



**3rd MEETING OF THE THEME
TEAM OF THE INTEGRATED GLOBAL
OBSERVATIONS OF THE LAND (IGOL)**

**Beijing, China
27 February – 1 March 2006**

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Welcome and Introductions

The Meeting Chairman (Chris Justice) welcomed the participants to the 3rd meeting of the IGOL Theme Team, and provided a brief background on IGOL, previous decisions, and processes for advancing the finalisation of the IGOL Report.

Participants introduced themselves.

Participants: John Townshend (GOFC-GOLD, GTOS), John Latham (GTOS) (Co-chairs), Olivier Arino (ESA), Cao Chunxiang (IRSA-CAS), Richard Conant (ColoState), Chris Elvidge (NOAA), Guo Jianning (CRSDA), Chris Justice (GOFC/GOLD), Du Keping (BNU), Mengxue Li (NRSCC), Ai Likun (CAS), Wang Limin (CAAS), Jiyuan Liu (CAS), Shao Liqin (NRSCC), Tom Loveland (USGS), Dennis Ojima (IGBP), Francesco Palazzo (ESA), Christina Schullius (GOFC/GOLD), Asbindu Singh (UNEP), Deng Xiangzheng Hirokazu (NRRCS) Yamamoto (JAXA), Zhao Yongchao (IRSA-CAS), Zhongli Zhu (Peking University), Chen Zhongxin, (CAAS)

Reports on Special IGOL meetings

- Special China IGOL meeting report
- IGOL Biodiversity meeting report
- IGOL Agricultural Monitoring meeting goals and objectives

Modification of meeting schedule

The Chairman outlined key components of the work plan and a revised meeting schedule which was adopted by the meeting participants. The meeting (and the structure of this report) followed this revised work plan, as does the outline of this report.

IGOL Theme Report review day 1

The introduction should be a fairly short roadmap of the subsequent document: what is IGOL, what is the document about, who is the intended audience, and what is the intended impact?

The balance of the first day of the meeting was spent reviewing the structure and contents of IGOL Theme Team Report Sections 1-5. The day closed with assignments for each attendee to work on re-drafting given parts of section 5.

Reports on IGOL-related data/activities

- Elvidge: nighttime lights report
- Yamamoto: ALOS-2 report
- Arino: Sentinel report
- Justice: NPOESS/VIIRS report and LDCM discussion

IGOL Theme Report review day 2

The first part of the morning of Day 2 was devoted to review of section 5 re-drafts. Re-draft reports were presented in meeting and recommendations were suggested by the group.

After reviewing section 5, section 6, 7, and 8 were reviewed. Recommendations were given for shoring up those sections and working groups were assigned to the task.

Following lunch break, section 5 drafts were read and commented on in plenary. Follow-on assignments for section 5 were given.

IGOL Theme Report review day 2

Break-out groups reported back on their work on sections 6, 7, and 8. Meeting participants gave recommendations on section content and structure. Persons responsible for integrating completion of those sections were identified.

Townshend led a discussion on development of an implementation plan.

The meeting closed with the goal of revision of respective sections of the document within one week and review by IGOL Theme Team Members within one week after that. The meeting Chairman noted that the Theme Team sends good wishes to Jay Fequay.

Actions resulting from the Third IGOL Theme Team meeting

Justice: create conceptual diagram illustrating stakeholders

Conant: take notes prepared for section 1 and redraft

TBD: integration between in situ climate observations and terrestrial observations

Conant: update section 2-section5 crosswalk table with information we generate today

Yamamoto : prepare summary of ALOS acquisition plan

TBD: Contact GBIF and diversitas to ask them to ID key deficiencies w/ respect to in situ observations.

Ojima: write a paragraph on collecting scaling information for in situ data.

Conant: to re-do table; relate to derived products; then determine where the table goes; integrative data products. Content first – high level statement; not too much detail.

Arino: paragraph on collection/distribution of in situ data for synthetic global activities

Elvidge: contact Roberta Miller about her list of recommendations; tell her that ag technologies/use will be moved to the agr. production (land use?) section;

Conant: integrate notes from 6.2 and 6.3 discussion into Dennis' draft.

Townshend and Lantham: pass on to Loveland standards associated with NOAA class system.

Conant: ID important/relevant bodies are missing from the IGOS-P

Townshend: Send note of good wishes to Jay Fequay.

Theme Report notes from Third IGOL Theme Team meeting

- NOTE: when we see what has been written on land degradation we should re-evaluate our decision about where it goes (i.e., if it is all about agriculture, let's put it in the agriculture section).
- NOTE: Townshend: we need some kind of synthesis at the end of this section w/ a matrix explaining observables necessary to derive ecosystem services; perhaps an introductory table for key observables necessary for ecosystem services?
- NOTE: Make sure that use of rs for assessment of all protected areas and surrounding buffer areas is regularly monitored.
- NOTE: Make sure there are no gaps between LAND and CRYOSPHERE themes.
- NOTE: We should ID critical areas for which we need high-res data (coastal; flood-plains). Getting these data for critical areas could advance the science.
- NOTE: ID needs, then mention products that might suit that need.
- NOTE: need recommendation that in development of future optical high res instruments agencies should work together to maximize complementarity.
- NOTE: future products should be of known accuracy only.
- NOTE: Townshend: How do we filter in situ data? We should limit ourselves to those we ID in section 5. Must try to go through section 5 and extract all in situ data mentioned. Bring that information into validation section to succinctly explain how to advance validation with in situ data.
- NOTE: make sure that data visualization is dealt with somewhere. Either in section 6 or section 7.
- NOTE: take information from the UN Charter (?) for timing of information delivery
- NOTE: need to include expectations for data/product delivery (data should be available at X level of processing after Y days); section 7
- NOTE: refer back to CAL/VAL in section 7; part of delivery should be statement of QA
- NOTE: fire is a great example that timely delivery of data is important. This helps us make the case. Justice: box on SMS text messaging.
- NOTE: need to capture the heterogeneity of landscapes and ecosystems; different data will fit the bill in different places
- NOTE: let's think about the next big thing. 10m daily data?
- NOTE: deal generally with production in section 5.3 (ecosystems) and reference forward to agr productivity/yield section (section 5.4)
- NOTE: section 5.4 should explain that user needs for productivity information differ for different sectors
- NOTE: generally speaking, specify the information we want rather than dictate how the information is generated
- NOTE: distinguish RS, in situ, and survey data;
- NOTE: include citations when appropriate.
- NOTE: we have only gotten preliminary assessment of the document by key reviewers.

Agenda

Day 1 Monday 27th February

1. Welcome and introductions.
 - 1.1 Welcome by Co-chairs (Latham and Justice)
 - 1.2 Welcome from NRSCC representative
2. Agreement on the agenda
3. Review of report of last meeting and matters arising.
4. Report on Special IGOL meetings
 - 4.1 Special IGOL meeting held in Beijing, September 2005 (Liu Jiyuan)
 - 4.2 Special IGOL meeting on Biodiversity, Washington DC, November 2005 (Justice for Townshend)
 - 4.3 Special IGOL meeting on Agriculture (Chris Justice)
5. Discussion of and consensus on overall structure of report.
6. Time table for completion of report (Latham)

Review of report

- 7 Discussion of introductory sections (sections 1 through 4)

It is assumed that there will not be much controversy but that members will focus on any major omissions or significant changes. These sections of the report clearly need a lot of editing but this should not be the main focus of the discussion.

- 8 Section 5 Products and observables

In this and the subsequent sections the emphasis should be in ensuring that we identify the most appropriate high priority recommendations.

9. Reports by Team members.

This will be an opportunity for members of the committee to up-date other members on recent activities and plans relevant to IGOL. One member, Chris Elvidge, has already indicated his wish to give such a presentation.

Closure of day 1

Day 2 Tuesday February 28th

10. Section 6 Integration issues

The following have been identified:

Validation & quality assessment
Data model fusion requirements
Data assimilation
Scale (space & time)
Timing of observations

These will be discussed and any others identified.

11. Section 7 Delivering information

12. Section 8 Capacity Building

13. Group discussion identifying the major deficiencies in the report.

Note that Section 9 on Implementation has not been started as yet since it can only be carried out once the main recommendations are agreed to.

14. Break out sessions to resolve major deficiencies in report.

15. Report back from Break out groups.

16. Section 9 Implementation: plenary discussion

17. Break out groups to draft implementation of recommendations from sections 5 -8.

The relation of implementation tasks to GEOSS tasks will also need to be considered at some stage.

Likely closure of second day.

Reception at 18:30 – details to follow.

Day 3 Wednesday March 1st.

18. Report back from implementation break-out groups.

19. Plenary discussion on adequacy of implementation of recommendations

20. Review of main actions arising from meeting.

21. Steps need to complete report.

22. Any other business

Closure of meeting around lunch time

Visit to Institute of Geographical Sciences and Natural Resources.

List of Participants

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