



1  
00:00:00,010 --> 00:00:04,170

Only three

2  
00:00:04,190 --> 00:00:08,340

percent of water on Earth resides as freshwater. And only a tiny fraction

3  
00:00:08,360 --> 00:00:12,520

of that is actually accessible to us on the surface.

Seven billion of us live on the

4  
00:00:12,540 --> 00:00:16,690

planet. We all have to drink water to live. Where's the water that we drink come from?

5  
00:00:16,710 --> 00:00:20,830

By and large: precipitation.

Music

6  
00:00:20,850 --> 00:00:24,990

GPM is an international satellite mission, providing

7  
00:00:25,010 --> 00:00:29,140

a new generation of observations of rain and snow in all parts of the world,

8  
00:00:29,160 --> 00:00:33,250

every three hours.

If you have good precipitation

9  
00:00:33,270 --> 00:00:37,390

information you can do a very good job characterizing drought, and often

10  
00:00:37,410 --> 00:00:41,500

its subsequent impact on agricultural productivity. There's about

11  
00:00:41,520 --> 00:00:45,580

one major flood a day, someplace in the world.

12  
00:00:45,600 --> 00:00:49,640

So it's not as if it's a rare event.

Understanding how much snow is

13

00:00:49,660 --> 00:00:53,670

falling is important for transportation, safety, how much

14

00:00:53,690 --> 00:00:57,720

freshwater falls and is stored in snowpacks. What we really need to

15

00:00:57,740 --> 00:01:01,900

focus on is all the phases of precipitation so that

16

00:01:01,920 --> 00:01:06,080

we know what the global picture of where freshwater exists