

STRP 2009-2012 tasks – wetland data & information

- **Development of Global Wetland Observing System (G-WOS)**
[4.2]
 - Develop as collaboration with other programmes & agencies
 - Complex landscape of other processes: FAO-GTOS WSSD type II partnership; GEO-BON; ESA; JAXA; NASA; Med Observatory etc etc
 - Include web-based wetland inventory meta-database
 - Link with/build upon? *Ramsar Sites Information Service (RSIS)* – maintained/developed by Wetlands International for Convention
 - To support Ramsar effectiveness indicators assessment; other data & information needs, incl inventory, status and trends assessment
 - **Should provide data/info sharing mechanisms to support/inform many other tasks for Convention**

STRP 2009-2012

G-WOS Task Definition

- **Task 4.2: Development of Global Wetland Observing System (G-WOS)**
 - Draw up a specification for a global system for a wetland observation which would:
 - i) **Draw on collaboration, data and analyses from relevant earth observation programmes and agencies**
 - ii) **Include elements of a Web-based wetland inventory metadata base**
 - iii) **Serve to support relevant Ramsar effectiveness indicators (primarily indicator A(i) on status and trends in ecosystem extent) and other needs specified in Resolution X. [COP10 DR 14 on Data and information needs for management of wetlands], including those relating to inventory and wetland condition associated with agriculture, climate change, and human health.**
(Resolution IX.2 task 50, STRP14, Resolution X.14, Resolution X.1: strategy 1.2)

STRP 2009-2012

G-WOS Task Definition

- **Task 4.2: Development of Global Wetland Observing System (G-WOS)**

- Approach for delivering proposed work:

- (i) Concept paper on what specifically is meant by a “system” in this context, and the ways in which it will add value to streams of relevant activity. Concentrate inter alia on the “system” not necessarily being a physical thing, but a set of facilitated connections (or clearinghouse) to achieve optimal matching of data sources to defined Ramsar relevant user needs.
- (ii) Scope the various relevant data users and desirable uses for the “system”
- (iii) Compile an up to date description of the state of play with relevant data - supply initiatives - eg ESA/TdV N Africa Med Observatory; JAXA - ALOS 2, IPBES, MA Sub-global assessments, GEO etc.
- (iv) Review Med work/Globwetland II and make recommendations on the experience gained as a pilot for a global WOS concept, and produce a report on results (GWII) by end 2010. ESA to lead
- (v) Review options for widening/translating the pilot to other regions/scaling- up for global use by end 2011. ESA to lead.

STRP 2009-2012

G-WOS Task Definition

- **Task 4.2: Development of Global Wetland Observing System (G-WOS)**
- **What is achievable from EO?**
 - **Data availability for multiple-scale analyses from regional to catchment to local**
 - **Desk based pilot study:**
 - **A large country – Brazil/China/Congo?**
 - **Basin scale**
 - **Sub-basin scale**
 - **Specific wetland types/vegetation**
 - **Capabilities for observing change in ecological character**