

# Climate and constellations way ahead: prototyping the future?

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26th SIT meeting

Frascati 24-25 June 2011

## Some remarks

- **CEOS has a growing need**
  - to focus on some critical areas
  - to show substantial progress to external partners in these areas,
- **as opposed to**
  - expanding the number of areas addressed
  - thinning out resources
  - Diluting attention both from inside and from outside
- **This requires some adjustments to be considered.**



**Opportunity for CEOS to demonstrate an increased capability of coordination and provision of sizeable outputs.**



**The following proposed example is suggested by two concurrent processes:**

- **the role CEOS covers already in providing measurements of climate related parameters and variables in response to GCOS requirements and in reporting to UNFCCC/SBSTA**
- **the recent adhesion by CEOS to the initiative started by WMO and expanded as a GEO task for the establishment of an operational space architecture for climate monitoring**



## **Why climate?**



- **Climate monitoring is certainly not the only area where a demonstration could be given but:**
  - **it encompasses several other areas we try to contribute to;**
  - **by showing reactivity to the issue of climate monitoring we quasi automatically show readiness to progress on other themes.**
  - **we have already started looking for quantifiable outputs in this area: the ECVs**
  - **we have in place suitable building blocks (the virtual constellations) which constitute obvious candidate elements for the architecture being discussed**

## Making progress

- **Stepping up our capabilities, even in a single, although important and far reaching, domain, may require some structural adaptations in our way of working.**
- **overlaps exist, and redundancies. Examples:**
  - the overlap WG climate and climate SBA coordinator,
  - the carbon task force and the WG climate and the FCT task force, etc.

## Transversal coordination?

- **it is not clear to me how VCs serve SBAs, coordinated or not;**
- **each SBA relies upon several VCs and each VC serves several SBAs;**
- **a sleeker structure with people in charge for horizontal coordination?**



The effort for defining a climate monitoring architecture may serve as a good example and a test case.



### **Example: a draft plan proposal**

- **under the leadership of the WG climate we should:**
  - **identify ECV candidates for deliverables by current constellations**
  - **identify products and sites for priority treatment**
  - **plan coordinated data processing for past and new data and coordinated observations by various constellations (ESA is already doing it on their own, others are on the way)**
    - **(this will need coordination across the range of relevant constellations and provide the first example of coordinated elements of the GEO space component, including relevant complementarities and redundancies in a quasi operational fashion)**
  - **make the data and products available (through GEO? through contact points in America and Europe? TBD by our CEO and SEO and ADC representative)**
  - **propagate the exercise in a quasi operational fashion (operation coordinator from within the WG climate or from outside but under monitoring by WG)**



## Following up



- **other SBA leaders or coordinators to look at products of the exercise and establish relevance for their areas;**
- **across the board coordination to establish additional priorities for quasi operational demonstrations in other areas**



## An adjustment of the CEOS structure?



- closer coordination of VCs at the service of agreed priorities;
- Prioritize responses to SBAs
- Adjustment of functions of SBA coordinators (may be with a change of name: task leaders, priority leaders) directed to work more closely together in order to exploit synergies in observations and products (a task for an augmented CEO?).



## A by-product: a multi-year work plan?



- A multiyear work plan could follow the outlines of a strategy (to be established in a more formal sense) and some sense of priority.

## Example:

- **2011-12 actions related to climate, and FCT ,have priority;**
- **Progressive start of supersites and JECAM**
- **in 2012 CTF should come up with clear requirements, both FCT and CTF should be coordinated by the climate WG.**
- **In 2012 we have to prepare our next report to SBSTA.**
- **By 2013 we should be prepared for a demo like the one for climate, for example on supersites or may be Jecam,**
- **By 2013 we should establish a better connection to the charter**

**And so on; we need a view beyond next year, to be regularly updated.**