Summary of CryoNet Discussion at GCW-IM-1

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Looking back GCW Implementation strategy

The GCW Implementation Strategy proposed initiation of a comprehensive cryosphere observing network called “CryoNet”, a network of reference sites or “supersites” in cold climate regions, on land or sea, operating a sustained, standardized programme for observing and monitoring as many cryospheric variables as possible. CryoNet would provide reference sites for validation of satellite and model outputs. Initially, it will build on existing cryosphere observing programmes or add standardized cryospheric observations to existing facilities to create supersite environmental observatories.
Conceptional Framework of GCW

- **WMO**
- **Advisory Group**
- **Management Board**
- **Project Office**
- **Working Groups (Task Teams)**

**Users and Applications**
- research, operational centres, security, impacts, adaptation

**Outreach, Education, Capacity Building**
- **GCW Portal**
  - integrating data and information

**GCW Information and Analysis**
- anomaly tracking, hot-spots, variability and change, global and regional products

**Observations**
- reference stations, contributing networks, satellites

**Cryosphere Products**
- operational products, reanalyses, research datasets

**Partners**
- met centres
- satellite agencies
- data centres
- specialized organizations
Standardization of Practices (networks, observations, instruments, data exchange & policy, products):

- Review existing GCW practices and develop an inventory; identify differences and inconsistencies
- Identify a need for new standard/best practices, identify priorities and develop new standard/best practices
- Develop Cryospheric Vocabulary
- Identify standard/practices that may be promoted to ISO standards?
- Develop “GCW Manual”; provide input to WIGOS Manual, CIMO Guide
Register user requirements in WMO Rolling Review of Requirements (RRR) data base:

– Propose a new application area – Cryosphere
– Identify **focal points** for Cryo different application areas and observing system capabilities
– **Verify existing** variables and add **new (key)** cryospheric variables in RRR database
Reference sites/Supersites:

– Several presentations showing potential candidates for super-sites idea (China, Finland, France, Austria)

**Recommendation:** GCW should establish a team to initiate the task on supersites and reference sites for integrated, multidisciplinary environmental monitoring.
Establish Centres of Excellence from among GCW Reference sites:

– e.g., **Instrument Centres** and **Testbeds** responsible for maintaining a set of standard instruments, calibration, intercomparison, traceability, compatibility, integration of RS and *in-situ* observations
Instrument Intercomparisons

– Identify needs
– Participation in WMO Solid Precipitation Intercomparison (SPICE) (GCW demo-project)
The first steps in the CryoNet process

- to determine what is currently being measured,
- how it is being measured and which best practices, guidelines or standards are being followed and
- who are conducting or co-ordinating the measurements.
Personal Impression from participants feedback of 1st meeting in Geneva

Interest Enthusiasm
- Support for own work
- New funding
- Networking
- .....  

GCW

Sceptics Caution
- Downgrading of existing
- Burocratic level
- No real activity
- .........
How making GCW CryoNet successful?

• Less dependent on WMO

• More dependent on us (group of promotors) through making the theoretical background

Rely on the strengths (intercomparison studies, guidelines, networking, promotion, ...) of WMO support and not its weaknesses (WMO will not give any direct funding to a CryoNet station)