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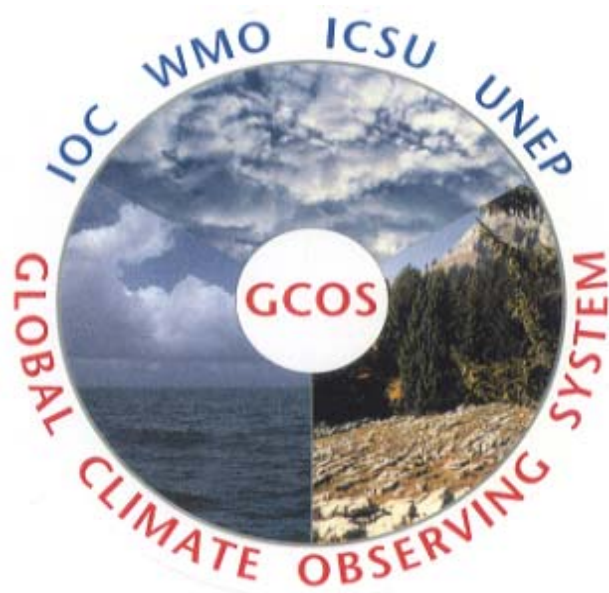


UNEP



ICSU

Achieving global coverage for climate observations in support of the UNFCCC



Paul Mason Chairman Global Climate Observing System

Climate is a global problem

- ◆ **Essential for global climate prediction, detection and attribution**

- ◆ **Also required to address the national and regional climate issues of the UNFCCC.**
 - For national and regional analyses of climate impacts;
 - For validation of global and regional climate models used in prediction, assessment and adaptation analyses
 - For calibration / validation of global satellite observations.

- ◆ **Capacity to sustain their long term observing stations is limited** in many developing countries, especially the least developed countries and small island states.
 - Need for stable long-term funding for priority (baseline) elements of global observing systems for climate in developing countries is an important international priority, if long-term change is to be observed.

GCOS Implementation plan: Global coverage and Participation by all Parties

- ◆ **Key Action 7: Parties are requested to address the needs of least-developed countries, small island developing states and some countries with economies in transition for taking systematic climate observations by encouraging multilateral and bilateral technical cooperation programmes to support global observing systems for climate and by participating in the GCOS Cooperation Mechanism.**
- ◆ **Focus system improvement on GUAN (upper air), GSN (surface), Rivers, Glaciers, Permafrost , Sea level. Also some Reference sites.**

Strategy for Achieving Global Coverage

◆ Key features of this strategy are to:

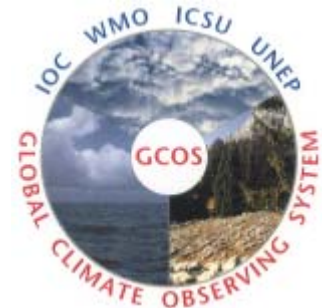
- Identification of problems and needs: Definition Monitoring and analysis of the baseline networks;
- Regional needs for climate observations related to climate impacts, vulnerability and adaptation;
- GCOS Cooperation Mechanism to address high-priority needs in developing countries by facilitating cooperation amongst donor countries & with recipient countries;
- Implementation of specific improvements in least-developed countries (LDCs) and small-island developing States (SIDS).

Building recognition of regional needs for climate observations - impacts, vulnerability and adaptation

GCOS Regional workshop programme –

“....to identify the priority capacity-building needs related to participation in systematic observation....”

- ◆ Assess the contribution of the region to the GCOS Baseline Networks
- ◆ Identify national and regional needs and deficiencies in climate data
- ◆ Initiate development of a **Regional Action Plan** for improving observing systems
- ◆ Understand the guidelines for reporting on systematic observation to the UNFCCC



Facilitating Donor Cooperation

- ◆ **Goal – to develop a coordinated multi-governmental approach to address the need for stable long-term funding for priority systems, esp., for least developed countries and SIDS.**
 - Focus on management issues (e.g., priorities) and resources mobilization from multiple sources.
 - Utilize existing mechanisms, e.g., WMO/VCP and cooperative arrangements.
- ◆ **Core group of countries agreed to establish a GCOS Cooperation Mechanism and developed the ToRs.**
 - **Cooperation Board** – as primary means to establish and direct priority improvement projects
 - **Cooperation Fund** – as means for aggregating voluntary Contributions from multiple donors (both in-kind and financial)
- ◆ **Open to any agency within a Member Country of the GCOS sponsors (WMO, IOC, UNEP and FAO).**

Specific Improvements in LDCs and SIDS

- ◆ **Initial improvements in GUAN stations in equatorial areas in Africa, South America and on oceanic islands.**
 - Strategic priorities established by AOPC
 - Implementation priorities jointly set by Donors

- ◆ **Resources from USA (US GCOS Program Office / US CCRI) with matching support from Australia, U.K. and N.Z.**

- ◆ **Project Implementation (2003 / 2004)**
 - Upper Air systems at Gan, Maldives & Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
 - Hydrogen Generators for Galapagos Island, Ecuador; Duala, Cameroon; and Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire (ASECNA)
 - Radiosondes and Balloons for selected stations

Future Directions

- ◆ **Improve the coordination between current elements of the strategy.**
 - Build the case for stable long-term funding for priority baseline networks in developing countries
- ◆ **Extend integrated monitoring and feedback to all needed variables networks to ocean and terrestrial domains**
- ◆ **Implement fully the GCOS Cooperation Mechanism**
 - Prepare an inventory of donor activities in support of climate observations
 - Develop specific projects for consideration of donors – observations and analysis in support of adaptation
 - Mobilize the interest of donor
- ◆ **Provide more guidance on implementing regional projects in regional action plans**

