



- SIDE EVENT -

Enhancing country preparedness for post-Kyoto monitoring, assessment and action

Wednesday, 3 December 2008

18:00 – 19:30

Room: Swan



Enhancing country preparedness for post-Kyoto monitoring, assessment and action

Theme: Observations are fundamental to understand the causes of climate change, analyse the potential impacts, model future scenarios, assess risk and vulnerability, implement mitigation strategies (including REDD), evaluate adaptation options and enable the characterization of extreme events such as floods, droughts and heat waves. The three sister observation systems for the climate (GCOS), ocean (GOOS) and terrestrial (GTOS) domains are coordinating international efforts to gather and disseminate the required data to stakeholders.

The side event will demonstrate the importance of the 13 terrestrial Essential Climate Variables (ECVs) to address issues related to climate change, sustainable development, environmental management and meeting the objectives of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Speakers will highlight the importance of standard protocols, especially in regards to reporting, monitoring, modelling and mitigation strategies.

Side Event Schedule

18:00 John Zillman (GCOS Steering Committee Chairman)

Opening of the session and general remarks.

18:05 John Latham (GTOS Programme Director)

The need for standards and the development of a UN and International Organization for Standardization (ISO) terrestrial framework mechanism.

18:15 Peter Holmgren

(Director, Environment, Climate Change and Bioenergy Division, FAO)

Requirements for improved observations and access to satellite data as a critical preparatory process for the UN-REDD Programme.

18:25 Riccardo Valentini (TCO Chair)

Terrestrial Carbon Observations and REDD potential in Sub-Saharan Africa as an example of global carbon monitoring.

18:35 Wilfried Haeberli (GTN-G)

The importance of monitoring networks for snow and ice in view to changing water resources and flood hazards at local to continental and global scales.

18:45 William Westermeyer (GCOS Secretariat)

GTN-H the vital framework for global monitoring of rivers, lakes, precipitation and other key elements of the water cycle vital for adapting to climate change.

18:55 Kevin Tansey (University of Leicester)

Fire disturbances impact on climate, ecosystems and humans. Status and needs for mapping, monitoring, validation and standardization are summarised.

19:05 Discussion and questions

19:25 Wrap up and closure

Buffet food and drink will be available