

GEOSS African Water Cycle Coordination Initiative
Demonstration for Benefits through Working Together

Vision

Group on Earth Observations (GEO) and River Basin Organizations (RBOs) in Africa collaboratively create a virtual geographical or phenomenological space where Earth observation communities, scientists, practitioners, decision-makers, citizens and other stakeholders can share data, information and applications in an interoperability way, exchange knowledge and experiences, deepen mutual understanding and work together effectively toward *end-to-end* cooperation to achieve IWRM.

Objectives

To promote data sharing by improving data archiving and disseminating capacity
To demonstrate benefits of integrated basin-wide observing frameworks
To demonstrate benefits of comprehensive information contributing to IWRM
Climate, Ecosystem/Biodiversity, Food, Health), Energy

Targets and Actions

Observation Capacity:

in-situ, satellite, data assimilation, integration functions

data requirement spread sheet, distributed- (CEOS Water Portal, GEOWOW) and
centralized- (DIAS) data archiving,

Data Archiving Capacity:

quality control, meta-data registration, common formatting
contribution by DIAS

Modeling Capacity:

land-atmosphere interaction, water flow, water quality, vegetation, data assimilation
science communities (GEWEX), universities

Prediction Capacity:

flood, drought

Climate Change Impact Assessment Capacity:

model selection, bias correction, downscaling, conversion to water-nexus information

Management Capacity:

Optimization schemes, reservoir operation, evacuation instruction

Capacity Building Coordination:

Model 1: Center approach

- i. Would be based on global partnerships, but work done in and by the center
- ii. Capacity building could be via personnel exchange with partner universities and research labs globally)
- iii. Center would require computing and data handling resources

Model 2: University consortium

- i. Could consist for instance of partnership of regional universities with global (e.g. Japan, Europe, U.S.) institutions
- ii. Might include some aspects of Model 1 (e.g. computing capability)

Data Policy

GEOSS Data Sharing Policy

Schedule

- ✓ Just after the workshop: Task Team 2
 - development a draft implementation framework: data spread sheets, membership requiring, demonstration period, schedule coordination, implementation bases, funding possibility, draft agenda of the 3rd Symposium
 - GEO Sec, RBO reps, UNESCO, UNECA, UNEP, WMO, CEOS, Science/university community reps, private sectors

- ✓ 27-29 Feb. 2012: the 3rd Symposium in Gabon
 - Discussion
 - the draft implementation framework
 - Contribution to Rio+20: exhibition, video?

- ✓ Just after the 3rd Symposium: Task Team 3
 - development a draft implementation plan
 - GEO Sec, demonstration participant candidates

- ✓ Rio+20 20-22 June

- ✓ Implementation Planning Workshop: Sep.-Oct. 2012

- ✓ Early 2013: the 4th Symposium