

Call for Papers

Soil–atmosphere interaction

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Environmental Geotechnics THEMED ISSUE

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A themed issue of *Environmental Geotechnics* on soil–atmosphere interaction is planned for 2016.

Soil–atmosphere interaction provides the boundary condition to many surface/near-surface geotechnical infrastructure, such as dykes and embankments, through processes such as evapotranspiration, infiltration and environmental degradation. In turn, the retention and the transport properties, as well as the strength and stability of earth structures are strongly influenced by these interactive processes.

However, detailed knowledge of the possible interaction mechanisms remains rather poor and moreover includes a wide range of complex processes occurring over a small mass of heterogeneous soil. Such processes and influences include wetting/drying, unsaturated transport, soil desiccation, vegetation growth, heterogeneity and freeze/thaw.

This themed issue intends to provide a forum for summarising the current experimental, theoretical and numerical knowledge of soil–atmosphere interaction, presenting recent developments in research and application and discussing open issues and current needs.

A non-exhaustive list of relevant subjects include

- hydraulic behaviour
- thermal and heat balance
- degradation and cracking
- stiffness and strength changes
- permeability changes
- atmospheric soil–water exchange
- vegetation effects
- effect of climatic predictions
- biological influence
- near-surface material evolution
- experimental and numerical techniques.

Engineering practitioners and researchers engaged in any of these general topics are invited to submit a 200-word abstract by 31 March 2015. Relevant papers outside the main themes outlined above will also be considered.

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