

IAF EARTH OBSERVATION SYMPOSIUM (B1)
International Cooperation in Earth Observation Missions (1)

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INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION FOR THE EVOLUTION OF A GLOBAL INTEGRATED
OBSERVING SYSTEM

Abstract

We live on an incredibly complex and changing planet. Forecasting weather, understanding climate trends, understanding our ecosystems, and monitoring environmental hazards is no easy task and requires high-quality, timely, and integrated global Earth observations from satellites. The National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service (NESDIS) provides secure and timely access to global environmental data and information from satellites and other sources to both promote and protect the Nation's environment, security, economy and quality of life. NESDIS is fundamentally changing the way it acquires and processes observational data to support NOAA's mission and the rapidly evolving needs of our national and international users and partners. NESDIS recently launched a suite of satellites including GOES-16, GOES-17, NOAA-20, JASON-3 and will soon launch COSMIC-2A, and is exploring partner research observations for operational use.

NESDIS is only one part of a global integrated observing system. Sustained, reliable and robust partnerships are essential. This paper will address how NOAA works with the international community through bilateral partnerships and multilateral coordination groups to acquire and share the Earth observation data required for weather and environmental prediction on a full, free, and open basis. NESDIS has benefited for years from strong bilateral partnerships with meteorological satellite operators such as EUMETSAT and the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) and will continue to partner for years to come. NESDIS envisions expanding the robust international coordination through such fora as Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS), Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS), and Group on Earth Observations (GEO). This paper also outlines how other emerging private-public partnerships and strategic relationships will increase more diverse data sources to support efforts to increase resiliency and prosperity.