

GCOS Activities in 2024

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The 2022 GCOS Implementation Plan, adopted by UNFCCC, WMO Congress and IOC General Assembly, provides a list of actions necessary to improve and develop the system of global climate observations. Some of the actions need to be performed by the GCOS panels supported by the GCOS Secretariat or by the GCOS secretariat itself.

GCOS secretariat workplan:

- follows from the GCOS IP actions (many already started in 2023)
- includes other activities which are the continuation of other relevant initiatives that run in 2023
- includes a third type of activities that are intrinsic part of GCOS programme's operation such as outreach and communication, liaison with GCOS partners and sponsors, and support to GCOS networks.



Specific actions from the GCOS IP (to be performed by GCOS panels).	MAIN OUTPUTS/WAY FORWARD
Ensure necessary level of long-term funding support for in situ networks (A1)	Assessment across the three domains is completed and summary produced (Agenda Item 7.2)
Develop monitoring standards, guidance and best practices for each ECV (C1)	Input from the panel collected, final summary to be produced
Ensure global climate data centres exists for all in situ observations of ECVs (D2)	Assessment across the three domains is completed and a summary is being produced. Analysis of results in Q3 2024

GCOS Networks	MAIN OUTPUTS/WAY FORWARD
GSN and GUAN	Monitoring – Report/presentation in agenda item 7.1a
GRUAN	Support to the Working Group GRUAN - Report/presentation in agenda item 7.1b
GSRN	Support of the GSRN-TT – Implementation of GSRN Pilot – (Agenda item 7.1c)



Cross-Panel Activities	MAIN OUTPUTS/WAY FORWARD
ECV rationalization	Proposed new set of ECVs and ECV quantities – Agenda item 7.6
Earth cycles	Workshop held with WCRP in 2023. A group of experts from WCRP and GCOS are now working at a paper on the global integrals – Agenda item 7.7
Climate data centres: requirements for a Global Climate data Center	Initially, agreement to use the CoreTrustSeal requirements/process Now: identifying the difficulties in applying the CoreTrustSeal requirements and grouping these requirements in different categories – Agenda item 7.3
Air-sea and land-air fluxes	Little progress to report. Difficulties in defining the scope of this action.
Climate indicators	The following indicators were proposed as possible candidates: Earth energy imbalance, Ecosystem drought, and Terrestrial carbon storage. – Agenda item 7.8

Other activities	MAIN OUTPUTS/WAY FORWARD
GCOS Engagement with countries	Updated TOR for GCOS National Coordinators. Individual meetings with some of the coordinators – Agenda item 7.4
Adaptation	Progress on paper of the use of ECV Fire for adaptation; collaboration with C3S on paper on use of reanalysis for adaptation – Agenda Item 10.4-5



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Other activities	MAIN OUTPUTS/WAY FORWARD
Coordination with and support to WMO	WMO Data Policy, Climate Data Management; GBON and SOFF, tiered networks, RRR....agenda topic 9.
Renewal of the MoU	Work with sponsors for renewal of MoU – Agreement from WMO, ISC. Progress with UNEP and waiting for IOC EC approval. Possible finalization in September
Liaise with UNFCCC	Statement at SBSTA 60; update of GCOS Climate Monitoring Principle at SBSTA 61
Liaise with other partners and sponsors	liaise with sponsors and partners by participating to partner activities and reporting to partners (WMO, IOC, ISC, UNEP, IPCC, WCRP, GEO, C3S, WGClimate...)
Panels and Steering Committee	Each panel addresses the IP actions specific to their domain. Organization of meetings and of the SC, including membership etc. Panel reports in agenda item 6.2-6.3-6.4
Communication	Migration of Website under the WMO website
EU Project	Collaborating with WMO and GEO to prepare the application for an European Commission funded project



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Meeting and Travel

In 2024 GCOS has organized/is organising the following in-person meetings:

- GSRN-TT management meeting – Exeter – 27-29 February 2024
- GRUAN Implementation Coordination Meeting 15 – Bern (Switzerland) 11-15 March 2024
- ECV Rationalization Task Team – Potsdam (Germany) – 28-30 May 2024
- GCOS Steering Committee – Geneva (Switzerland) – 2-5 Jul 2024
- AOPC Panel Meeting – Asheville (USA) – 17-20 September 2024
- GSRN-TT-3 Meeting – Xi' An (China) – 14-18 October 2024
- TOPC Panel Meeting – Rome (FAO HQ) –December 2024

Members of the Secretariat also participated to key missions needed to the implementation of the activities described in sections 1-12 and the general running of the GCOS Secretariat and its panels.

Thank you!



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