FRA 2010 and GEO

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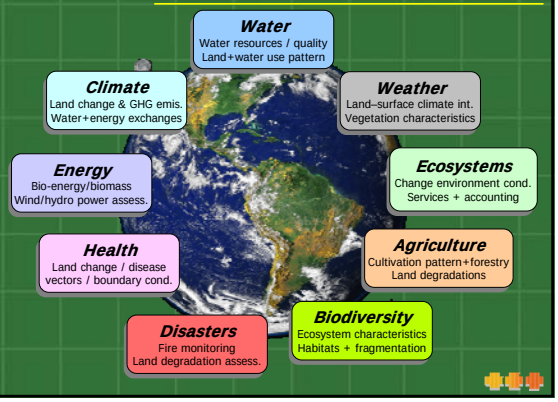
GOFC-GOLD
Global Observation of Forest and Land Cover Dynamics

esa

Group on Earth Observation (GEO)

- Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS)
- *GEO will build on and add value to existing Earth-observation systems by coordinating their efforts, addressing critical gaps, supporting their interoperability, sharing information, reaching a common understanding of user requirements, and improving delivery of information to users (www.earthobservations.org)*
- GEO Secretariat at WMO, 4 committees
- 2007-2009 work plan in place
- Ministerial level summit in November 2007

GEO societal benefits and land cover observations



Relevant task in the GEO 2007-09 Work Plan

- *AG-06-04 "Integrate international efforts on assessment and monitoring of forests and forest changes using a combination of ground and satellite information and internationally agreed standards ."*
- Task lead: FAO, US (USGS, USDA, NASA), GOFC-GOLD
- Anticipated outcomes:
  - Identification of key actors and agreement on objectives and approaches for a FRA 2010 global remote sensing survey
  - An agreed methodology for the FRA 2010 Remote Sensing Survey (*standards, methods, validation*)
  - A framework for linking statistical forest data, in situ forest observations, and satellite observations
  - Capacity building workshops

GEO and forest observations

- GEO has political momentum both internationally and nationally
- Develop international agreement on approaches & standards:
  - FRA 2010 Remote Sensing Survey (Task: AG-06-04)
- Awareness for terrestrial monitoring to improve forest monitoring:
  - Land cover important for all areas of societal benefit (Task: DA-07-02)
  - Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation
- Foster continuity & consistency for observations:
  - Archived data, mid-decadal and decadal survey (Task: DA-07-03)
  - Integration with in-situ and statistical data
- Engage user communities previously not or less involved in Earth Observation:
  - "GEO community of practice for forest observations" (Task: US-06-02)
  - Capacity building efforts

Web resources

- **GEO**
  - http://www.earthobservations.org
- **GOFC-GOLD:**
  - http://www.fao.org/gtos/gofc-gold/
- **GOFC-GOLD land cover project office:**
  - http://www.gofc-gold.uni-jena.de/