

Group on Earth Observation User Interface Committee Meeting – Monday September 22nd through Wednesday September 24th, Boulder, Colorado, USA

Group on Earth Observation (GEO) User Interface Meeting September 22, 2008

Agenda for Monday, 22 September, 2008

(Meeting Location: University of Colorado, Boulder, Co, USA, Discovery Learning Center Room)

8:30 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. Welcome

Purpose of the meeting - Joint meeting of UIC and CBC- Approval of agenda

9:10 a.m. Presentation on the UIC

9:25 a.m. Presentation on the CBC

9:40 a.m. Presentation from Greg Withee on the Target Task Team effort

9:55 a.m. Progress on user requirements gathering processes

Presentations: Lawrence Friedl, UIC-NASA, Hans-Peter Plag, UIC- University Nevada Reno

10:20 a.m. Progress on gathering capacity-building needs

Presentations: CBC Members

10:40 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. Presentations on IGOS plans for the future

(Water cycle-Rick Lawford-University of Manitoba, Geohazards-Hans Peter Plag-UNR, Coastal zone-Hans Peter Plag-UNR, Jinlong Fan, GEO Secretariat and Chris Justice, University of Maryland, Progress report on global agriculture monitoring, and call in presentations on Cryosphere-Jeff Key, NOAA, Atmospheric Chemistry-Ernie Hilsenrath, NASA and Jack Fishman, NASA).

12:00 a.m. Panel Discussion about opportunities for UIC-CBC-IGOS coordination

Rick Lawford-University of Manitoba and Hans Peter Plag-UNR

Questions from the UIC and CBC members on the five presentations

12:30 p.m. Lunch (provided)

1:30 p.m. Reconvene - Joint meeting of UIC and CBC (DLC Room)

Panel Discussion about opportunities for UIC-CBC-IGOS coordination

Five minute summary statement about coordination opportunities

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Proposal for joint activity

Questions to the panelists and discussion by the UIC and CBC

2:45 p.m. Summary of recommendations/action items by the UIC /CBC moderators

Forest carbon monitoring symposium in Brazil, Hilcea Ferreira, CBC Co-Chair

3:00 p.m. Break

3:20 p.m. Reconvene – UIC Meeting

Presentations by the Secretariat

Upcoming Calendar of Events

Secretariat Perspectives on the new Workplan 09-11

ExCom and C4 Expectations for the Committees

Other GEO activities, Questions of Clarification

3:50 p.m. Progress on US-06-01 and Discussion, Lawrence Friedl, UIC/NASA

Update on weather user requirements, Manfred Kloeppel, ECMWF

4:15 p.m. Updated presentation on Wiki, Ruth Duerr, IEEE

GNU international stakeholders workshop, and the Wiki, Herbert Haubold,

Umweltbundesamt Austria

4:45 p.m. Discussion on what role should the UIC play for the future for:

1. New Work plan tasks,
2. Communities of Practice and the IGOS-P themes,
3. GEOSS Common Infrastructure, and
4. Revision of the 6-and 10-year GEO targets

targets

The Charge to the Breakout Groups will be developed from this discussion

5:30 p.m. Adjourn

Meeting Notes for Monday, 22 September, 2008

Al Gasiewski gave a welcome from the sponsoring UC orgs (see file 1-Al-Gasiewski-Welcome-Slide). The College of Engineering, as well as the other sponsors, is pleased to have GEO here. This is representative of the fact that it takes a lot of engineering to make GEO happen.

Gary Foley requested everyone to introduce themselves (see list of attendees in file Participatnst-GEO-UIC-Boulder-meeting)

Gary Foley gave opening remarks and introduced the agenda. He stressed that this was the 1st joint UIC, CBC meeting. . He particularly wants to engage IGOS P themes. How can the three groups (UIC, CBC and IGOS P) work together to support each others missions and plans.

Presentation on the UIC

Ellsworth LeDrew welcomed everyone to the meeting. There are 2 primary objectives to the joint session: 1. For the purpose of the CBC members, learn the charge of the UIC; 2. For the UIC people to get an update on accomplishments since the last meeting. His presentation covers the items below (see file 2-Ellsworth-LeDrew-UIC-Opening-Remarks):

- Slide 1. What is the Goal of GEO
- Schematic: The GEOSS Architecture, Provide user requirements to standards and operability group to the User Interface Committee
- UIC Objectives
- Spectrum of users
- GEO TASK US-06-01, Primary task of this group and linkage to the ADC
- User Requirements Gathering process: advisory groups and analyst harvesting operational needs in existing documents and bringing them into the GEO context
- Task DA-06-04 was migrated from ADC and UIC re harmonization of data, metadata, etc
- Communities of practice (CoPs) are self organized systems (example air quality and health)
- Status from Toronto: reaffirm goal; UIC web; best practice Wiki; data sharing principles; Air Quality scenario workshop (pre-AIP); replicate with other SBAs (energy)
- UIC management: measure of success; ADC has sherpas; new management model for UIC with breakout sessions for CoPs
- GEOSS Common Infrastructure (GCI) assessment
- Objectives: Determine US-06-01 new role in the update work plan for 09; call for participation as new initiative with CBC; UIC in International symposium for remote sensing of the environment in Stresa, May 09.

Questions and Answers:

Mark Cantwell (Environment Canada) – The process is unclear. He wonders how the process by which the UIC operates, actually manifests itself? How do our plans get implemented?

Laurence Friedl – He will clarify in his briefing

Bingfang Wu - How can he access the Toronto meeting report?

Ellsworth LeDrew - This is one of the purposes of the UIC website; the Toronto documents are not up yet, but he hopes they will be next week. This should be our public record.

Presentation on the CBC

Hilcea Ferreira

She highlighted the CBC purpose (see file 3-Hilcea-Ferreira-CBC-role). Her presentation included the following items:

- Build on existing efforts, focus on user needs, do it together
- Infrastructure, individuals and institutional

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- Mandate facilitation & coordinating
- 31 countries as members+ EC+ 22org
- Main activities: web portal; GEONetcast; open source SW, national & regional capacity
- Strategy linkage between objectives and priority actions

Questions and Answers:

Martha Angoloti - These main activities are all listed in formal work plans. We have less tasks but they are more in line with the overall strategy.

Gary Foley – It would be good to see how we can interface with these tasks after we hear more presentations.

Presentation from Greg Withee on the Target Task Team effort (see files 4a-Greg-Withee-T3-letter and 4b-Greg_withee-T3-plan)

A few words on Geo and the new Target Task team. Several people here are members. The idea of the team is to look back on what we are trying to do since inception in 2005. The work plan version 2 is out. The two committees can look at Version 2 of the work plan to make sure their activities are reflected. There have been a group of people (including Alan Edwards and Peter Colohan) selected to make sense of the existing vision, targets, goals, down to the tasks. Our goal is to pick 20-30 targets which people can resonate– outcome oriented and covering many tasks. Plan is to have an initial draft by this November's plenary. A group of people have been assigned to work on the team. A letter from GEO T3 was sent to committee co-chairs asking for inputs. The team includes the following: common infrastructure (Ivan Deloatch and Allan Edwards), coordinated Observing systems (Sue Barrett, John Zimmerman), cross cutting data sets (Greg W), Capacity building (Johnson Owaro, Carrie Stokes, Marta Angoloti, Disasters (Sue Barrell), Health (Peter Colohan), Energy (Lara Engolf Eide), Climate (John Zimmerman), Water (Rick Lawford and Chu Ishia), Weather (Udo/Alexander Gusav), Ecosystems (Alan Edwards), Agriculture and Forestry (Ken Korporal), biodiversity (Alan Edwards and John Townsend). The schedule includes an initial notion by October 6th. . The team will be able to give all the chairs and groups an initial list of targets by then, but in the meantime the committees could come up with their own targets. He requested 2 to 3 per area, and the team will modify results accordingly.

Questions and Answers:

Ellsworth LeDrew – What is the role of CoPs (example energy CoP); is this process separate from COPs or combined?

Greg Withee – The process is interactive; either writing group can provide targets for review; ask in the breakout sessions for a couple of targets by CoP (broad band outcome oriented, not task oriented); the targets need to be related to work plan; a draft workshop is planned at end of October.

Greg Withee - We had a workshop in Paris on performance metrics which we hope to be adopted at plenary meeting. They link the process to outcomes. He thinks it is very important for anybody writing a target to write it in the continuity of the tasks in the work

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plan so that it can later be tied to the metrics. This will be coming to the plenary at the same time and they will be connected.

Mark Cantwell – Why not use wiki technology? After short term process, what happens to the document (does it go to the plenary)

Greg Withee – Yes, it will go to plenary. The end result is a published document. We haven't taken a wiki process because we are struck with trying to do something very finite in a short time frame to gather this information, but this might be a good suggestion to take.

Peter Colohan – Previous target work over the last 3 or 4 years resulted in over 800 targets...we are trying to re-articulate the goals

Francoise Pearlman – Wiki technology is used by ADC for the best practice wiki; recommend that those interested talk to Ruth Duerr

Michael Brady - There are a number of events coming up before plenary and there are two Forest breakout session planned (which is his interest) for a GEO symposium in November

Greg Withee - This is an important activity. And he appreciates the attendees taking it on such short notice. We need to take his suggestion seriously and send some targets in to him.

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Progress on User Requirements Gathering Processes

Presentations: Lawrence Friedl, UIC-NASA, Hans-Peter Plag, UIC- University Nevada Reno

Lawrence Friedl (see file 5-Lawrence-Friedl-task-0601)

The role of this task is to identify critical Earth Observation Priorities, and thus requirements. Requirements to a technology organization can be very specific. Why is Task US-06-01 needed? If we can determine Earth Observation Priorities, especially where there is a need and no plan, GEO can identify the gap to all of its members and figure out which country can fill the need. Right now he feels that there is no process to go from the identification of the problem to making sure that it gets resolved. There is reliance on volunteer efforts.

US-0601 harvests observation needs which have been identified over the last 10 years. The starting point is a list of documents (international, national and regional levels); the work needs to reflect priorities across all countries (not just US, Europe, Canada). Be creative in looking for reports. The team needs help from the CBC to make sure the developing countries are looking for documents. A nine step process has been developed and will be applied over 6 to 7 months. For each Societal Benefit Area (SBA), an advisory group and an analyst team are being put in place. They will be gathering specific parameters and their characteristics; example temperature measurement (resolution, accuracy, frequency).

The next steps include: 1) a letter will be issued from the GEO secretariat to participating members about the work to be done by the analysts; 2) a mid- term report will be published in March 09; 3) a final report will be available by the 09 plenary.

Questions and answers:

Peter Colohan - Is the US strategic assessment group and the European Union included?

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Lawrence Friedl - The strategic assessment group (US focused) will be folded in; we do not have as many ESA members as we would like

Unknown speaker - GEOSS is very much spaced focus? Will we take into account other observations?

Lawrence Friedl – This should not be spaced focus only; we could use help identifying documents in other areas

Imraan Salooje - How do you see developing parts of the world contributing to this?

Lawrence Friedl – We are looking for international members from or working with developing countries to bring forward documents;

Imraan Salooje- This is a role for CBC

Mark Cantwell - We need a list of the countries which would benefit from bridging the gap, and the countries which can contribute to bridging the gap; end users to identify needs, not just scientific researchers

Lawrence Friedl - Looking at a spectrum of documents for decision makers to scientists, and developed vs developing countries

Mike Tanner - If the UIC committee engages users, it becomes the tip of the spear; make sure geo-secretariat SBA experts are involved; make it clear that all observing systems are included (not just space); talk to CEOS secretariat (Ivan Petiteville) and NASA Langley (they are putting together tool for CEOS). Only UIC can provide right hand side of value chain.

Greg Withee – This is extremely important work. We need to engage people in our countries who have money. It is very ambitious but can be done. “SBA like” groups have produced these documents; leads are moving on and need to be informed of the search. We need to put this effort on the map, and reach out to these groups.

Lawrence Friedl - We are trying to, but do not currently have as much coverage as we will in the future; our initial step is to send the preliminary report to these organizations and ask for their feedback.

Alan Edwards – European projects are addressing a lot of SBA’s. He attended a conference in Brussels recently and they didn’t discuss this task because it is not in the new work plan.. We need to get those tasks back in, because otherwise we loose visibility. In reference to European Union projects, you need to make sure there is a link with funded projects

Gary Foley - This task and the CoP task need to be restored

Hans-Peter Plag – He addressed the UIC meeting in Toronto. An infrastructure is needed to use the data. One needs to distinguish between user needs and observational requirements, and link observation to value. The user requirements registry is identified as key in the operations concept document. Who is going to develop the registry? We need resources to develop the infrastructure.

Gary Foley - There will be further discussions on this with the ADC co-chairs.

Progress on Gathering Capacity-building Needs

Presentations: CBC Members

Martha Angoloti (see file 7-Marta-Angoloti-CBC-role)

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Her presentation addressed 3 main topics: 1. Overarching themes - all tasks grouped into 5 new tasks which are the main goal of the strategy, and include several subtasks; 2. Resource mobilization – not sure where to put it; 3. Going through tasks/subtasks.

Mark Noort

Capacity building tasks overview

Why do we need Capacity Building (CB). Since Earth Observation provides added value, why is it not happening automatically? People do not have the information to contribute; problems may be too big; there are regional differences; you need to distinguish different level (training HR, people, management, institutions...).

We try to promote EO, and remove bottlenecks where we have a sphere of influence.

Examples would be promotional partnerships and networks. We need to stimulate the business environment. We also find that there is capacity that is underused because of other limitations. SERVIR is making images available for Central America and he would like to see that in Africa. Google Earth and Microsoft Bill Gates Foundation are working on African projects.

Martha Angoloti (see file 8-Marta-Angoloti-engaging-donors)

Engaging donors; try to give tools, coordinate action, help as much as possible; get potential sponsors interested in Capacity Building (CP)

Mobilizing resources for implementing GEOSS; Seville road map results from Seville donor symposium; position GEO as honest broker and coordinator

Key objectives – need to focus on users needs; identify likely donors for each SBA and region

Actions: identify pilots for donor consideration

Links with UIC: Call for participation with UIC; Interested in task 06-01

Questions and Answers: criteria for pilot projects selection

Martha Angoloti - Capacity building initial criteria have been identified but they need to be compared with UIC criteria

Gary Foley - You have a lot of activities going on where users are being engaged. Are you trying to capture the information from these workshops and meetings, realizing it is not an easy task. One of the things coming out in this meeting is that a lot of things are going on and we are not taking stock of the information we collectively bring to the community.

Martha Angoloti - This may be the most important outcome from being together; thoughts are in regional reports; we could try to extract the needed information

Inmaan Salooje - Extract information from IEEE workshops; there is a need for a lot more cross-pollination

Gary Foley - We have heard a lot this morning and he hopes it is not a blur. How do we get our arms around where we should be working together? What activities are we each doing where we could draw from each other or expand the scope to make it a coordinated effort. Are there some who would like to volunteer to put something? We have the user requirements gathering process. How do we make it useful for the capacity building committee or the UIC? What are the next steps?

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Stan Morain - He didn't come to this meeting for this purpose, but is glad he is here. There may be a mechanism for us to begin collaborating. The International Society for Photo-grammatry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) has a grant to look at Science for Health and Well Being in Sub Saharan Africa. It is not a lot of money. He also heard SERVIR is moving into Africa. Perhaps this project could serve as a catalyst. Stan is Principal investigator (PI). The first meeting will be in Pretoria in January; then there will be presentations in Stresa in May 09.

Gary Foley – This is what we are looking for

Benjamin Lamptey – He suggested another project which has to do with capacity building and high impact weather forecasting (THORPEX Africa).

Shah Iqbal – He suggested focus on decision maker

Michael Brady: There is a large GEO symposium in November with break out sessions; UIC process could guide breakout sessions; CBC provide guidance in design of breakouts

Alan Edwards: Ambition exceeds resources due to success of GEO; how are we going to reach the next level with volunteers; we are a young organizations, learning to grow up; we are going to find additional resources – need dedicated people for all these things to be effective. Specific example of resources: the commission does have money at his disposal, and is calling for proposals for groups to engage donors. We need to go further with this route.

Lawrence Friedl – While we are going through documents identifications, analysts can talk to the organizations which are supporting those projects, and then link up the donor and the project. He can build this into the 06-01 process. That may be a vehicle to get more pilot projects going; this is another reason to have CBC involved

Mark Cantwell – Is there a process about how the output of one committee can be fed into the work of another committee; there should be a white paper on how the groups could work together

Alan Edwards – There is plenty of discussion; this should be articulated in the work plan

Mike Tanner - there is verbiage in the work plan, but the work plan is iterative

Imraan Salooje - The white paper suggestion is a good one

Gary Foley - He is providing a slide show on how user needs has been identified, example: linking biodiversity to Lyme disease.

-GAINS (Global Avian Influenza...)

-Healthy People in a Healthy Environment (Madagascar).

He provided an example of data collection (capturing side session in one page, with a list of questions). An additional question was suggested by a CBC member: do they know how to use the data?

Mark Cantwell - He has a workshop in December; his focus is to ask users what they do rather than what they need (that step needs to be explicit)

Presentations on IGOS plans for the future

(Water cycle-**Rick Lawford**-University of Manitoba, Geohazards-**Hans Peter Plag**-UNR, Coastal zone-**Hans Peter Plag**-UNR, and call in presentations

on Cryosphere-**Jeff Key**, NOAA and Atmospheric Chemistry-**Ernie Hilsenrath**, NASA and **Jack Fishman**, NASA).

Rick Lawford – Water (see 9-Rick-Lawford-IGOS-water-cycle)

The Integrated Global Water Cycle Observing Theme (IGWCO) had the following objectives: they conducted a review of what user needs were and the gaps in regards to the hydrological cycle (table).

Hydrological Applications – Runoff Project Haron goals and objectives; implementation phases

Soil moisture: he has been working on soil moisture (support GCOS implementation plan). One problem is high intensity measurements over small areas, or coarse measurements. They want to have hi-resolution data everywhere using future satellite data

IGWCO/UNESCO ground water workshop measurements – gaps identified

Water quality – need new sensors; need both satellite and in-situ observations

WMO- report on global water quality monitoring; number of gaps identified

End to end initiatives – developers, data collectors, simulators, data dissemination contribution (drought, ..., mountains)

Coordinated Enhanced Observing Periods

Asian water cycle initiative (AWCI)

Waternet (NASA supported)

How do you obtain synergy: map water cycle themes into GEO plan; need to strengthen plan for 2011 and beyond

Future: focus on GEO goals (GEO tasks list). Targets should be set 5 years out. Work plans should look to a couple of years out. NASA Phase II: Will follow to some extent the NRC review. There will be a mission around 2016-2020

Regarding Moving the themes into the community of practice, he sees pros and cons. One option is a group that would be large enough to encompass all members of the community. He wants to design an activity that would engage everyone but utilizes existing activities. This would provide and integration across the water sector

Questions and Answers

Gary Foley - The crucial target is as follows: can water managers get reliable forecasts 5, 10, 20 years ahead to determine where the water supply will come from? Short term information, in a real time sense, is needed re water supply and water quality to deal with variability. Do you see targets like that achievable within the 10 years of Geo?

Rick Lawford - They are starting to address that with the Worldwide Water Development report. The Asian Water cycle project also address this . The thrust is in climate and water, with metrics for monitoring

Greg Whitee – There is quite a bit of information regarding the goals of the effort. Regarding GEO targets: by 2015, will what is in place now (mostly science driven) have gotten over to the decision making side?

Rick Lawford – The pendulum is swinging to the other side, but science will also remain one of the objectives. More capacity building should help further making the science successful and utilized by the decision makers

Inmaan Salooje - What are the main challenges re CoPs?

Rick Lawford - One of the challenges is language; for example documents are available in English only. The other problem is to have the resources to conduct good pilot projects.

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Shah Iqbal – How do you coordinate activities?

Rick:Lawford – The water cycle committee meets remotely every 2 month

Hans-Peter Pflag

Transition of IGOS Geo-hazard theme (see 10_Hans-Peter-geo-hazard).

Documents progressed from 2002. The 1st report was published in 2004. A bureau from ESA and French BRG was established. The report was updated by the CoP in 2007. Since then, there have been producing a collective news letter from IGOS and geohazard CoP, plus others. Three workshops lead to the Frascati declaration. Selected reference sites are now super-sites; many CoPs related to Geo-hazards; the GEO CoP is trying to get all of the relevant CoPs together; we need to federate the community to build bridges between providers, data processors, and end users; concept paper provides a road map for international initiative: facilitate data access to supersites within 3 years; criteria to choose supersite; discussion on funding based on concept paper. Here is the outlook: involvement of funding agencies; national, regional and local representatives; integrate private companies.

Questions and answers

Peter Colohan – the activity is ESA and France sponsored; it form a good solid foundation

Hans-Peter Plag - that support ends in 2008

Peter Colohan – the location of supersite influences which government may fund activity; this could be a serious problem; we need to involve other sources for long term sustained funds

Gary Foley - is there interest in the geo-hazard work plan from the capacity building community?

Yolanda Berenguer – this is our first encounter with IGOS; it is totally different from what CBC was thinking; we thought that the activity would have progressed to the point where it can used CBC, but they appear to be doing another layer; we do not see CB here.

Hans-Peter Plag – This is only one aspect. There are a number of regional workshops in plans; they include CoPs involved in CB. You can go to the IGOS website and find these workshops. There is far too much going on to be able to present here. We will ask for names of people who are driving the capacity building for this effort

Unknow participant - Asked about access to those web sites

Hans-Peter Plag: - You would have to have a link to those sites from the GEO website.

Hans-Peter Plag – transition of IGOS coastal theme to GEO (see file 11-Hans-Peter-Plag-ocastal-zone)

The strategy is to focus on land-sea interface. The presentation addressed the following items:

- Goal of the coastal theme:
- Theme report
- Coastal observing requirements: a large number of parameters identified; Intersection between IGOS themes and GEO is very complicated (no one to one relationship).
- It became clear that the existing EO system is inadequate or not sustained.

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- Coastal Observing Challenges and Priorities:
- Coastal Integration Challenges & Strategies:
- IGOS Coastal Theme Transition into GEO:

GEO Coastal Zone Community of Practice (CZCP): Linkage to GEO through UIC; 2 workshops in 2009; web page www.czCoP.org; future plans

Questions and answers

Alan Edwards - You want to ask for formal recognition of PICO from GEO secretariat; that should be asked of the GEO plenary

Hans-Peter Plag – It is a wording issue (his colleague's charts); we will try and have the slides corrected

Francesco Pignatelli - Same comment

Mark Cantwell - If by year end I can develop predictions for the great lake, what will be the relationship between monitoring needs by my organization, and the CZCOP?

Hans-Peter Plag – Coastal system is a good example. All areas doing sea level rise research come up with their own ad-hoc way to address or research it.. There is no recipe, or single set way but CZCOP can establish the links you are asking for

Imraan Salooje - How could CB needs and gaps be addressed via CoPs?

Hans-Peter Plag - Bringing together the north and south groups of the Mediterranean would be a type of capacity building, but mostly in the sense of scientists speaking to decision makers. Through workshops we try to do CB with focus on scientists and decision makers

Imraan Salooje – Are there plans to extend workshops to other areas?

Hans-Peter Plag - others are in the plan but not for 2009

Gary Foley – There are very few measurements re recreational waters; a workshop in Africa will focus on biological aspect; should we link from the GEO home page to the UIC web to the pages for the IGOS and CoPs pages

Hans-Peter Plag - yes, as long as there is not a standard format required

Jeff Key – IGOS Cryosphere theme (presentation given remotely over the phone)

The cryosphere is a relatively young theme but making some progress. Cryosphere is global (snow cover in 100 countries). There are interface with several SBAs (especially climate and water). A theme report was published toward the end of last year (by the plenary in Cape-town); it is currently being translated into Chinese. IGOS is being migrated into GEO; contribution from all over the world. There are 3 implementation phases: IPY through March 09; expansion to new products in 2015/2020; near term cl-06-05 task; GIIPYS project implementation mechanism for IPY - all major space agencies define their data portfolio for the IPY; mid-term global cryosphere watch WMO initiative; ad-hoc expert team in GCW – COP like (see high lighted words on chart); SOAN workshops in 2007-2008: effort to define user needs specific to the arctic; another way to connect countries and get political clout; upcoming US-Canada workshop on water and ice in Arlington; IPY legacy workshop in Geneva in Dec, 08 (joint GEO and WMO); do we need a CoP? This is still not decided.

Questions and answers

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Gary Foley - Does the cryosphere area include population living in the arctic

Jeff Key – Yes; it is one part of the user community addressed very well in SOAN. There are arctic representatives at each of the workshop, but we need to bring them in more.

Gary Foley - 40 to 50 people attended an EPA meeting in Anchorage, Alaska;

Jeff Key – Native communities will be significantly impacted by climate change and need to be involved

John Lyon - Does the work include alpine regions globally?

Jeff Key – Yes, there is a separate chapter on Alpine regions globally

John Lyon – It is an excellent cryosphere report; it can be printed off the website

Ellsworth Ledrue - Can you talk about the workshop in Geneva. He had heard rumors previously, but this was the first he heard of plans.

Jeff Key – Yes, message from “Click” (sp?) international project office to the “cryolist” was sent in early September; it is not a limited workshop; he will forward the message

Michael Brady – IGOL

(see file 12-Michael-Brady-Update-on-IGOL)

He gave the presentation on behalf of John Townsend. IGOL stands for the Integrated Global Observation for Land. The theme is well integrated into GEO; the document provides a contribution to Lawrence Friedl’s process. IGOL theme team contributes to at least 2 tasks, across multiple SBAs. Particular interest in related to the agriculture SBA. He noted the weak support of GTOS (terrestrial observing systems) especially re in-situ observation. A GEO Workshop on “Developing and Agricultural Monitoring System of Sytems” will contribute to a number of tasks, bringing agriculture and forest CoPs together. There is a concept of land surface imaging constellation – re data required on daily basis. There is a need to knit together land data in 2010 from constellation to deal with Landsat data gap; this is mainly done under CEOS – regional politics; activities to test the concept.

Questions and answers:

Greg Whitee – this question addresses the transition between GTOS and IGOL; are they the same thing?

Michael Brady - IGOL is a strategy focusing on land; GTOS is focusing on operational activities but is weak

Greg Whitee - He aggress that GTOS is suffering. Should IGOL have strategy in it to get it under GEO?

Michael Brady- He thinks they are separate at this point, but there is a lot of discussion on the future of GTOS.

Unknow participant - how much is there in term of land use information?

Michael Brady - IGOL will bring in land use with its focus on agriculture. This is even going beyond the existing challenges of addressing land cover.

Jinlong Fan

Task AG-07-03

Status; AG-07-02 included in work plan as well; CoP subtasks include several workshops: agriculture monitoring workshop in Feb 09 in Beijing – UIC and ADC

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presence is requested; many other workshops; workshop recommendations; example – recommendation for previous 0703 workshops; current request to UIC/ADC: single web enabled global data base with near real-time satellite information

No Questions

Lawrence Friedl – Atmospheric Composition Constellation (ACC) briefed on behalf of others – (see file 13-Lawrence-Friedl-IGOS-ACC)

The briefing included the following items:

Need for integrated approach – earth summit; IGACO report; air quality workshop, decadal survey; Societal Benefits underlie the needs; IGACO grand challenge – relevant to societal benefit (need for better coordination with CEOS and GEO); ACC objectives; demonstrate constellation synergy; 4 activities moving in implementation phase; workshop in NY city in October; future: build in planned satellites into a constellation approach; article on Bureau of meteorological Society in June provides good overview; they have engage some of the people in the US but not sure how they have engage decision makers at local levels.

Panel Discussion about opportunities for UIC-CBC-IGOS coordination

Moderators: **Ellworth LeDrew, Yolanda Berenguer**

There are a few minutes for questions on IGOS-P process, and then we will move to committee work.

John Lyon - Hans-Peter had to go to another meeting; he left the following message: he would like to have better coordination between IGOS-P and capacity building, and hopes for a few names for Points of Contacts.

Yolanda Berenguer – They will try and come up with some names for IGOS-P points of contact (PoCs); it is a good way for collaboration.

Andiswa Mlisa - The presentations were quite useful; she also would like one or 2 POCs from the UIC

Gary Foley – Greg Withee is going to be organizing another IGOS symposium in a year. One of the things that was brought up was how to get UIC, CBC and IGOS themes to work together. Could this be part of the workshop? We could start the discussion with themes.

Yolanda Berenguer - We have a year to work on this. It is a good road map.

Inraan Salooje - Some themes were defined as community of practice and other were not. Are all of the themes going to be turned into CoPs; what is the next stages?

Gary Foley - We have left it up to the themes; some say CoPs are a direction they wanted to go toward; there are no set rules

Unknown speaker - Even though IGOS-P has disappeared, the IGOS system is still relevant. It will be interesting to look at IGOS strategy again and see how relevant it is to CB. We know it fits in GEO

Yolanda Berenguer - She is quite familiar with GeoHazards. She knew it was research oriented. She tried to integrate capacity building but it is not represented in their terms of

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reference. We need to have a connection with those who have the data: there is all of this we do not have connection with those who have the data

Michael Brady - From a formal perspective, the theme teams should be included in the SBA analysts teams.

Lawrence Friedl – call for participation

(see file 14-Lawrence-Friedl-CFP)

This is a proposed new UIC initiative; decision support projects; support projects that apply observations to decisions; GEO would not provide funds, but CBC could match projects with donors, and UIC would provide the experts. To start, the focus would be on a few SBAs. There could be different types of projects (new users, improvements, application examples). Is there interest? We need to write up call for participations, and identify organizations or countries to run this in the task plan

Bingfang Wu - How would the donations work?

Mark Noort - In relation with donor organization, what is the added value and success rate?

Lawrence Friedl - We provide a way to do that, but there is some risk;

Marta Angoloti - Focus on end users; project has been selected by GEO; CBC could help the project leads to connect with donor organizations

Lawrence Friedl – The projects will be very specific

Alan Edwards - Be careful to not raise false expectations; the applicant needs to jump through all of these hurdles, and will not know the success rate

Andiswa Mlisa - As a minimum you need to explain why the project did not get funded; next time we will know better which donor to approach

Ellsworth LeDrew –

Ellsworth: We will call this to an end but bring ideas later on so we can come up with a concrete plan. There is positive feed back but issues need to be worked through

Hilcea Ferreira GEO Forest monitoring Symposium

A meeting is coming up in November in Parana, Brazil (a handout was given.)

She summarized the following: objectives; target audience; program overview; connecting themes with GEO activities in break-out groups; opportunity to relate to UIC.

Ellsworth LeDrew thanked all the speakers for their participations in the joint UIC and CBC meeting

Reconvene – UIC Meeting

Mike Tanner - (see file 15-Mike_Tanner_GEO-Update) He wants to provide a quick update, and to get the charts on the web site. A lot of people use GEO and GEOSS in the same sentence: GEO is the group, GEOSS is the objective. The G8 summit wanted to

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accelerate GEOSS. The secretariat is refocusing the work plan based on recommendation from the G8 and EXCOM;

Lawrence Friedl - G8 has only 8 countries; hopefully this statement is also applicable to the other member countries

Mike Tanner - We need to start with the G8 and others will follow. IGOS-P is now part of GEOSS rather than a participating organization; Estonia is most recent member. There is a chart on secretariat staffing and transitions: new member, Michael Obersteiner will do benefit analysis; he went through a list of personnel seconded to secretariat and personnel returning home; who is covering what: Osamu – arch and IOC; Mike T – climate; Imraan – CB; Fernando – UIC; Jinlong- UIC and IGOS; Giovanni – Health.

Unknown: Can this be included in an e-mail. What happened to Alexia?

Michael: He will give the information to the note taker. Alexia is working full time on the work plan. Mike recommended that people visit GEO website regularly – it is update nearly daily; go to press room to keep up GEO mentions; go to meetings are; visit the portals. The secretariat wants to see the 3 portals populated – we need to show that all CoPs datasets can be registered, and used to provide information to the decision makers We would like the UIC to start pushing data into the portals. The secretariat is planning a virtual exhibit in Bucharest.

Lawrence Friedl - users can only extract data; they do not have data to register; they can provide requirements and provide feedback

Mike Tanner - The point of the portal is not to supply or own data, but provide links. It will provide a global view of the data available and aid in data discovery. Right now we have three portal providers that are in testing mode and they each look a little different and have different benefits. Example; Ocean color – lead found new data set he had no idea existed; we are using 3 portal providers right now; use feed back via survey. Data sharing principles: : full and open exchange of data, but recognizing international or commercial restrictions. Space observing systems: There are a lot of instruments to draw from. We are working on how to even coordinate efforts amongst the satellites. An example would be working with IRIDIUM's plan to launch 66 satellites. We could add altimeters etc. to save money and efforts via IRIDIUM secondary payload capability. GEO and biodiversity convention MOA signed in May; forest monitoring and carbon tracking; IGOS theme symposium; international charter on space and disasters (example with Ukraine flooding). Bucharest meeting– register early, high security; virtual exhibit in Bucharest – look for ideas (infrastructure and data coming together). Work plan – living document, cross-cutting dimension; user driven approach; committees are directors of GEOSS; data sharing principle. Reality (cold water): if we really want to build a “system of systems” and include in developing countries who can't afford the data, we need to develop interoperability. This is as big a challenge as technical interoperability. Future direction – engage industry and academia

Lawrence Friedl – Having read the 10 year implementation plan, its focus is on building GEOSS. However, the overarching goal we hear is to improve decision making (engaging users). But this does not seem to be emphasized in the plan.

Mike Tanner – That is ultimately where we want to go, but we can't get there unless we have an infrastructure in place; we need to show value added; we need to complete the value chain

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Unknown speaker – The version 2 work plan mentions that one of the next steps would be to coordinate efforts between committees – what does that mean?

Mike Tanner - We will keep the same structure with the task sheets and points of contact, but make sure committees are involved

Gary Foley – Mike Tanner should come up with questions for us to discuss in our break out sessions tomorrow.

Ruth Duerr – She will brief the Wiki tomorrow. She needs to talk to the whole group, not individual break-out sessions. She will be available after lunch tomorrow

Gary Foley – We need an updated UIC mailing list with all of the task leads (Jinlong Fan has the action)

Day 1 UIC meeting concludes.