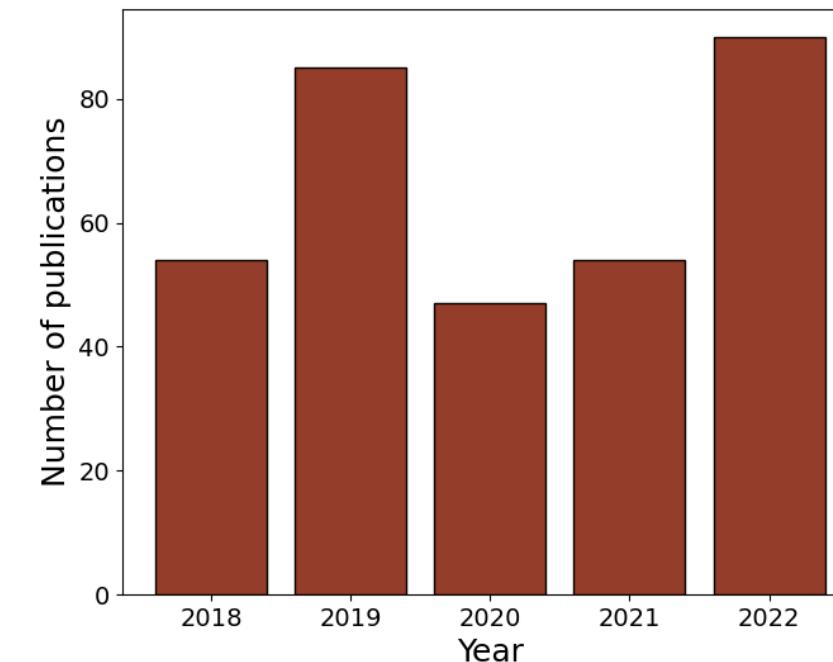
ISMN data download by users



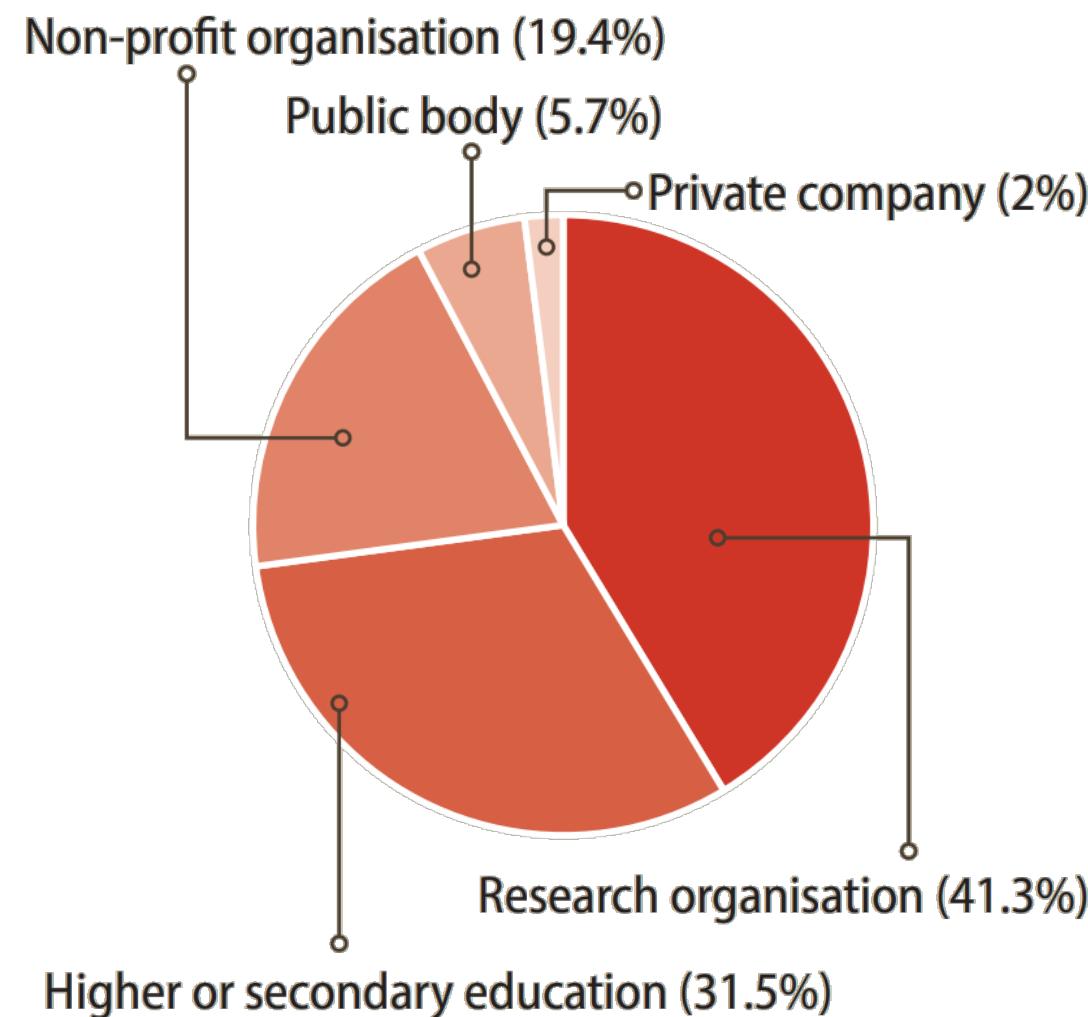
Number of ISMN users



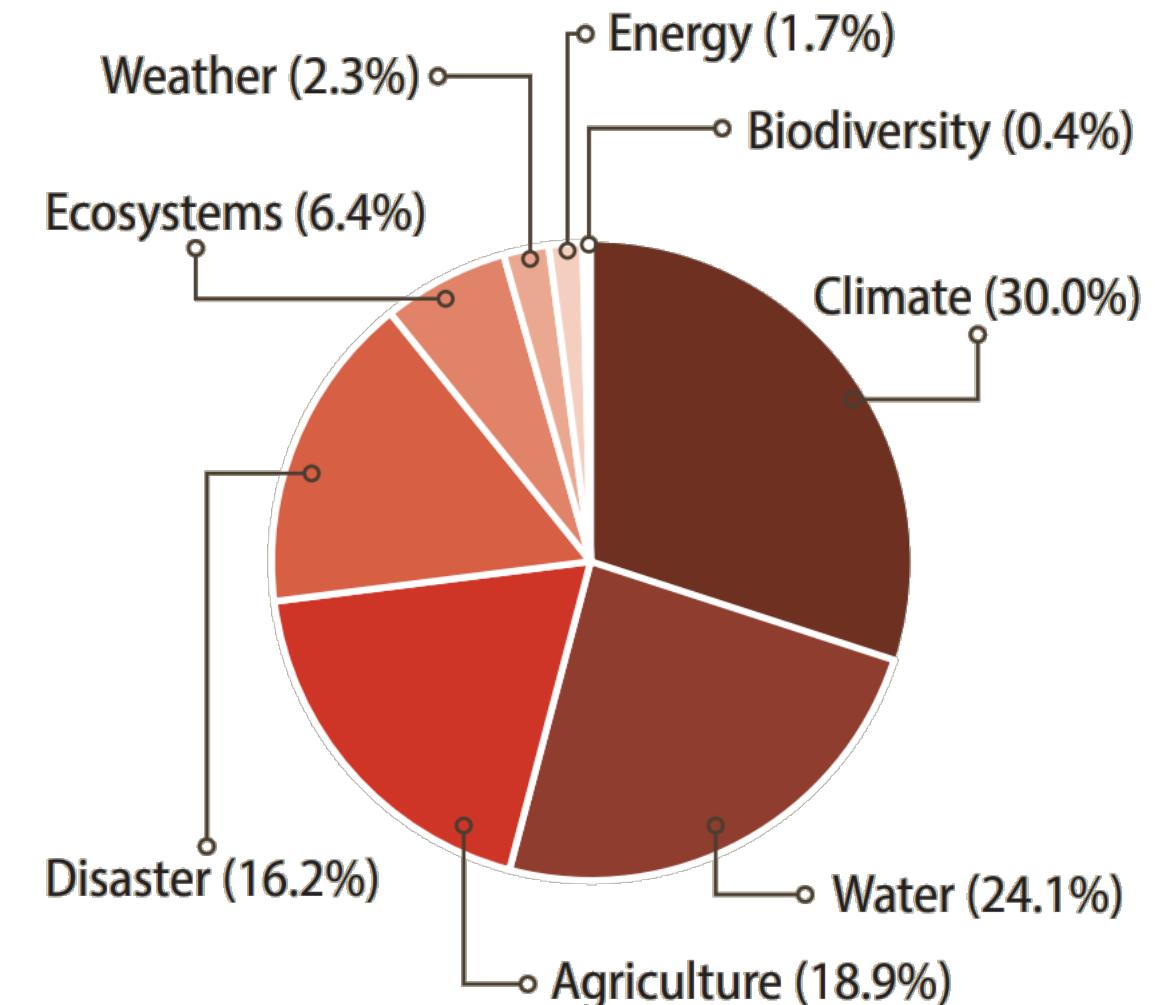
Publications using ISMN data



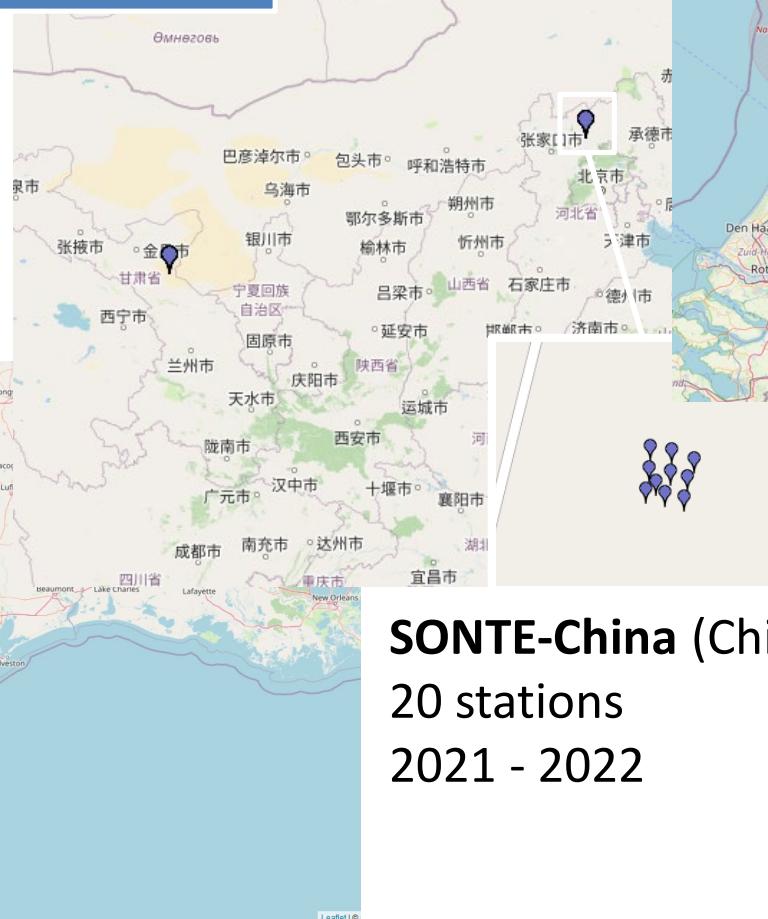
### Organisations using ISMN data



### Application areas of ISMN data product



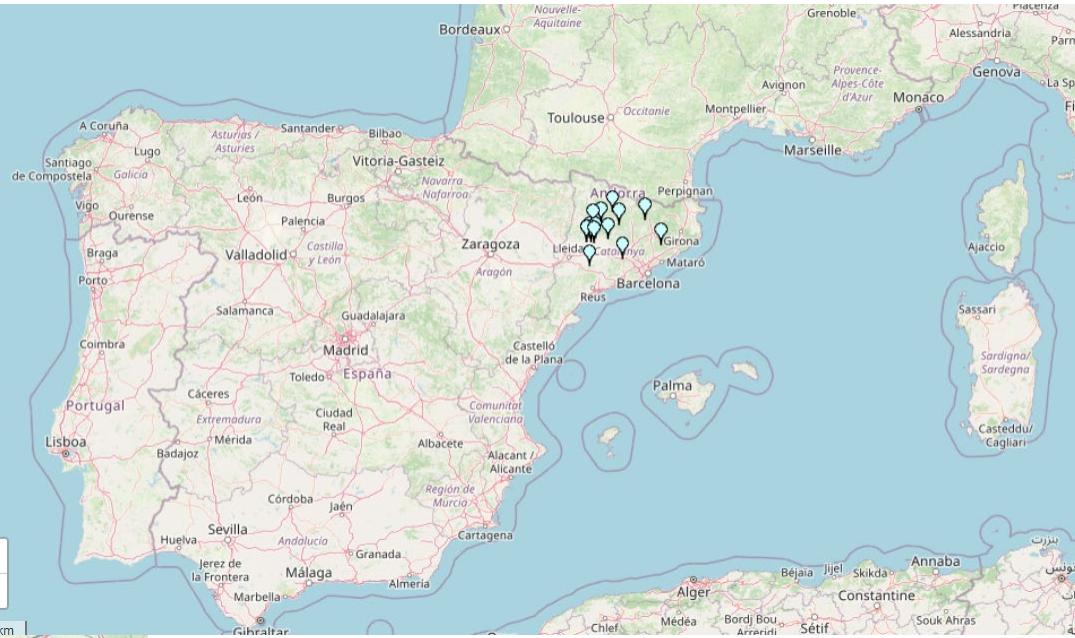
Data contributions are very welcome. Please get in touch with us:  
**[ismn@bafg.de](mailto:ismn@bafg.de)**



**TxSON** (United States, Texas)  
41 stations  
2014 - 2022



**TWENTE** (Netherlands)  
44 stations  
2008 - 2021



# XMS-CAT (Spain)

## 15 stations

### 2016-2023



## HYDROlogical Status and Outlook System

