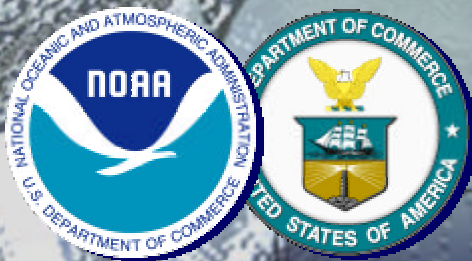
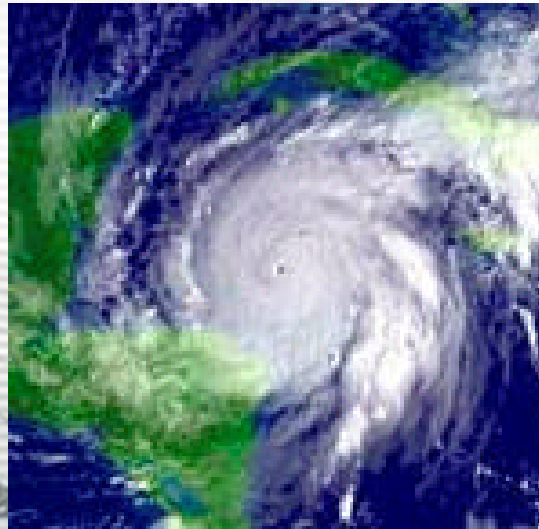


Earth Observation Partnership of the Americas (EOPA)



John Jones

**NOAA Deputy Assistant Administrator for Weather Services
& Deputy Director of the National Weather Service
GEO Capacity Building Workshop -May 29, 2006**

What is EOPA?

EOPA is a *partnership* to help coordinate Earth observations throughout the Western Hemisphere.

The aim of EOPA is to *improve Earth observations and their utilization* by:

- *facilitating working relationships and collaboration*
- *encouraging the use and exchange of data*
- *coordinating and leveraging regional assets and resources*



EOPA Governance

- A collection of voluntary multi-stakeholder partnerships
- Does not substitute for, but contributes to the implementation of bi-lateral and intergovernmental commitments

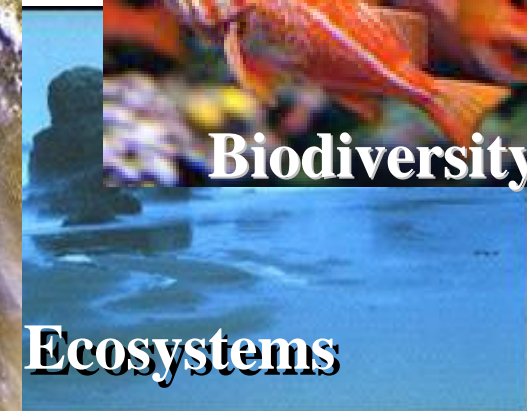
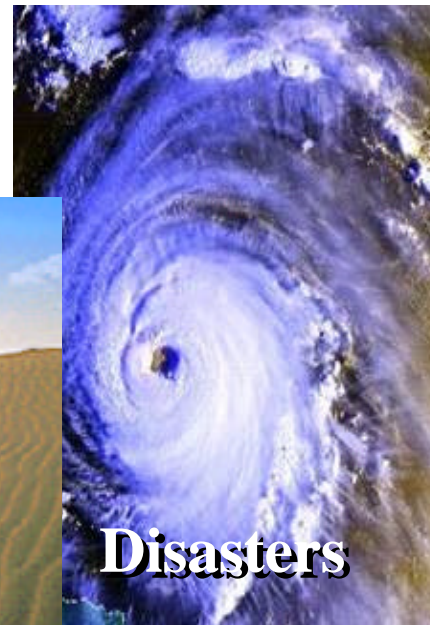
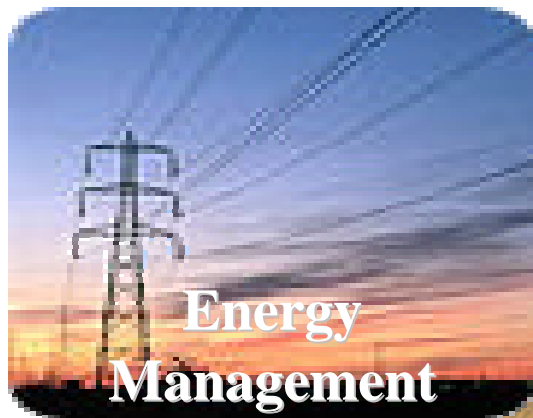


Key Objectives of the EOPA Initiative









- Develop **partnership**.
- Make current and future **environmental data more readily available** to the countries of North, Central, and South America and the Caribbean.
- Provide **education and training** to regional data users that support both data availability and its utilization.
- Develop **engineering and scientific cooperation** in the region.
- Encourage **ready access and exchange** of Earth observation data and the **integration** of Earth observation systems.



GEO Social Benefit Areas

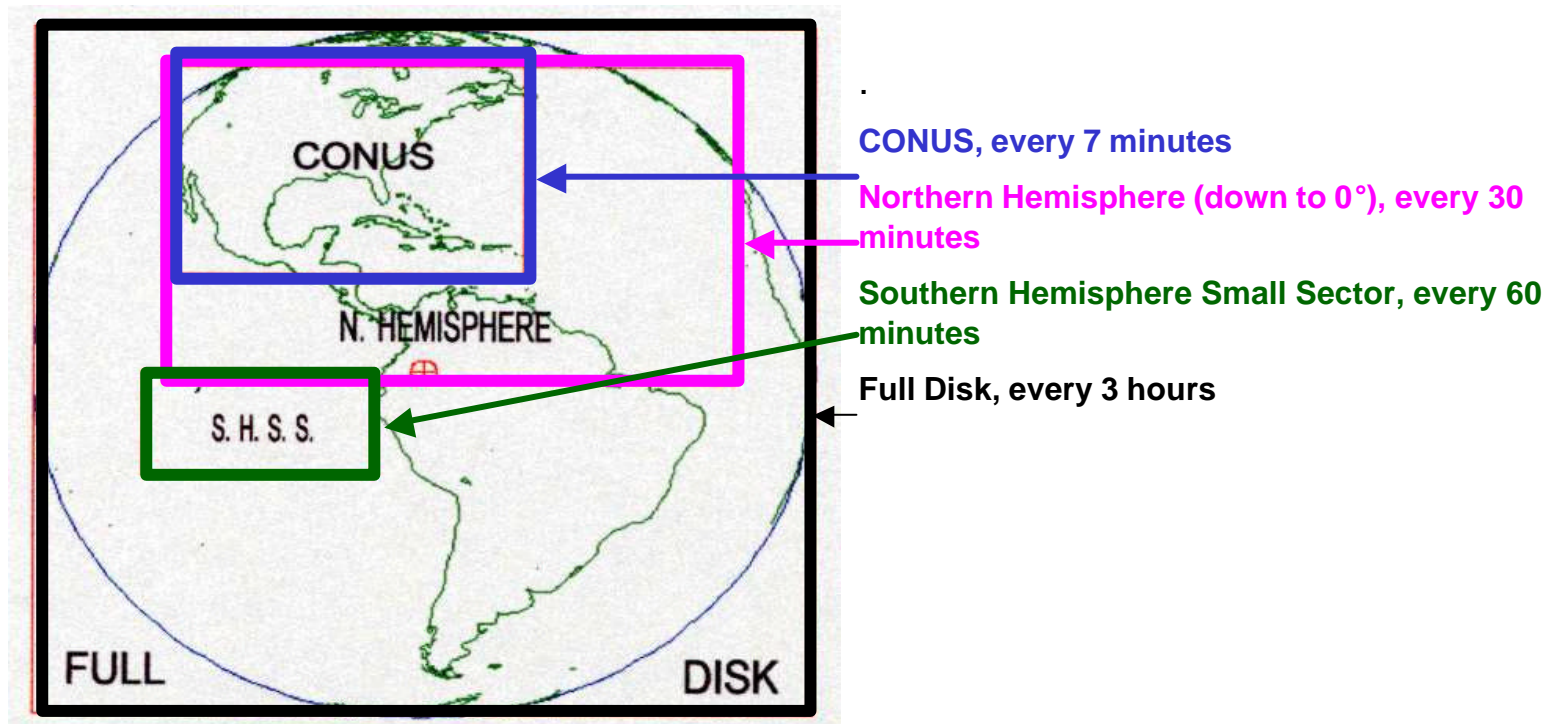


History of the Partnership

-  Side discussions at the three Earth Observation Summits
-  Side discussions at key intergovernmental forums (2003-2006):
CEOS, IGOS, WMO and other Earth observation meetings
-  NOAA's Satellite Direct Readout Conferences in Miami (2001, 2002, 2004)
-  Bilateral discussions and meetings
-  Senior level WMO RAIIG GOES Users Meeting, June 1, 2005, Buenos Aires
 -  Requested NOAA to move a retired GOES satellite to 60° or 65° West
-  EOPA Satellite Data Users Workshop, June 2-3, 2005 Buenos Aires
 -  Endorsed request to position a retired GOES satellite



Planned Move of GOES-10



The planned repositioning of GOES-10 will provide South America with much needed imager and sounder data.



EOPA Partners will pursue the following Anticipated Activities



Provide training and capacity building to enable users in Latin America to effectively use Earth Observation data.



Build, maintain and upgrade strategically placed receiving stations and in situ instruments.



Develop a communications system to allow countries to share data and information.



Feedback from Partners



Ecuador



Chile



EOPA IN THE REGION: ECUADOR, CHILE.

- For our countries, we think for all scientific and civil community, EOPA is the right focal point for the control and monitoring of Earth observations in the western hemisphere.

- The developing countries such as Ecuador, Chile and others, are doing many efforts in this direction such as:

-  In Ecuador, AWS implementation about 48 stations from last two years and 28 in Chile.

-  63 conventional meteorological stations network in Ecuador and 62 stations in Chile.

-  GOES and Polar satellite image receptors and GIS platform products for social benefits like agriculture, human health, biodiversity, and ecosystem in Ecuador case.

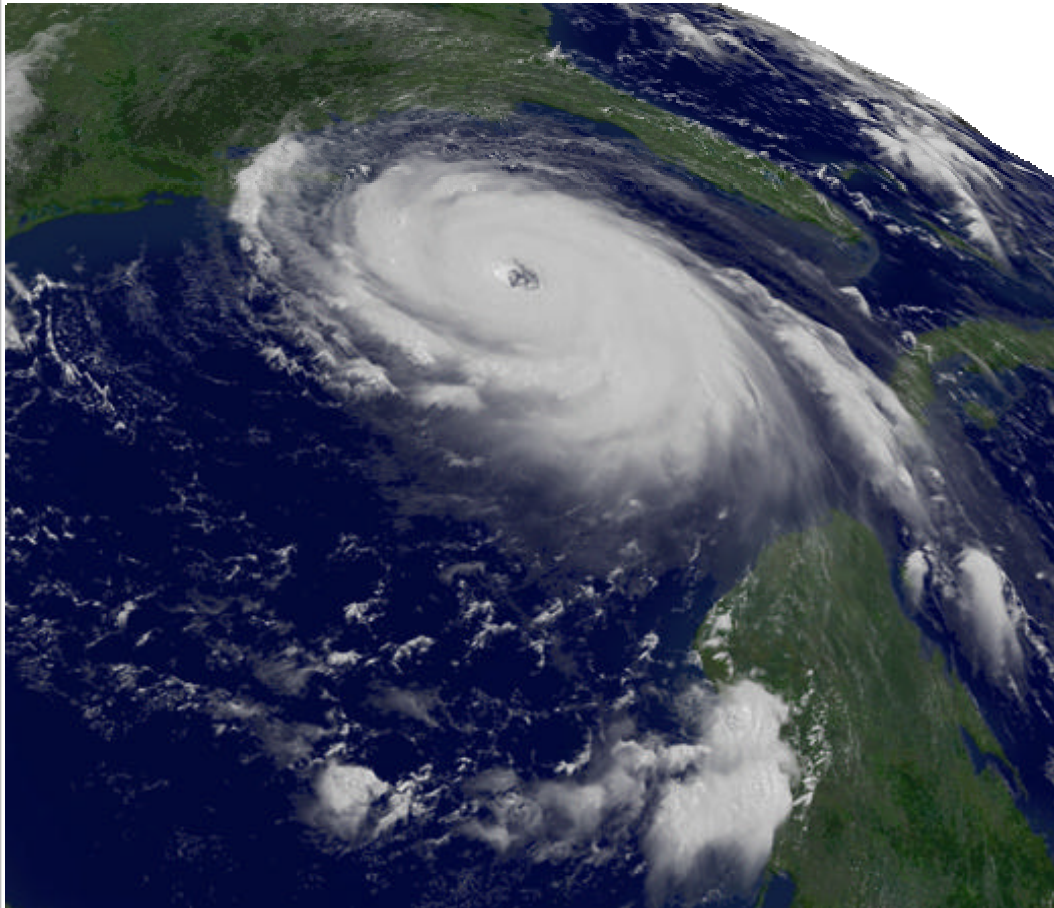
-  A common and global effort is necessary for data use, data exchange, data good interpretation and clear and open policies for users.

EOPA

Contributing to the GEOSS Vision

“The goal is to access and provide the right information, in the right format, at the right time, to the right people, to make the right decisions.”

Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr.,
NOAA Administrator



Thank You Very Much

