



Using Earth Observations for Integrated Water Resources Management

Sustainability in the Water-Energy-Food Nexus Bonn, 19-20 May 2014

Douglas Cripe GEO Secretariat

Richard Lawford Morgan State University

Toshio Koike University of Tokyo







Space-based Assets





In-situ Systems









GEO: the Group on Earth Observations

An Intergovernmental group with 90 Members and 77 Participating Organizations







What is GEO?

- launched in response to calls for action by the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, Earth Observation Summits, and by the G8 (Group of Eight) leading industrialized countries
- voluntary partnership of governments and international organizations
 - 89 member governments + EC
 - 77 Participating Organizations (PO)
- provides a framework within which these partners can develop new projects and coordinate their strategies and investments
- charged with developing GEOSS





What is GEOSS?

- Global Earth Observation System of Systems
- an integrating public infrastructure, interconnecting a diverse, growing array of Earth observing instruments and information systems for monitoring and forecasting changes in the global environment
- supports policymakers, resource managers, science researchers and other experts to support informed decision making for society
- 10-year implementation plan
- By 2015:

Global, Coordinated, Comprehensive and Sustained System of Observing Systems





GEOSS Targeted Gaps

- 1. Lack of access to data and associated benefits in developing world
- **2.** Eroding technical infrastructure
- **3.** Large spatial and temporal gaps in specific data sets
- 4. Inadequate data integration and interoperability
- 5. Uncertainty over continuity of observations
- 6. Inadequate user involvement
- 7. Lack of relevant processing systems to transform data into useful information





GEOSS Implementation requires: Data Sharing Principles

- Full and Open Exchange of Data...
 - Recognizing Relevant International Instruments and National Policies and Legislation
- Data and Products at Minimum Time delay and Minimum Cost
- Free of Charge or Cost of Reproduction for Research and Education







Before 2015, GEO aims to:

Produce comprehensive sets of data and information products to support decision-making for efficient management of the world's water resources, based on coordinated, sustained observations of the water cycle on multiple scales.

WA-01 Integrated Water Information (incl. Floods and Droughts)

Components:

C1: Integrated Water-cycle Products and Services

C2: Information Systems for Hydro-meteorological Extremes (incl. Floods and Droughts)

C3: Information Service for Cold Regions

C4: Global Water-Quality Products and Services

C5: Information System Development and Capacity Building



Promotion of Integration and Interoperability



Disaster/Health/Energy/Climate/Weather/Agriculture/Forest/Ecosystem/Biodiversity

Water Cycle Integrator



1st Asian Water Cycle Symposium, Tokyo, Nov. 2005

1st Task Team Meeting, Bangkok, Sep. 2006

1st Capacity Building Workshop, Sep. 2006

2nd Asian Water Cycle Symposium, Tokyo, Jan. 2007

1st GEOSS AP Symposium, Tokyo, Jan. 2007

1st International Coordination Group Meeting, Bali, Sep. 2007

3rd Asian Water Cycle Symposium, Beppu, Dec. 2007

GEOSS Asian Water Cycle Initiative (AWCI)

To promote integrated water resources management by making usable information from GEOSS, for addressing the common water-related problems in the Asia-Pacific region.

Uniqueness

- A River Basin of Each Country
- Observation Convergence
- Interoperability Arrangement
- Data Integration
- Open Data & Source Policies
- Capacity Building
- Early Achievements



Ecosystem Degradation

Access to Water

Health

GEOSS African Water Cycle Coordination Initiative

Trans-boundary Rivers

Climate Change

Precipitation intensity



ALC: UNKNOWN

DROUGHT Mortality Risk Relative risk High Noticitian

CLICK HERE FOR RISK MAP EXPLANATIO

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GEOSS African Water Cycle Symposium

Key messages regarding challenges facing Africa in the water sector: lack of access to data and data sharing lack of infrastructure for collecting and analyzing data lack of funding and resources need for capacity building, enhancement of capabilities, and retention of expertise. political buy-in and role of national government is critical to the success of any initiative







Priorities for GEO post-2015...

1: Address urgent global challenges



2: Support for Sustainable Development

(Earth observations for monitoring progress towards SDGs)



3. Build on Accomplishments of GEO







Rio + 20: "The future we want"



RIO+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

274. We recognize the importance of space-technology-based data, in situ monitoring and reliable geospatial information for sustainable development policymaking, programming and project operations. In this context, we note the relevance of global mapping, and recognize the efforts in developing global environmental observing systems, including [...] through the **Global Earth Observation System of Systems.** We recognize the need to support developing countries in their efforts to collect environmental data.

GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS 2011: The G20 Agriculture **Priority** • Two initiatives to increase information availability, quality and transparency :





W-E-F Nexus: Bioener

Global:

Contribution to the Global Renewable Energy Atlas of IRENA

- Bioenergy segment

Regional:

Development of the Bioenergy Atlas for Africa (BAfA) led by South Africa

National:

Optimization of bioenergy plants sitting in Pakistan







Water-Energy-Food Nexus recognized as a primary theme of the recently completed GEOSS Water Strategy Report





GEO and Future Earth

Future Earth Objective:

- build the knowledge required for societies to face risks
 Through:
- enabling integrated research on grand challenges and transformations to sustainability
- strengthening global partnerships between researchers, funders and partners of research
- communicating science to society and vice versa
- GEO can provide political support and supply EOs needed to meet these goals











"...we will accelerate efforts within the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), ... in priority areas, inter alia, climate change and water resources management, by strengthening observation, prediction and data sharing. ... capacity building for developing countries ... interoperability and linkage ..."



Thank you!

www.earthobservations.org

dcripe@geosec.org











Energy task dedicated to International Energy Targets

Contributes to the UN Secretary General's Sustainability Energy for All (SE4All) Initiative and the SDGs

1. double the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix,

2. ensure universal access to modern energy services, and

3. double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency in buildings, industry, agriculture, and transportation sectors











W-E-F Nexus: Other than Bioenergy

Hydropower:

Contribution to the Global Renewable Energy Atlas of IRENA – Hydropower segment

Fossil Fuels:

Development of several tools and indicators for the impacts of coalmining activities on water quality and land use

Sustainability Impact assessment: Development of Life Cycle integrated tools for decision making









GEO Global Agricultural Monitoring Task Goals

- **1. Global monitoring of agricultural production,** facilitating reduction of risk and increased productivity at a range of scales
- 2. Timely & accurate national (sub-nat.) agricultural statistical reporting
- 3. Accurate forecasting of shortfalls in Crop production & Food supply
- **4. Effective Early warning of famine**, enabling a timely mobilization of an international response in food aid
- 5. Global mapping, monitoring and modeling of changes in agricultural land use, type and distribution, in the context of socio-economic and climate change





Example of Crop Crisis Situation: 2012

Northern Hemisphere Crop NDVI Anomalies - August 13th 2012









GEOGLAM Capacity Building Component Ex : Pakistan Agricultural Information System (Collaboration among CRS, FAO, SUPARCO, UMD & USDA)







Countries at risk

- Subsistence agriculture & Pastoralism
 - basis of livelihood systems in many countries
 - highly climate-sensitive
- Climate station networks not well working (sparse, bad or late reporting)
- Satellite remote sensing & Models can fill the gap
 - and provide the basis for early detection of agricultural droughts
- On all continents:
 - Africa : Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina, Niger, Chad, Somalia, Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Somalia, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, Zambia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, South Africa, Lesotho, Swaziland...
 - Central America: Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua
 - Caribbean: Haiti
 - Central Asia: Afghanistan



About 20 brokered data providers – capacities, systems, Communities



More than 7 Million (1.2 Million GEOSS Data Core) potentially Discoverable and Accessible resources (mix of data collections, datasets and individual images)

Contain [source: data providers]

More than 65 Million (50 Million GEOSS Data Core) potentially Discoverable and Accessible resources (e.g. satellite scene raingauge record)



Current Assets



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Resources

