

## **GOFC-GOLD Fire implementation Team – 06 September 2007**

Participants: Johann Goldammer, Ivan Csiszar, Chris Justice, Bill DeGroot, Elaine Prins, Emilio Chuvieco, Mastura Mahmud, Tim Lynham, Erin Naydenov

1. GOFC-GOLD Program Update: Mastura Mahmud provided an update on the South-East Asian activities. This information will be circulated in a separate document prior to the Thessaloniki IT meeting.
2. Preparation for the Thessaloniki meetings: At the Fire IT meeting there will be an open session and a closed session to discuss Fire IT issues. Emilio Chuvieco suggested that the meetings be used to continue collaboration with European activities and spread the approach of GOFC-GOLD. Attention should be given to the fire situation in Greece over the past month. At the open session Stefania Korontzi will be reviewing the fire season in Greece and how it fits into a future integrated global fire observing system. Chris Justice reported that the closed session will involve the Fire IT and a few invited experts to provide input on IT business. The special session at the end of the EARSEL SIG meeting will be open to the public and will have several presentations on GOFC-GOLD, Fire IT initiatives and a few agency reports. Michael Schmidt will attend and present the requirements for a future constellation and his work on AUSBIRD. The agendas for the two sessions were endorsed. Ivan Csiszar is arranging the logistical details for the meetings.
3. Upcoming meetings:
  - Redlatif Workshop – This one day workshop will be held adjacent to the Spanish Remote Sensing Society meeting on 22 September at Mar del Plata, Argentina. Ivan Csiszar will participate. The society has recently completed the Burned Area for Latin America 2004 project. Emilio Chuvieco has submitted the publication (accepted) and it will be available in the next few months. The future direction of Redlatif will be discussed. Discussions are underway on how to merge/integrate the Amazonian network and the pan Amazonian network. Carlos DiBella is taking the lead on this. Emilio Chuvieco indicated that further discussions about the relationship between Redlatif and the new Latin America land cover group (Amazon Basin – led by Carlos Sousa) will take place. Ivan Csiszar will relay the work that he and Elaine Prins are doing on GOES fire monitoring using the fire history from GOES to estimate emissions.

Tim Lynham has worked with Argentina on sensor issues with the Canadian Space Agency (CSA). Over the last year CSA has put together a sensor package based on the Canadian micro-barometer (an un-coded detector).
  - Land Direct Broadcast Workshop – This workshop will be held 10-11 October in Mexico. Tom Bobbe has been working on the workshop with Rainer Ressler from CONABIO. This is adjacent to the annual SeaSpace workshop. Many Fire IT members will participate.
  - GOFC-GOLD Workshop on requirements for Fire Early Warning Systems in Africa – Bill DeGroot reported that a group at the Canadian Forest Service is working on some example products to present at the EWS meeting. The Meteorological group in Melbourne will help and the Australian Bushfire CRC group may also contribute to the products. The attendance is not finalized. The Africa RN leads are providing names of those to participate from the pan African community.

Bill DeGroot reported that the follow up EWS meeting planned for March 2008 in Edmonton may be pushed back for WMO logistical reasons. Johann Goldammer will approach the GEO Secretariat for Edmonton EWS funding.

4. Status of GOFC-GOLD Fire contributory documents to GEO and GTOS:

- Various organizations request GOFC-GOLD written input for publications. Ivan Csiszar reported that there are currently two major inputs requested and another two potential inputs.

The IT is contributing to The Full Picture, which is a book being prepared for the GEO summit. Bill DeGroot has submitted the text to the publishers. There was a section of fire detections (polar systems) primarily from Chris Justice and Ivan Csiszar. The Geostationary systems content was from Elaine Prins. Diane Davies provided web GIS system content. Bill DeGroot and Tim Lynham provided text on the EWS with input from Chris Justice, Johann Goldammer, and Michael Brady. The book may include a list of acronyms.

The IT was asked to generate a report on fire for the GTOS status report on the Essential Climate Variables. The content requested is on the status, requirements and the history of the products, with a more detailed status report on the standards (measurements that are taken, physical units). The deadline is September 15<sup>th</sup>. Ivan Csiszar will make an initial draft and will seek input from team members.

There is an IEEE special addition for GEOSS to address data system and observing system issues. The team decided not to pursue this item due to the short deadline.

Michael Brady has requested the IT to generate a biannual report for GTOS. Ivan Csiszar, Chris Justice and Johann Goldammer will make the initial draft.

5. Any other business:

- Emilio Chuvieco provided an update on the status of Redlatif. The network has progressed since its creation four years ago. They are undertaking some activities without funding. One project is based on burned land mapping using perimeter data, mainly using MODIS, Landsat and CBERS for validation. The resulting publication was accepted by Ecological Applications. The network is seeking funding opportunities and developing regional programs. Redlatif covers mainly fire applications over the area from Mexico to Argentina.
- VIIRS update. Chris Justice and Ivan Csiszar have had their proposal to NASA approved to continue the VIIRS fire products (burned area and active fire products). This will include some support for the long term fire data records. To compile a clear MODIS sensor record, other agency collaboration will be sought. This will not include long term burned area mapping, due to reduced funding. Global fire assessment and long term burned area mapping will be discussed at the Thessaloniki. Emilio Chuvieco suggested that the human aspect be included in the fire danger estimation discussions in Thessaloniki.
- Tim Lynham will represent the EWS in Thessaloniki.