



ICOS

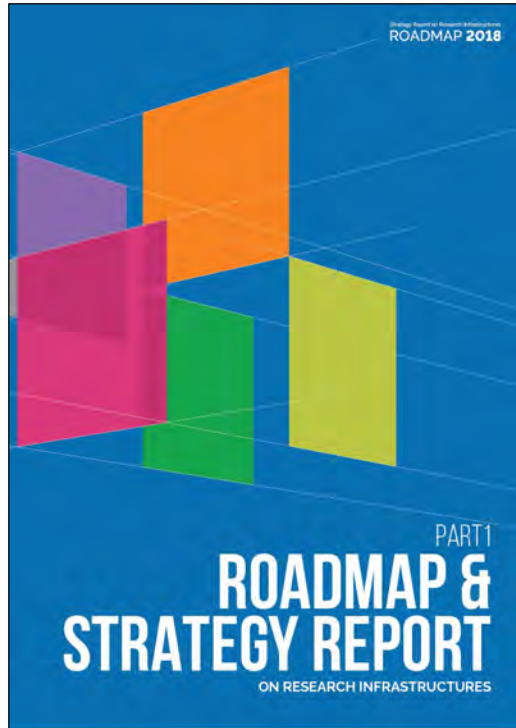
INTEGRATED
CARBON
OBSERVATION
SYSTEM

Standardised observations are the base of all climate science

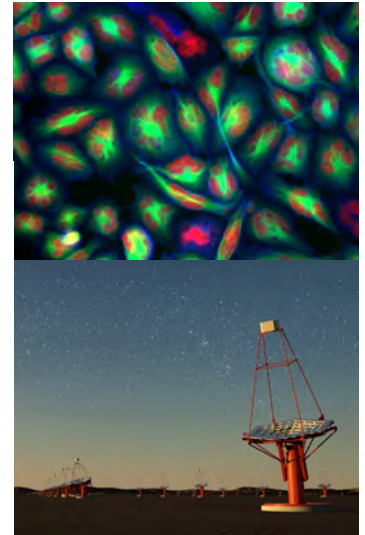
Side event at COP 25, C H I L E, Madrid
4. December 2019, 15 h, Room 1

Moderator: ICOS Director General Dr. Werner Kutsch

The European Strategic Forum on Research Infrastructures



ESFRI coordinates the joined forces of European countries towards a consistent landscape of sustainable Research Infrastructures enabling well coordinated joint investments aligned in terms of priority setting and funding decisions.



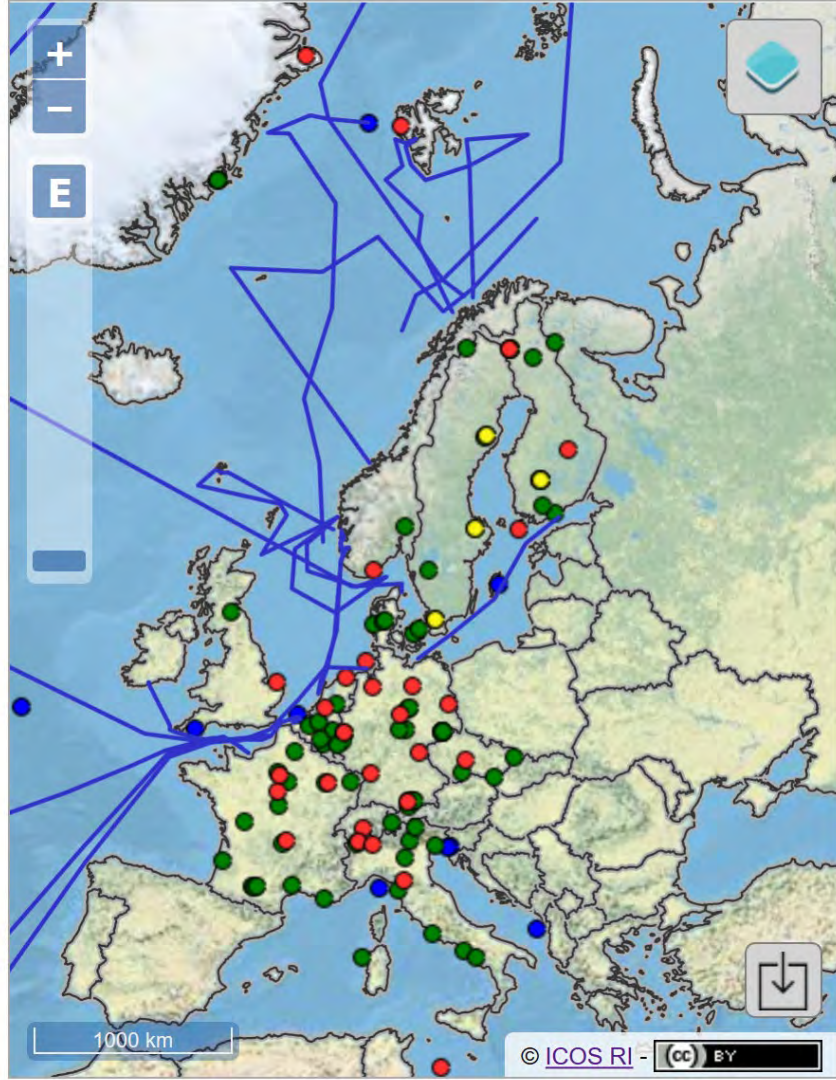


ICOS

INTEGRATED
CARBON
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SYSTEM

The Integrated Carbon Observation System ICOS is a response of the European Countries and the European Commission to the Paris Agreement and provides standardized high-precision observations on greenhouse gases at more than 130 stations in Europe.

The legal entity ICOS ERIC is Observer at UNFCCC since COP 25, 2019



Why standardisation?

- Comparability
- Reliability
- Easy use for scientists
- Improvement to see small numbers in large pools or fluxes
- Improvement to see trends at high variability
- Solid base for the value chain from observations to political decision making

A Value Chain for Essential Knowledge

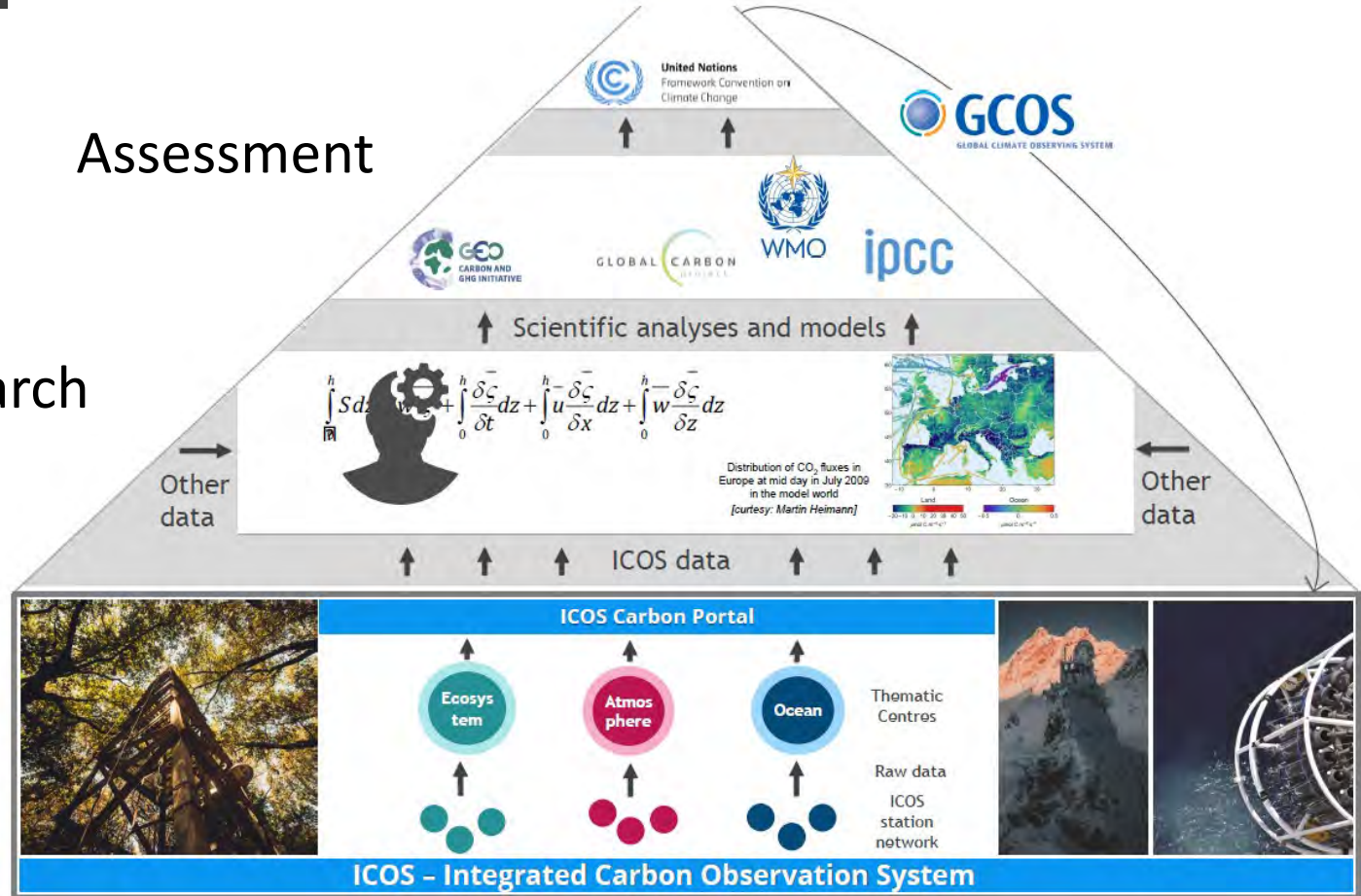
Political decision making

Assessment

Research

Observation

ICOS
INTEGRATED CARBON OBSERVATION SYSTEM



A very strict standardisation and compliance policy

- ✓ Community efforts towards common protocols
- ✓ Detailed description of station specification
- ✓ Centralised instrument testing and calibration
- ✓ Centralized calibration standards (WMO scale) and flask analyses
- ✓ Centralized quality control
- ✓ Close relation to international standards (e.g. WMO, Fluxnet, SOCAT)



ICOS atmosphere data quality

Quality Assurance

- ✓ ATC labeling to ensure compliance to specifications for measurements
- ✓ CAL reference gases to achieve consistent calibration standards



Quality Control

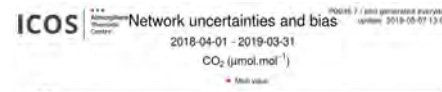


BIPM Key Comparison CO₂ in Air
ICOS-CAL "expert guest laboratory"
(CCQM P188, Apr 2019)



routine comparison with WMO
Central Calibration Laboratory

ICOS Atmospheric Stations



ATC-QC tools



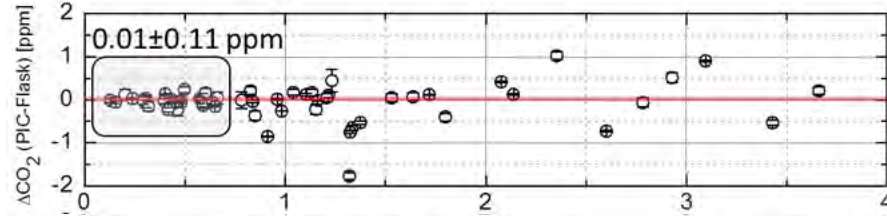
routine comparison
ICOS station - CAL



WMO Round Robin 7 (2020)

Innovative collection of flask samples

1. Quality Control: comparison of continuous measurements with flask samples



- definition of conditions for obtaining a valid QC sample based on atmospheric variability
- check if conditions were met by automated communication between flask sampler and ATC database

2. Sample collection mode for hourly samples

- hourly averaged concentrations requested for model evaluations
- requirement for dynamic flow function
 - upgrade of software and additional hardware implemented

→ *flask sampler flexible for new flask sampling approaches*

→ *expertise for their elaboration and implementation within ICOS Central Facilities*

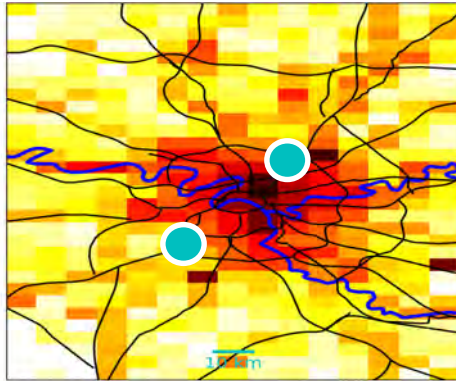


Catching the plume of emission hot-spots

Paris



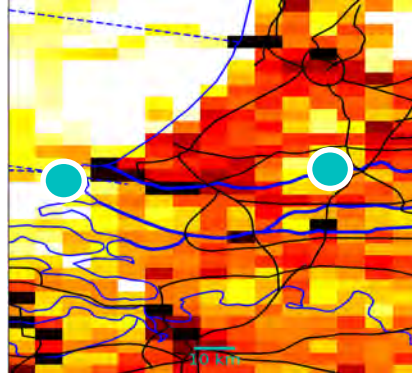
Population: 10 M



Rotterdam



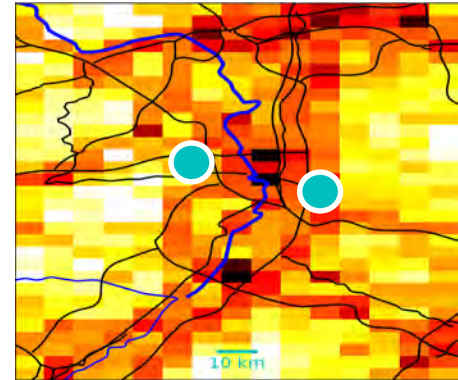
Population: 1.5 M

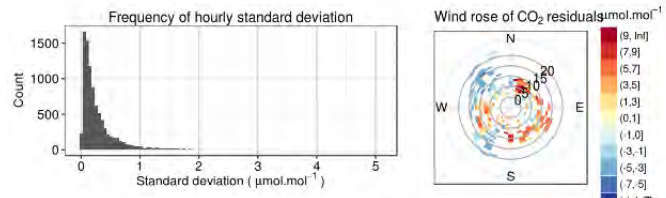
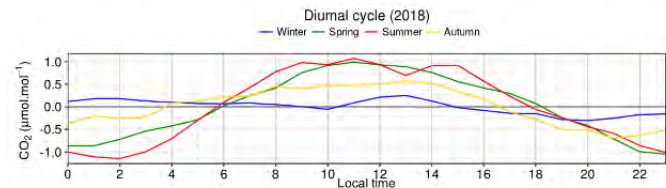
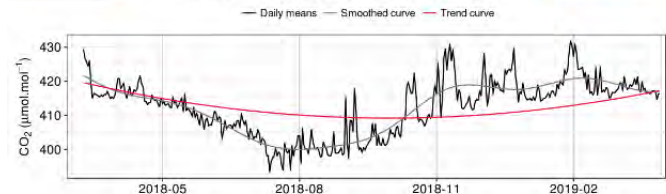


Rhine-Neckar



Population: 0.5 M





A very strict standardisation and compliance policy

The steps of the ICOS station labelling:



The applicant sends a formal application via www.icos-cp.eu



Step
01

ICOS evaluates the station location and technical requirements.



Step
02

Constructing and upgrading the station, evaluation and testing.



Step
03

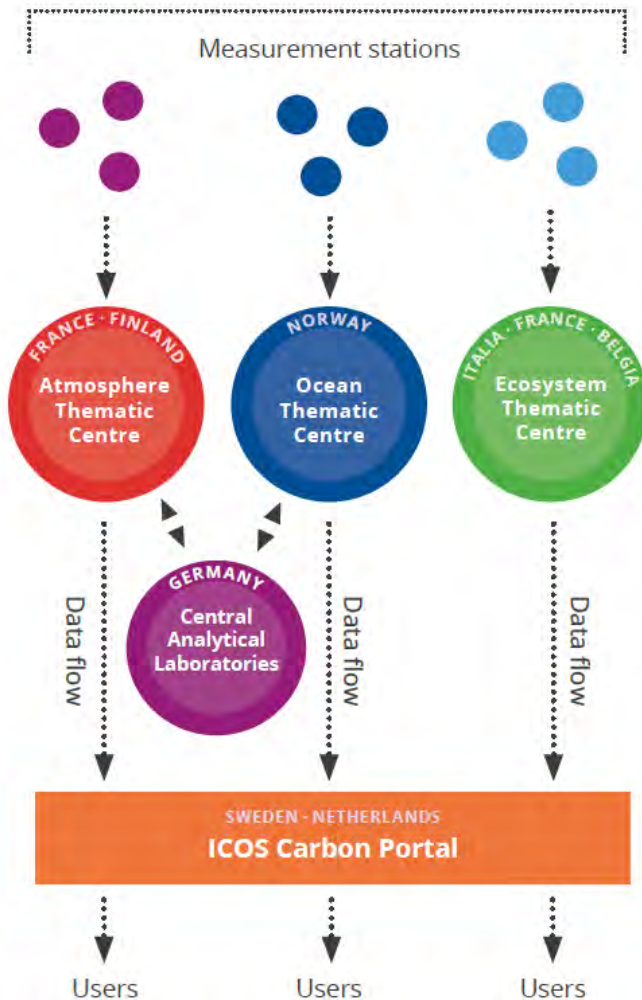
The ICOS General Assembly awards the ICOS label to the station.

ICOS Head Office creates links between the station personnel and the respective Thematic Centre, which helps the station in the work.

The station needs to meet ICOS standards, the Thematic Centre personnel can advise.

The whole labelling process might take anything up to a year.

Left: example of a labelling facts sheet.



Data is generated and collected.

Data is curated and processed: e.g. meta data such as originating experiment, persistent identifiers and quality assurance annotations.

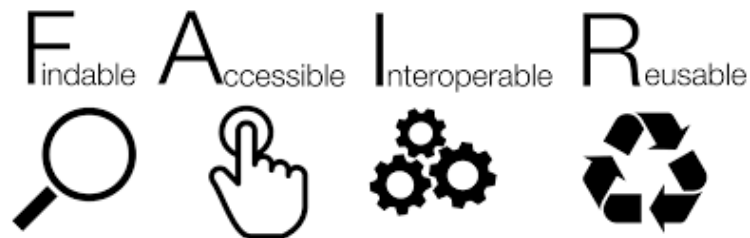
Data is published, and services for transformation, collation and analysis are provided.

Researchers use the data, potentially producing new research data.

A well-designed reliable data life cycle

- ✓ Standardized measurements
- ✓ Standardized data processing
- ✓ Centralized quality control
- ✓ Data provenance, curation and archiving
- ✓ Clear open data license
- ✓ Data citation
- ✓ Full data FAIRness

FAIR-ifying, towards more transparent and reproducible science



FAIRness involves “everyone”: data producers, data managers, end users

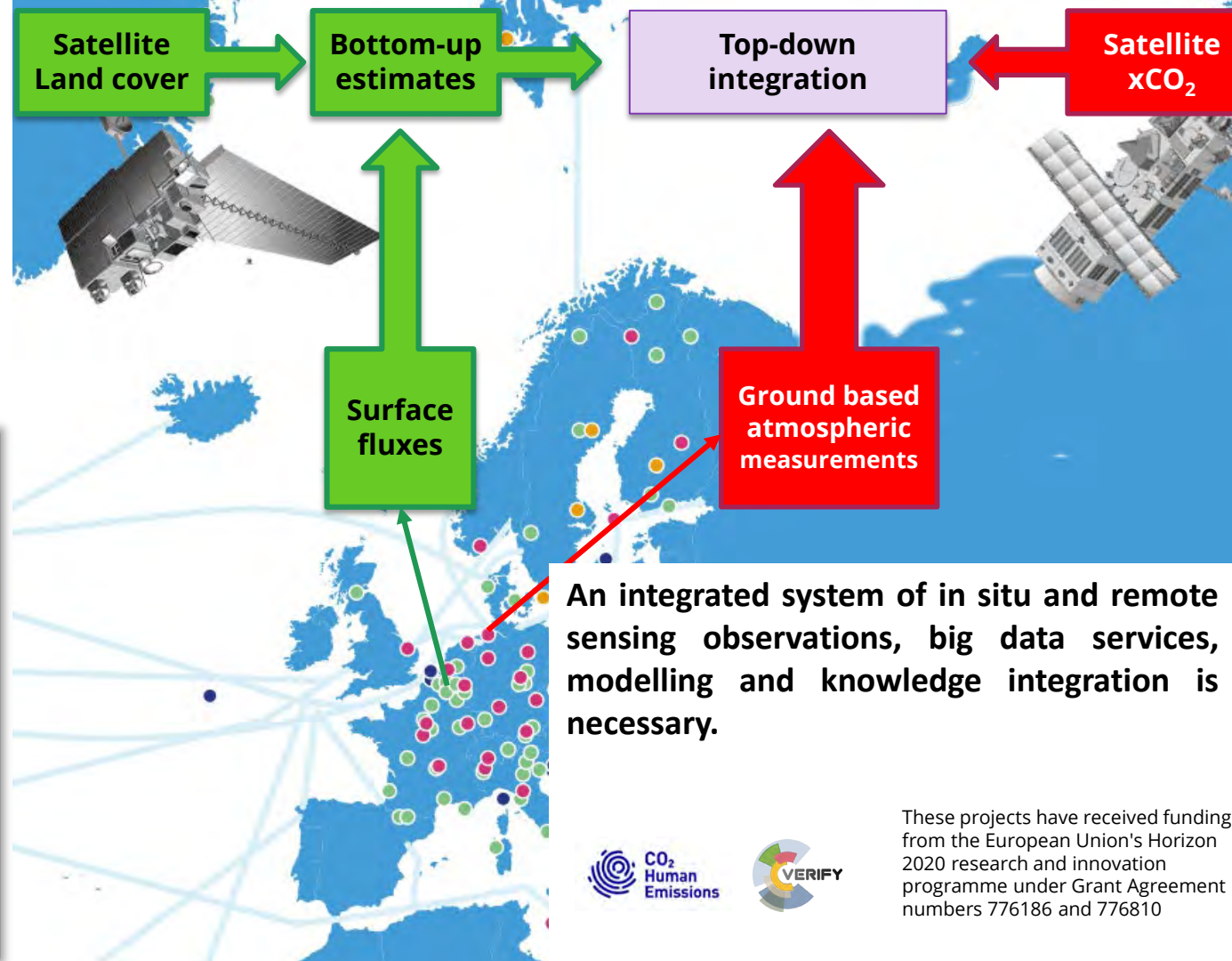
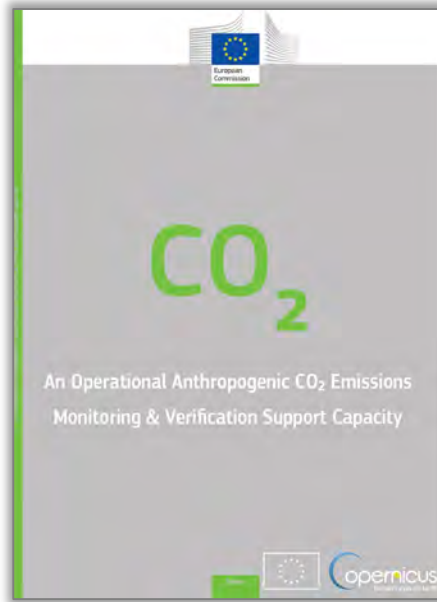
- Documenting data during collection & processing
- Organized & secure repository for data & metadata
- Persistent identifiers for data & resources
- Web portal for search, visualization & download
- Clear licensing
- Linked data approach for metadata cataloguing
- Interfaces for humans and **machines**
- Support for end users
- Engage with other initiatives projects to share resources



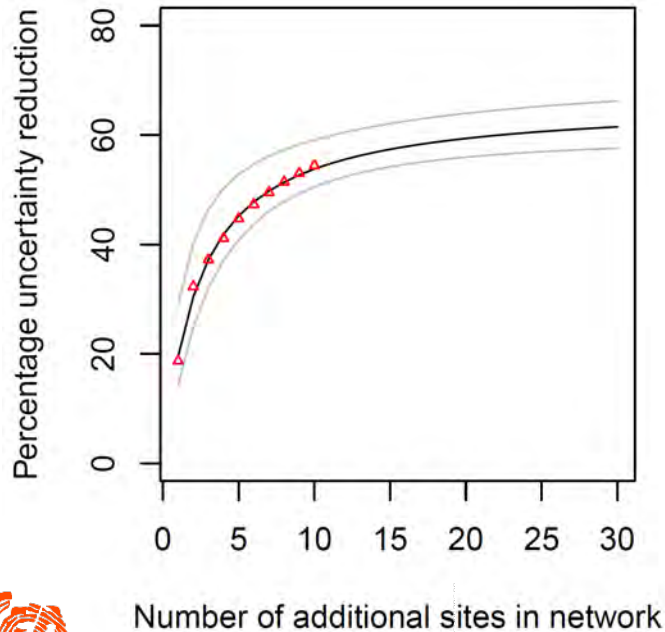
www.coretrustseal.org



Standardisation is essential for an Integrated System



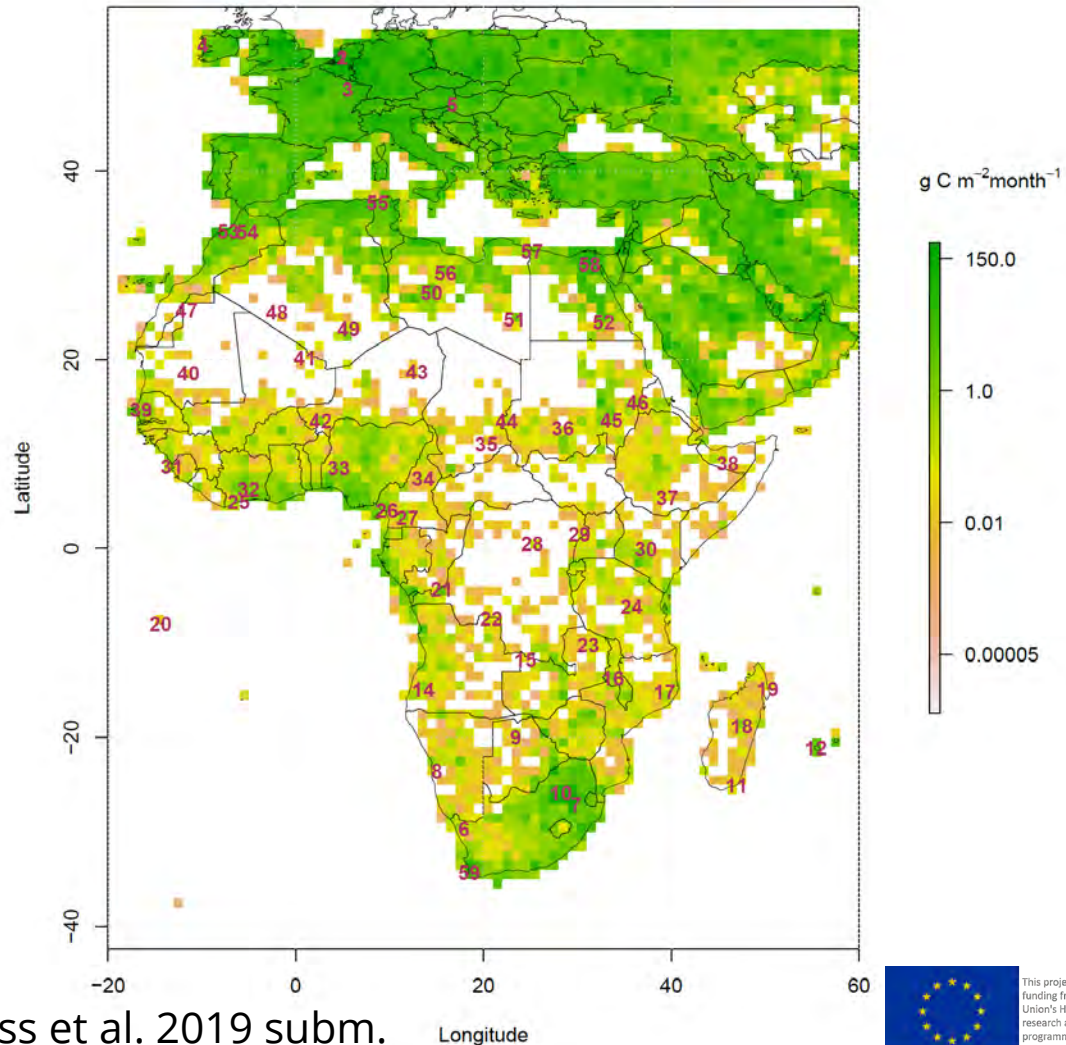
Standardisation is essential when filling observational gaps



Number of additional sites in network



Greenhouse Gas Observation
& Climate-Smart Agriculture



Nickless et al. 2019 subm.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 730995

Current status and challenges of GHG observations: Japan's contribution to the Paris Agreement



Nobuko Saigusa

Director of the Center for Global Environmental Research, National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), Japan.

She specializes in terrestrial carbon cycle, and was a lead author of Chapter 6 of IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land (SRCCL).

WMO approach to high-quality measurements of atmospheric composition



Claudia Volosciuk

A researcher at GAW, in the Atmospheric Environment Research Division, Research Department of WMO.

Within WMO, the Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW) is responsible for global measurements of atmospheric composition.

Systematic observations for monitoring the global climate



Carolyn Richter

Director of the Secretariat of GCOS, the Global Climate Observing System within WMO.

GCOS regularly assesses the status of global climate observations of the atmosphere, land and ocean and produces guidance for its improvement.

The role of atmospheric observations in the Global Carbon Budget



Matthew Jones

Senior Research Associate at the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, University of East Anglia.

For more info:
https://people.uea.ac.uk/matthew_w_jones

Research Infrastructures as providers of standardised observations



Werner Kutsch

Director General of ICOS, Integrated Carbon Observation System.

He is a biologist, plant ecologist and ecosystem scientist, and has worked with ecosystem carbon cycling for 25 years in Europe and Africa.

He has also is experience in data acquisition, post-processing, data analysis and modeling of ecosystem carbon budgets.



The background of the slide is a landscape photograph showing a wide river delta with many smaller channels flowing into a larger body of water. In the distance, there are large, rugged mountains with some snow patches under a clear sky. The text is overlaid on this image.

ICOS

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INTEGRATED
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STANDARDISED OBSERVATIONS ARE THE BASE OF ALL CLIMATE SCIENCE

ICOS Side Event at COP25

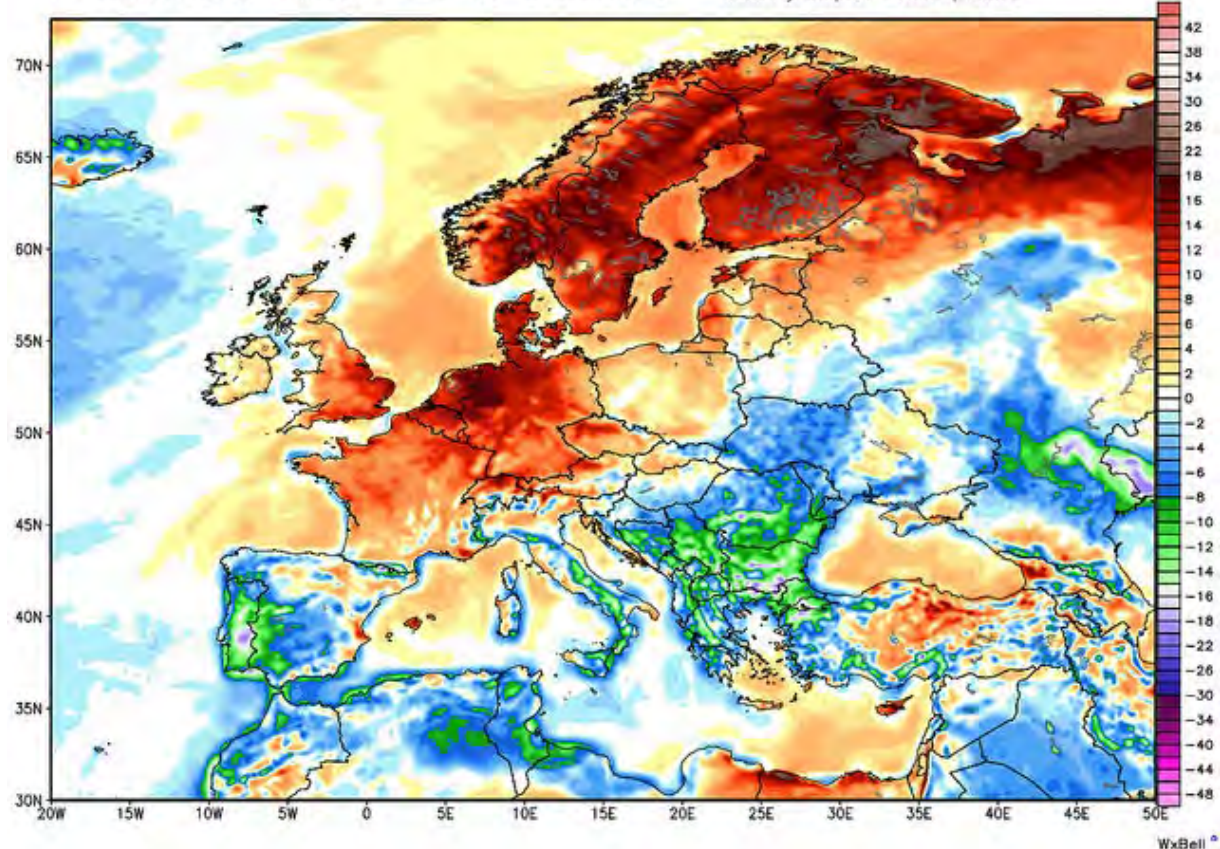




Catching the impact of climate change

ECMWF 6-hourly Snapshot 2-meter Temp Anomaly [°F]
INIT: 00Z23JUL2018 fx: [036] hr --> Tue 12Z24JUL2018

Anomaly Min|Max -25.3° | 26.0°F



...

2019 Australia drought
and wildfires

2019 California drought
and wildfires

2019 Mozambique

Cyclone Kenneth

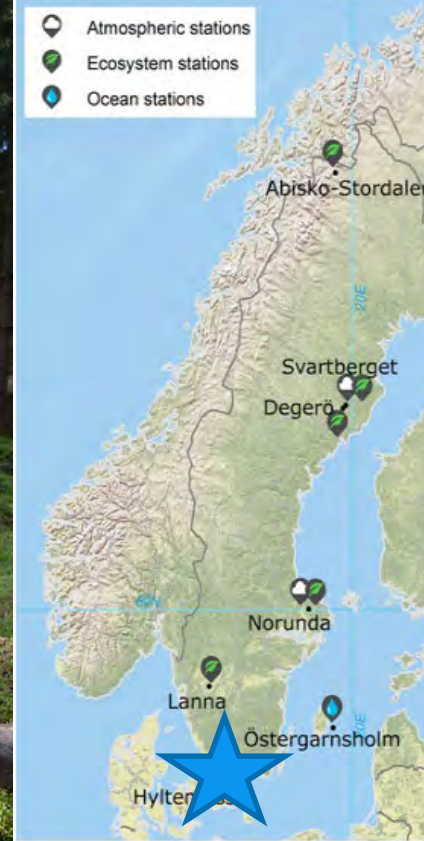
2018 European drought

2018 Hurricanes and
Typhoons

...

Climate feeds back to the carbon cycle:

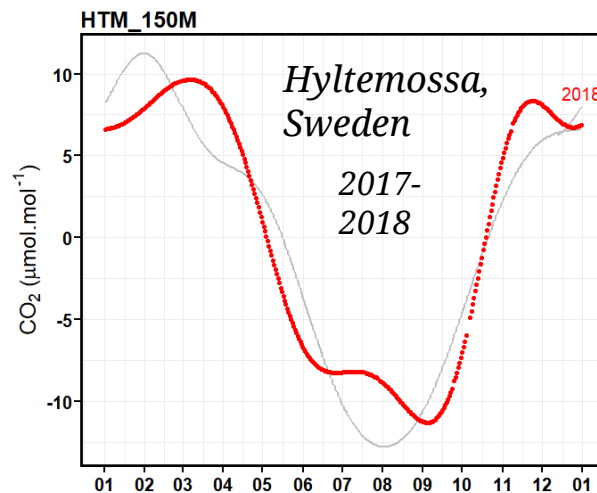
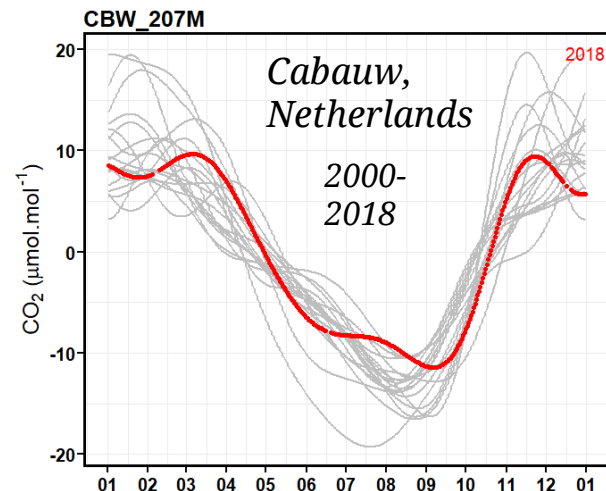
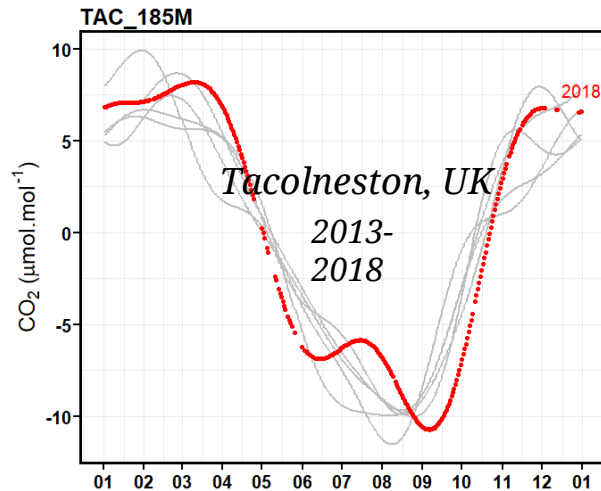
Strong reduction of carbon fixation due to drought in boreal forests in Sweden.



Credits:
ICOS Sweden,
Tobias Biermann

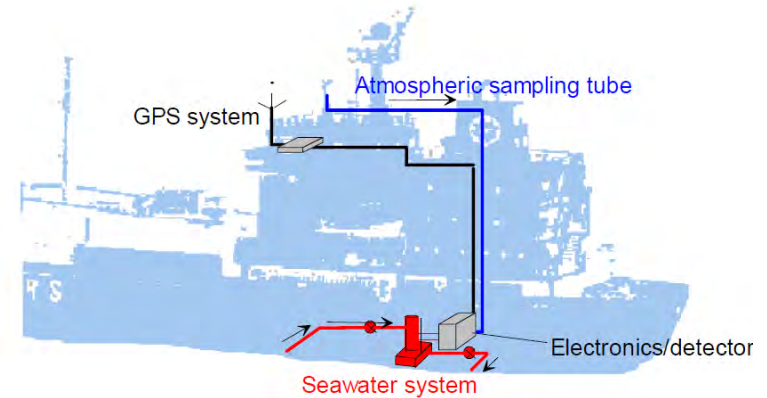
Climate feeds
back to the
carbon cycle:

Strong reduction
of carbon
fixation due to
drought also
visible in the
atmosphere.



Credits:
M. Ramonet and
ICOS Atmosphere
Network PIs

In situ ocean observations



Fugacity of CO₂ (fCO₂) and partial pressure of CO₂ (pCO₂)

$$f\text{CO}_2 = \gamma \text{ pCO}_2 = [\text{CO}_2] / K'_0$$

$$(\gamma \sim 0.996\text{-}0.997)$$

In situ ocean observations

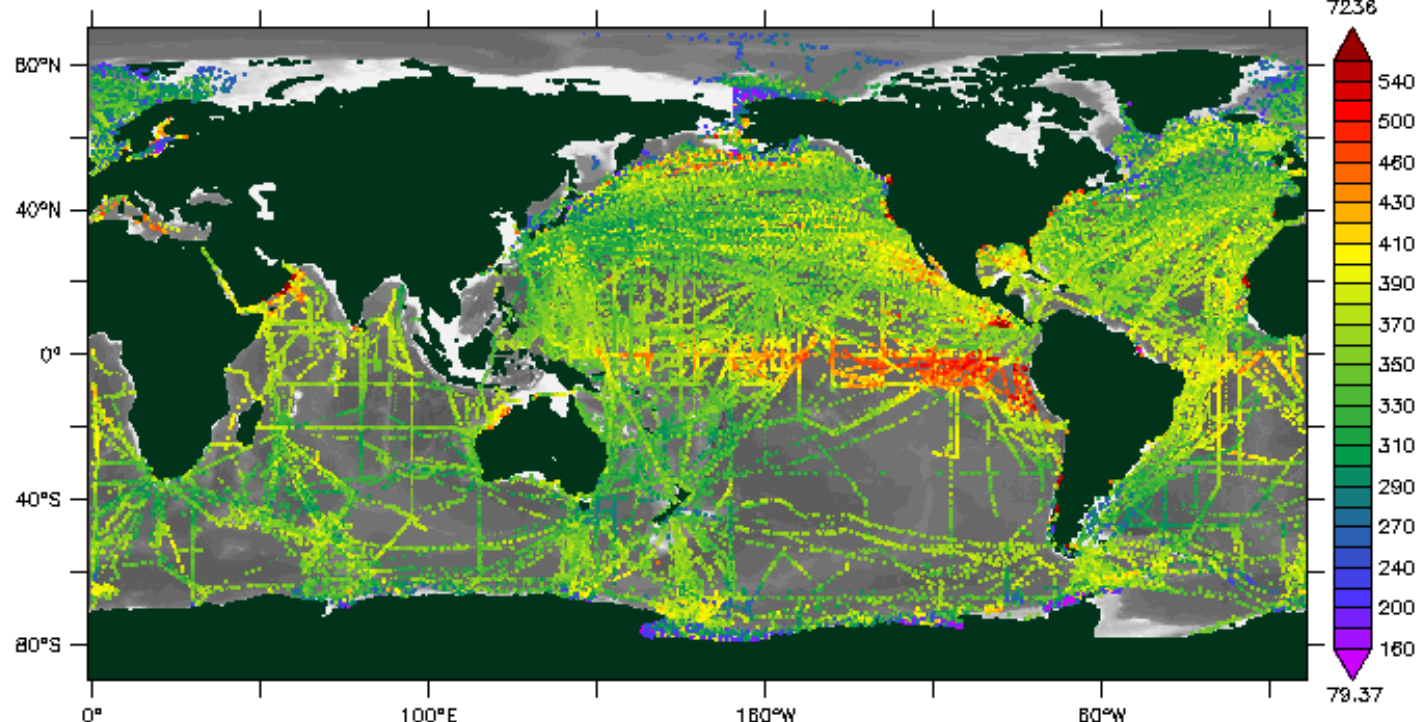
<http://www.socat.info>



Surface Ocean Carbon Atlas -- Version 2

16-Nov-1968 to 26-Dec-2011

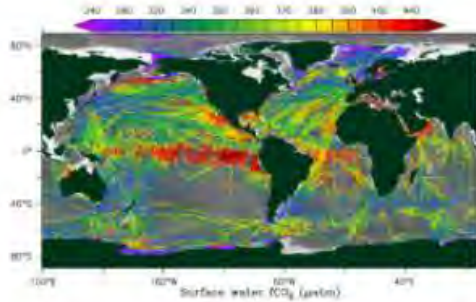
2660 cruises
sample of 169388 (0 missing)
sampled from 10123816 total obs
7236



[curtesy: Dorothee Bakker]

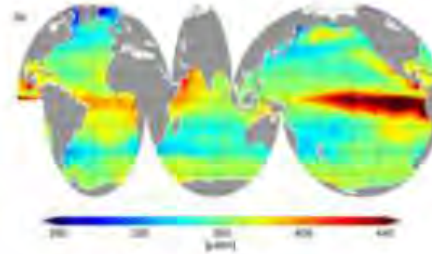
$f\text{CO}_2$ recomputed (μatm)

In situ ocean observations

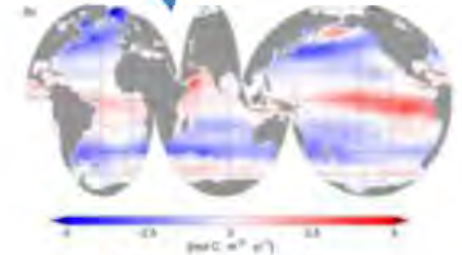


A SOCAT data product
(synthesis or gridded)

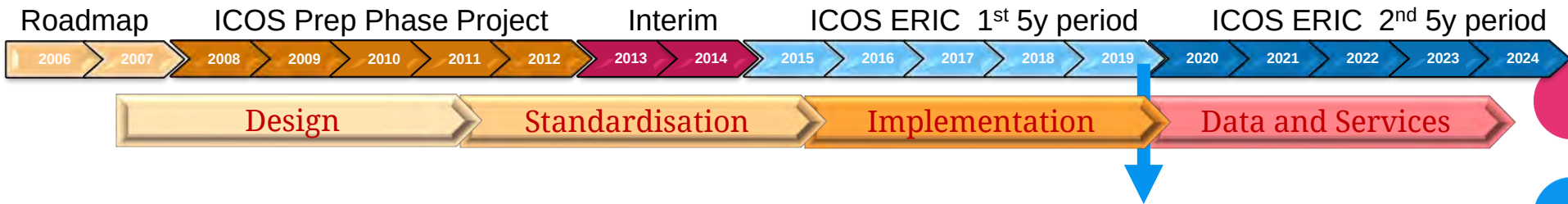
A mapping method



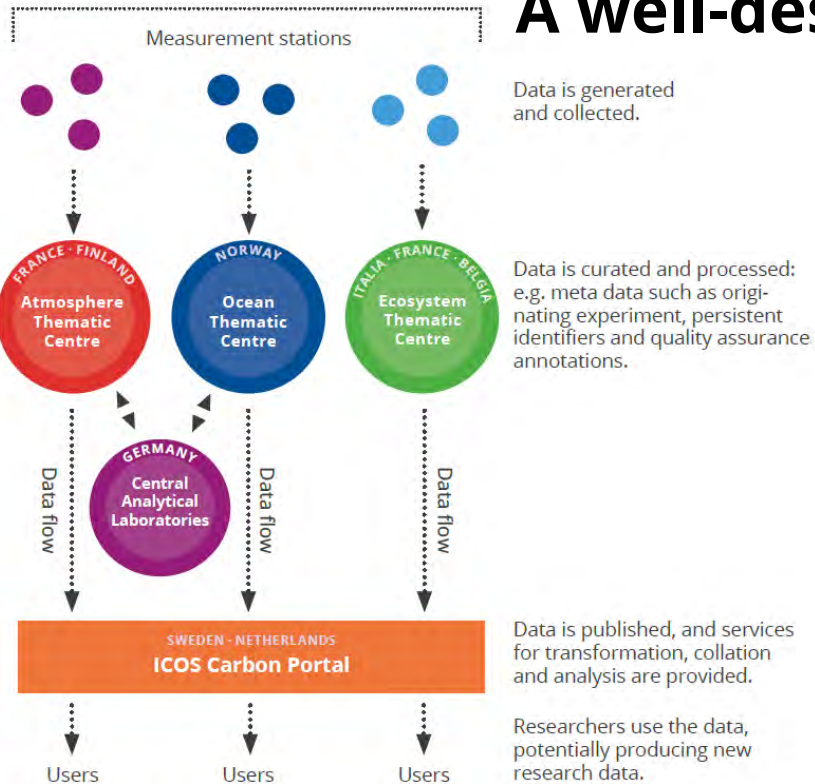
Gas transfer parameterisation,
wind speed



The (spatial/temporal) variability in data-based air-sea CO₂ flux estimates can improve land CO₂ flux estimates by atmospheric inversion (Rödenbeck et al., 2014). (Figures Bakker et al., 2014; Landschützer et al., 2014).



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