

QUESTIONS

- Does the concept of the ECVs and the working of the assessment process remain appropriate, fit-for-purpose, relevant, useful, ...?
- Has there been progress on Actions C22 and C23 of the 2010 Implementation Plan or on “Essential Ecosystem Records”?
- What are your perceptions of the current state of climate observation and related products and services?
- Could other communities have the same kind of well-established framework as GCOS provides regarding the ECVs?
- How can GCOS / IPCC help inform & coordinate national & international agencies to establish observation programs for the joint, continuous & reliable study of physical, physicochemical, & biological indicators of climate change & climate change impacts in ocean regions?
- How to expand the GCOS/Essential Climate Variables framework to make terrestrial/land observations more relevant for purposes of mitigation and adaptation?
- How can GCOS/IPCC work with application & decision making experts to rapidly identify climate service requirements, including quality & access/timeliness, for a few ECVs of highest priority?

CHALLENGES

- Multiple requirements emerging from different essential variables (ECVs, EOVs, EBVs)
- To take into account biological parameters & their regional specificities to inform the evolution of monitoring for combined ocean warming, acidification & hypoxia as well as their specific regional impacts
- Stimulus & actions needed by the UNFCCC to better integrate & coordinate (1) global (research) observations, (2) national estimation & reporting, & (3) monitoring & implementation of local actions (for mitigation & adaptation)!
- The move to support Climate Services requires a shift in focus from detection of anthropogenic climate change on large space & long time-scales to identification of the requirements to support applications & decision making for a subset of the ECVs.

QUESTIONS

Do we risk to lose the comprehensive picture? I.e.: is it possible to use a limited set of core data without missing significant information of what we need to observe? If so, how to identify it?

CHALLENGES

The challenge is to find the trade-off among: i) the reduced number of data to be managed, ii) the needed data quality and (spatio-temporal) resolution, and iii) the societal benefit we can get from them.