

GOFC-GOLD Executive Committee Teleconference – 30 June, 2005

Participants: Michael Brady, John Townshend, Chris Justice, Rhonda Davis, Chris Schmallius, Martin Herold, Kathleen Neumann, Reuben Sessa, Olga Krankina, Alan Belward, Kathleen Landauer, Murugi Larsen

Highlights and Action Items

- Land Cover IT makes plans to revise membership and hold a planning meeting in the Fall 2005.
- Plans required for re-allocation of remaining START funds.
- Generic proposal on Regional Network capacity strengthening has prepared for use.
- Agenda set for GOFC-GOLD/CEOS/WGCV/LPV continuous-fields workshop.
- GOFC-GOLD project office to initiate planning for a Regional Networks workshop.

Details

Amendment to Agenda

- Addition to Item 6: Regional Network workshop

1. STB meeting follow-up

- Meeting report: Will be ready in two weeks. Michael Brady will send the report to John Townshend for comments before circulating to the other Executive committee members. In the interim, action items from the meeting are being addressed.
- Strategy document, Functions crosswalk: John Townshend still working on the strategy document. Murugi Larsen explained the functions crosswalk table, which was distributed to ExComm. The functions crosswalk table was considered useful and is to be included in strategy document.
Action: Murugi Larsen to circulate the functions crosswalk table to participants.

2. GTOS/G3OS matters

- GOFC contributions for GCOS IP and COP 11: Reuben Sessa mentioned that Joseph Cihlar and Paul Mason will coordinate GTOS contribution. By next week panel chairs will receive a package with information required to prepare panel inputs. First draft submission for COP11 due in early September and COP will be held in October – November 2005. **Action:** Reuben Sessa to send COP 11 document next week. It was agreed that action sections will be highlighted. Chris Schmallius asked if IGOL was part of COP11 document. Some issues need to be resolved. More details required before proceeding. Alan Belward will present the STB3 meeting recommendations to the COP 11 meeting in August 2005.
- GTOS activities; steering meeting, K. Neumann: Reuben Sessa informed the meeting that the TOR has been prepared for Kathleen Neumann's contract and has been sent to the project Office. Michael Brady explained that Kathleen will be supported through separate Agreements with the CFS and FAO. Chris Schmallius stated that Kathleen Neumann's contract will start in August and the Agreements should finalized quickly. It was suggested that a teleconference be held by John Latham, Reuben Sessa, Chris Schmallius and Michael Brady to finalize arrangements. **Action:** Michael Brady to circulate Kathleen Neumann's scope of work in the CFS Agreement.

3. Administration and Fund Raising

- IT membership review and changes: John Townshend stated that there should be an annual review of IT membership. Productive members can be renewed and those less active can be replaced. There were questions and discussion on procedures to nominate members. It was agreed that ITs should nominate and then circulate nominee names to the chair and executive director to finalize the nomination. Once approved, the nominee will receive an invitation letter from the Executive Director. The letter will indicate the IT activities and membership duration. New members will also

be asked to contribute time and resources, if possible, to IT activities. **Action:** Land Cover IT project office will distribute a list of their nominees.

- START activities – NASA proposal, balance for current funds, etc: The new (2006-2008) NASA proposal was handed in on time. Kathleen Landauer mentioned that START has not yet had any feedback from NASA. Kathleen Landauer circulated a budget of the funds remaining in the current NASA funding, which are allocated to the ITs and Regional Networks. A request has been sent to Martha Maiden to approve extending the current funds until July 2006. Chris Justice stated that the Fire IT plans to reallocate 10K for the REDLATIF workshop in Mexico. **Action:** ITs to send Kathleen Landauer their plans for re-allocation of the current START funds.
- Proposals and activities for regional network support: GOF-C-GOLD Project Office has modified the recent NASA proposal into a generic proposal for capacity strengthening, which could be submitted to other funding agencies. Michael Brady presented the generic proposal to CIDA and IDRC in June. **Action:** GOF-C-GOLD Project Office to circulate the proposal to participants for their use.

4. Fire IT Update

- Planned fire activities: A workshop will be held in October in Mexico to be hosted by CONABIO. There was mention of Fire IT activities during the Fire Danger Rating meeting held in Australia. Chris Justice informed the meeting that a report by Bill de Groot has been circulated to the Fire IT leaders. Fire IT members plan to hold a teleconference soon.

5. Land Cover IT Update

- GOF-C-GOLD/CEOS/WGCV/LPV continuous-fields workshop, S. Dakota: Workshop will be held on 27-28 October, 2005, after the USGS PECORA meeting in Sioux Falls from 23-27 October. **Action:** Martin Herold to circulate the preliminary agenda on this workshop.
- GEOSS demonstration project-working group: Martin Herold briefed the meeting on the recent LC IT teleconference. During the teleconference GCOS IP, COP 11 and GEOSS demonstration projects were discussed. They agreed that a working group be formed to follow-up on these activities and will be hosted by the LC IT project office. Concern was raised as to how GOF-C-GOLD will fit into GEOSS projects flowing from the 10-year workplan. Alan Belward stated that there is interest in forest cover measurements, but only if there is international endorsement or recognition of the Cal/Val. It was agreed that there is a need to understand the GEOSS system and also review the work packets in the detailed plan prior to the teleconference. Need to establish contacts in GEO who are familiar with GOF-C-GOLD. John Townshend suggested the following two: Yukio Hariyama and Guy Duchossois. The name of the director has been announced but he has not yet been appointed. **Action:** Martin Herold to organize a teleconference on the GEOSS demonstration project and also to circulate the LC IT teleconference minutes.
- Other planned land cover activities: Chris Schmullius briefed the meeting on the UNEP meeting she attended on Global Environment Outlook GEO-4. It is a good initiative that is updated every five years. GOF-C-GOLD was mentioned during the meeting and will appear in the publication. **Action:** Chris Schmullius to send a list of participants of the UNEP meeting. LC IT project office also involved in small project (IRIS) funded by EC working in Russia. Land Cover IT project office will likely be moving to Berlin on 1st October, 2005. They have a good offer and funding for SIBERIA II database. NERIN database to be submitted early next year. The LC IT project office still planning to hold an LC IT planning meeting in the Fall.

6. Regional Networks Update

- NERIN Workshop & 31st International Symposium on Remote Sensing of the Environment: Olga Krankina described the successful workshop, which was attended by about 85 participants mostly from Russia, but a few from neighboring countries. Olga Krankina will submit a proposal to NASA

for funding for the NELDA project. The next workshop will be held in November or December 2006. A workshop report will be posted on the website shortly. Presentations are posted at: <ftp://ftp.fsl.orst.edu/pub/krankina/NERIN%202005%20workshop%20at%2031%20ISRSE/> GOF-C-GOLD was represented by Olga Krankina, Michael Brady, Martin Herold, Alan Belward and John Latham. There were several presentations from the GOF-C-GOLD team, both at the workshop and the symposium. The plenary sessions, which focused on GEOSS, were poorly attended compared to the technical sessions. However, GOF-C-GOLD received good exposure at the symposium. GOF-C-GOLD input to the meeting will be posted on the website and there will be a reference to the GEOSS theme on the webpage.

- GOF-C-GOLD Regional Networks workshop: As agreed at the STB3 the Regional Network working group (Kathleen Landauer, Michael Brady and Murugi Larsen) will start planning and organizing a Regional Network workshop. The meeting scope will be prepared and distributed for comments. It was suggested that the workshop piggyback on a GOF-C-GOLD technical meeting. The working group will be expanded to include Regional Network representatives. **Action:** GOF-C-GOLD project office to initiate workshop planning.

7. Reports on other meetings & workshops

- ESA Meeting: Chris Schmallius attended an ESA Dragon programme meeting. This programme is a landmark Earth Observation initiative between Europe and China. This was the second joint ESA/Chinese Academy of Forestry meeting. An impressive programme with a very small amount of funding.

8. Any other business

- Summer break for telcons: Hold teleconference in July and off in August.
- Next teleconference to be announced.

GOF-C-GOLD Project Office