

Who is the Plan for?

- The Plan will provide those global observations of the Essential Climate Variables and their associated products, to assist the Parties in meeting their responsibilities under Articles 4 and 5 of the UNFCCC.
- The plan will also provide many of the essential observations required by the World Climate Research Programme and Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

SBSTA and COP framework for monitoring



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Agenda item 8

Research and systematic observation

SBSTA 21 and COP 10 agreed positions

- SBSTA 21 welcomed the Implementation Plan for the Global Observing System for Climate,
 - stressed that implementation of this plan would contribute to developing adaptation and mitigation responses,
 - and encouraged Parties to support its implementation and report on their activities.
- SBSTA 21 also welcomed GEO's work on the 10-year implementation plan for a Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) and invited GEO to cooperate with GCOS to incorporate relevant actions from the GCOS Plan into the GEOSS Plan

SBSTA 21 and COP 10 agreed positions

- The SBSTA forwarded a draft decision on the implementation of the global observing system for climate to COP10,
- COP 10's "Decision 5/CP.10" encourages Parties to strengthen their efforts to address the priorities in the Plan and implement them...and report back in a year to let the Parties know how well they were doing...

Overview

- The Second Report on the Adequacy of the Global Observing Systems for Climate highlights those ECVs that are both currently feasible for global implementation and are important for implementation of the UNFCCC process.
- The Plan includes over a hundred specific actions to be undertaken over the next 10 years, across the three domains. Many of the proposed actions are already underway, at the least as part of research activities, and most of the required coordination mechanisms have been identified.

Agents for Implementation

National

- The networks, systems, data centres and analysis centres identified in the Plan are almost all funded, managed and operated by national entities with their own requirements, plans, procedures, standards and regulations.
- Contributing networks and systems should respond to the Plan's actions and, where appropriate, adjust their plans, procedures and operations to address the specified climate observing requirements.

Regional

- For some observations, regional planning and implementation of climate observing system components is particularly effective as a means of sharing workloads and addressing common issues. The GCOS Regional Workshop Programme brings interested nations to work together to optimize their networks and to identify both national and GCOS network needs in each region.

Agents for Implementation

International

- Relevant international and intergovernmental organizations will:
- (a) undertake coordination and planning for systematic climate observations where this is not currently being undertaken; and (b) produce plans for their contributions to the global observing system for climate.
- The Parties must ensure that their requirements for climate observations are communicated to these international and intergovernmental organizations.
- The international entities then need to report back to the Parties...through the COP/MOP.

Land cover

- **Action T22 (TF1):** Establish international standards and specifications for the production of land-cover characterization maps.
 - **Who:** FAO, UNEP, GLCN and ISO (TC-211) in collaboration with GOFC-GOLD.
 - **Time-Frame:** Standards and specifications by 2005. Operation continuing.
 - **Performance Indicator:** Publication of standards.
 - **Cost Implications:** Category I.
- **Action T23 (TF8, TF9, TF10):** Produce reliable accepted methods for land-cover map accuracy assessment.
 - **Who:** CEOS WGCV, in collaboration with GOFC-GOLD and GLCN.
 - **Time-Frame:** By 2005 then continuously.
 - **Performance Indicator:** Protocol availability.
 - **Cost Implications:** Category I.

Land cover

- **Action T26 (TF8, TF9, TF10):** Generate annual products documenting global land-cover characteristics at resolutions between 250m and 1km, according to internationally-agreed standards and accompanied by statistical descriptions of the maps' accuracy.
 - **Who:** Parties' national services, research institutes and Space Agencies through GLCN in collaboration with GOF-C-GOLD research partners, and the IGOS land theme (IGOL).
 - **Time-Frame:** By 2005, then continuously.
 - **Performance Indicator:** Data set availability
 - **Cost Implications:** Category III.
- **Action T27 (TF8, TF9, TF10):** Generate maps documenting global land cover at resolutions between 10m and 30m every 5 years, according to internationally-agreed standards and accompanied by statistical descriptions of the maps' accuracy.
 - **Who:** Space Agencies, in cooperation with GCOS, GTOS, GLCN and other members of CEOS.
 - **Time-Frame:** First by 2005, then continuously.
 - **Performance Indicator:** Availability of operational plans, funding mechanisms and eventually maps.
 - **Cost Implications:** Category III.

Fire

- **Action T32 (TF14):** Reanalyze the historical fire disturbance satellite data (1982 to present).
 - **Who:** Space Agencies, working with research groups coordinated by GOFC-GOLD.
 - **Time-Frame:** By 2010.
 - **Performance Indicator:** Establishment of a consistent data set.
 - **Cost Implications:** Category III.
- **Action T33 (TF14):** Continue the generation of active fire and burnt area products.
 - **Who:** Space Agencies, in collaboration with GOFC-GOLD.
 - **Time-Frame:** Continuous.
 - **Performance Indicator:** Availability of data.
 - **Cost Implications:** Category III.

Fire

- **Action T34 (TF13, TF14):** Apply CEOS WGCV and GOFC-GOLD validation protocol to fire disturbance data.
 - **Who:** Space Agencies and research organizations.
 - **Time-Frame:** By 2006.
 - **Performance Indicator:** Publication of accuracy statistics.
 - **Cost Implications:** Category II.
- **Action T35 (TF13):** Make gridded fire and burnt area products available through a single International Data Centre.
 - **Who:** United Nations-affiliated Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), through GOFC-GOLD.
 - **Time-Frame:** Continuous.
 - **Performance Indicator:** Continued operation of the GFMC.
 - **Cost Implications:** Category II.