

Integrated Global Water Cycle Observation Theme



Integrated Global Observing Strategy

IGWCO

THE INTEGRATED
GLOBAL WATER CYCLE
OBSERVATIONS THEME

Background Applications and Benefits Implementation Elements Linkages

Background

The Integrated Global Observing Strategy (IGOS) is a steering forum with 26 partners to coordinate the contributions that space-based and in-situ observations can make to the larger mission of society to improve ability to manage and sustain natural resources that support the environment. As a result, IGOS/P has already made an impact on global development. When a critical resource becomes scarce, over 100 million people live in highly stressed low to medium water availability conditions and another 400 million live in the poorest of the world's poorest countries with no access to high water quality. 27% of the world's population lives in cities with only low to medium water quality. 1 billion people whose livelihoods depend on the land use benefits do not have adequate water infrastructure to sustain them.

Through the Millennium Development goals and various community goals in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change the United Nations and other partners are working to develop strategies to address these problems. Through the global water cycle theme, IGOS/P plans to use its observation capabilities to make a substantial contribution to the solution.



Applications and Benefits

Within the IGWCO, framework Satellite data have been and will be used to:

- Monitor the development of floods and droughts
- Improve the prediction of weather and climate events
- Monitor trends in climate
- Assess the status of water resources
- Provide the implementation of sustainable water quality

IGOS/P provides an opportunity for the water cycle science community to provide input to peer agency plans. The process of developing IGOS/P open systems has involved 2004 IGOS and IGOS/IGWCO activities, including dialogues to increase and coordinate resources available that had been defined as a priority in the IGOS/P data plan and IGOS/P workshop.

IGWCO is Building Research-Operations Partnerships

IGOS/P OPERATIONAL PARTNERSHIP
IGOS/P OPERATIONAL PARTNERSHIP
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IGWCO Moves Toward Integration

Implementation Elements

Developing Indices from Data

Organization

Timeline

Success goal:
November 2007: Approval of the IGWCO/P

Phase:
April 2004: Publication and distribution of the IGWCO/P report

Notes:
4 May 2004: Establishment of a Water Cycle Theme Implementation Structure with Secretary of IGOS

- 1) An advisory committee
- 2) A technical advisory and working group, and
- 3) A steering committee

16 June 2004: The IGWCO/P report is approved by the steering committee and published as a technical report. The report is available for input, comments, and a preliminary road map for discussion at the next IGOS/P meeting.

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Linkages

IGWCO/P has:
Strong links with the Global Energy and Water cycle Experiment (GEWEX) and the Global Water System Project (GWSP) of the Earth System Research Institute.

Strong links with other agencies regarding observational requirements through reports and discussions in IGOS/P, IAGLR and related discussions.

Existing linkages with IAGLR through workshops and with other groups in different regions of the world.

A need for linkages with other water-related organizations for human resources and with groups that establish the requirements and needs of water resources management.

Status

IGWCO/P has been approved by the IGOS/P Steering Committee and approved by the IGOS/P Steering Committee. IGOS/P has been approved by the IGOS/P Steering Committee and approved by the IGOS/P Steering Committee. IGOS/P has been approved by the IGOS/P Steering Committee and approved by the IGOS/P Steering Committee.

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Objectives

- IGOS/P objectives
- provide a framework for water cycle observations
 - Develop water availability and usage
 - Develop water quality and environmental indicators
 - Develop water resources and management indicators
 - Develop water cycle indicators for climate change and environmental indicators
 - Develop water cycle indicators for water resources management and environmental indicators
 - Develop water cycle indicators for water resources management and environmental indicators
- ensure strategies that will facilitate the acquisition, processing and distribution of data needed for effective management of water in each location



The IGOS Partners

CEOS
Committee on Earth Observing Satellites
http://www.ceos.org

FAO
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
http://www.fao.org

IGOS Partners

IGOS
Global Observing System
http://www.igos.org

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