GEOGLAM

Ian Jarvis, Programme Director

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GEO GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS
GEOGLAM is working to fight Food Insecurity and Support Markets

A global community effort to produce relevant, timely and accurate projections of agricultural production at national, regional and global scales.
Key Results Achieved in 2017-2019

Support for Markets

Agricultural Markets Information System – Crop Monitor

Synthesis Product, May 2019
Key Results Achieved in 2017-2019

Support for Food Security Response
Crop Monitor For Early Warning

Africa & Yemen: Synthesis

Conditions:
- Exceptional
- Favourable
- Watch
- Poor
- Failure
- Out-of-Season
- No Data

Countries:
- Early-Warning African Countries
- Non-Early Warning African Countries

Crops:
- Maize
- Sorghum
- Millet
- Beans
- Wheat
- Rice
- Tef
- Barley

South Africa, May 2019
Key Results Achieved in 2017-2019

Co-Development – National Crop Monitors

Examples for Mozambique, Tanzania & Uganda
Key Results Achieved in 2017-2019

Responding to Needs

Special Update: Southern Africa 2018/19 summer crops

Special Update: Flood Impacts in Iran and Iraq

Utilization

Evolving Requirements

Urgent Actions:

There is urgent need to assess the scale and impact of the 2018-2019 season on food security. Key indicators include increased monitoring of the situation, ascertaining available cereal stocks, fast-tracking of planned crop assessments, and annual vulnerability assessments for early warning and early action and increasing off-season production where possible.
Key Milestones and/or Deliverables for 2020-2022

Responding to a Shifting Policy Landscape

• Since 2011 three major international agreements have been developed that have implications for food security
  • Sustainable Development Goals
  • Paris Accord for climate change
  • Sendai for disasters

• Looking at SDG’s alone UN Environment reports 68% of the 93 Development Goals cannot be measured because the data does not exist

• Many in the GEOGLAM community are already tracking the state and changes in agricultural land use and production that can make a contribution
Key Milestones and/or Deliverables for 2020-2022

Moving Forward:
Essential Agricultural Variables for GEOGLAM

A Practical Approach to Support Complex and Evolving Policy Needs

• The concept of Essential Variables (EV’s) suggests a minimum set of fundamental variables required to characterize state and change in a system

• EAV’s will help
  - Scope R&D and Operational priorities
  - Clearly define data needs (CEOS-Analysis Ready Data)
  - Support integration across science disciplines (common language) towards integrated solutions (i.e. SDG’s)

• A draft white paper and working group has been established to move this forward
Key Milestones and/or Deliverables for 2020-2022

Supporting GEO Priorities

**SDG’s**
- Since 2013 GEOGLAM has delivered information to AMIS, helping to limit extreme food price volatility, directly contributing to target 2.c, Food Price Volatility

**Paris**
- Tracking Agricultural Land Use State and Change
- Crop mapping provides quantifiable insights into how the agricultural landscape is adapting

**Sendai**
- Near real time information informs proactive response
- Determining the intensity and extent of impact on food production from disasters

"In the past we always reacted to crop failure, spending billions of shillings to provide food aid in the region. 2017 was the first time we acted proactively because we had clear evidence from satellite data very early in the season"

Martin Owor, Commissioner Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)
Good Practices and/or Lessons Learned

Looking Back

- Begin with a strong policy mandate
- Build the community around best efforts, common vision, and good will
- Be light on bureaucracy and heavy on commitment
- Always have an eye towards bringing relevance to the science...relevance breeds success and support
- Be prepared to evolve...as the policy landscape changes, so must the initiative
Contact

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