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Christopher M. U. Neale Antonino Maltese Editors

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Introduction

This proceedings volume contains papers presented during the conference on Remote Sensing for Agriculture, Ecosystems, and Hydrology XI. The conference was part of the 16th International Symposium on Remote Sensing sponsored by SPIE. The symposium was held at the BCC Berliner Congress Centre, Berlin, Germany, August 31–September 3, 2009.

The conference is dedicated to providing rapid dissemination of scientific and technical information, and attracted scientists and professionals from throughout Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas. Approximately 50 oral and 25 poster presentations were given, covering a broad range of topics in the field of remote sensing applications in environmental science.

The program was organized according to major themes, with 10 sessions on Agriculture: Land Use and Change Detection, Vegetation and Crop Monitoring (2); Ecosystems: Forestry and Coastal Applications, Estimation of Vegetation Parameters; Hydrology: Hydrological and Ecosystem Modelling, Irrigation Water Management, Lidar and Radar Applications in Hydrology, Thermal Infrared Remote Sensing, Energy Balance and Evapotranspiration. The poster presentations also had good representation from the three major themes. The presentations described both fundamental and applications-based research activities from modelling, to laboratory and field experiments, to operational applications.

We extend our thanks to the session chairs (Katja Richter of Università degli Studi di Napoli and Richard A. M. de Jeu of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and Guido D'Urso of Università degli Studi di Napoli), and to the presenters for their efforts and to the participants for their insightful questions and discussions. Special thanks are also due to the host city for the excellent venue and to the SPIE organizational staff for their support prior to, during, and after the symposium. We look forward to an even more successful and exciting conference in 2010.

Christopher M. U. Neale Antonino Maltese