The Mesoscale Verification Inter-Comparison over Complex Terrain (MesoVICT) project has been established under the auspices of the WMO Joint Working Group on Forecast Verification Research (JWGFVR) to further explore new verification methods. In this way it can be regarded as the second phase of the spatial forecast verification methods intercomparison project (ICP, http://www.ral.ucar.edu/projects/icp).

The aims of MesoVICT can be summarised as follows:

- To investigate the ability of existing or newly developed spatial verification methods to verify fields other than deterministic precipitation forecasts, e.g., wind forecasts and ensemble forecasts.
- To demonstrate the capability of spatial verification methods over complex terrain, and gain an understanding of the issues that arise from this more challenging situation.
- To encourage community participation in the development and improvement of spatial verification methods, especially for evaluating high resolution numerical forecasts.
- To provide a community testbed where common data sets are available, but also for the sharing of data and code to assist in developing and testing spatial verification methods.

For more information on MesoVICT see: https://opensky.library.ucar.edu/collections/TECH-NOTE-000-000-000-874

The purpose of the kick-off meeting is:

- To discuss the implementation of the project (who will apply which methods)
- To share new ideas on verification with specific focus on
  - complex terrain
  - additional parameters (e.g., wind)
  - observation uncertainty
  - ensemble forecast
- To discuss activity since ICP phase 1
- To meet and network with colleagues
- To engender collaboration using the same data files over the same area for a better comparison of different verification methods

Programme Committee:
Marion Mittermaier (MetOffice, UK), Eric Gilleland (NCAR/RAL, USA), Manfred Dorninger (Univ. Vienna, Austria, local organiser), Barb Brown (NCAR/RAL, USA), Beth Ebert (BoM/CAWCR, Australia), Laurie Wilson (CMC, Canada)

Timetable:
First announcement 1 May
Second announcement 1 June
Deadline for short abstracts 15 July
Information about acceptance (drafted programme ready) 15 August
Early registration deadline 31 August
Meeting 2-3 October

Further Information:
More details including abstract submission, registration, venue and hotel information will shortly become available at the website: http://www.ral.ucar.edu/projects/icp