Concept of “Climate Working Group” for Paris Agreement Component in Foundational Task

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27-29 May 2019 / Geneva, Switzerland
Background

Paris Agreement subgroup (PASG) in Programme Board in 2017:
To identify gaps, challenges and opportunities in GWP activities to support Paris Agreement on climate change

Mapping exercise of GWP activities

Three key fora in 2018:
To enhance understanding of how the EO community can support the implementation of the Paris Agreement
To discuss a more integrated approach to climate across GWP.

- 2018 GEO Symposium (11-12th June)
- GEO Climate Workshop (13th June)
- GEO-XV Plenary (31st Oct - 1st Nov)
Key Results Achieved in 2017-2019

From these activities, the PASG was able to address:

1. Programmatic, thematic, and domain gaps in the climate, its impacts and observations;
2. Opportunities for GEO to progress and deliver its observation data and knowledge; and
3. The needs for coordination mechanisms to connect the activities within the GEO community and with the stakeholders outside GEO.
Please note:

GEO Secretariat Climate Expert will be coming soon

WMO Reform will have some impact on the placement of GEO in the Climate landscape

Foundational Task structure in the Secretariat is under review

... This means that what is proposed here may change
PASG proposal: Dedicated component in the Engagement Priorities Coordination FT

Objectives and Activities:

• **Provide a coordination platform** to ensure communication on climate-related activities in the GEO Work Programme

• **Support science/policy communication** between GWP activities as well as between GEO and national, international, and intergovernmental bodies

• **Advocate for sustained high-accuracy & high-precision EO** for climate application

• **Promote data sharing** from different platforms, technologies, themes and domains

• **Connecting the different scales of activities** – from local, national, regional to global

• **Monitoring the uptake of GEO’s activities** in support of the Paris Agreement

• **Seek integrated approach** with SDGs, Sendai Framework and other Conventions

• **Outreach**: Promote to key stakeholders and partners the value of EO and information provided by GEO
Draft concept of Climate Working Group

Purpose
Ensure a coherent and cross-cutting GEO approach to advance the use of Earth observations in support of the Paris Agreement on climate change.

Duties
1. Review the Implementation Plans of all GWP activities relevant to the Paris Agreement to identify potential gaps and synergies;
2. Facilitate communication between the leads and participants of these GWP activities;
3. Stimulate the initiation of projects, case studies or pilots involving participants from multiple GWP activities to enhance collaboration across GEO and to address identified gaps; and,
4. Where appropriate, act as a focal point for engagement with external stakeholders and international organizations and processes relevant to the Paris Agreement.
**Membership**

- Membership in the WG is open to any representative of a GEO Member or Participating Organization.
- Participation by individuals involved in related GWP activities is encouraged.
- Each GWP activity with deliverable addressing the Paris Agreement should identify a liaison member to the Foundational Task/Working Group.

**Draft concept of Climate Working Group (cont.)**

- Representatives of key UN and international organizations (UNFCCC, IPCC, WMO, GCOS, UNEP, CEOS, CGMS, etc).
- Representatives of national and regional stakeholders.
- Representatives of key science bodies (GCP, IUGG, etc).
- Secretariat staff will provide support to the activities of the Working Group, as allocated to the Engagement Priorities Coordination Foundational Staff.
This concept will be revised/edited based on the outcome of the surrounding points.

Your inputs are also very welcome.

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