

ГЛОБАЛЬНАЯ СИСТЕМА  
НАБЛЮДЕНИЙ ЗА КЛИМАТОМ  
НЕУСТАЙНО СЛЕДИМ ЗА КЛИМАТОМ

SYSTÈME MONDIAL  
D'OBSERVATION DU CLIMAT  
NOUS VEILLONS SUR LE CLIMAT

النظام العالمي  
لرصد المناخ  
لنضع المناخ نصب أعيننا

全球气候观测系统  
密切监视气候

SISTEMA MUNDIAL  
DE OBSERVACION DEL CLIMA  
SIEMPRE VIGILANDO EL CLIMA

GLOBAL CLIMATE  
OBSERVING SYSTEM  
KEEPING WATCH OVER OUR CLIMATE

# Promote national engagement GCOS National Coordinators (item 7.4)

31<sup>st</sup> Session of the GCOS Steering Committee  
*Geneva, 2-5/07/2024*

A. Bombelli, GCOS Sec



**GLOBAL CLIMATE  
OBSERVING SYSTEM**  
KEEPING WATCH OVER OUR CLIMATE



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# Background

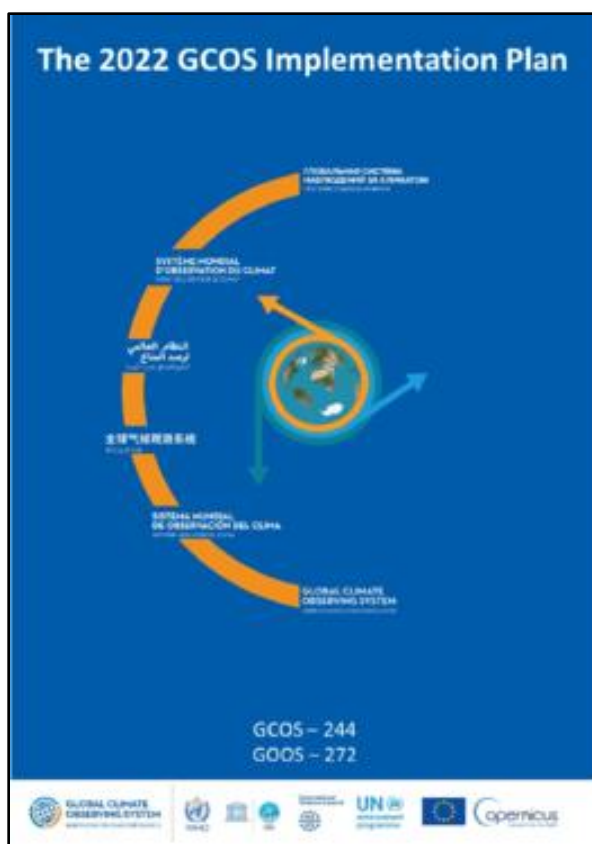
## GCOS Implementation Plan

### ➤ Theme E “Engaging with Countries”

### Decision No. 2 - GCOS Steering Committee

### ➤ Action E2 “Promote national engagement in GCOS”

(virtual session, 23/01/2024)



### Decision 2 - GCOS National Coordinators

1. The GCOS Steering Committee approves the [Terms of Reference](#) for the GCOS National Coordinators for climate observations given in the Annex to this document.
2. The GCOS Steering Committee asks the GCOS Secretariat to:
  1. engage with countries to update the list of GCOS National Coordinators (this needs to be done taking into account the newly appointed National Focal Points for GCOS networks);
  2. explore cost-effective ways of meeting with GCOS National Coordinators to discuss feedback from them on their climate monitoring and any problems they have identified;
  3. work with GCOS National Coordinators to explore the potential of national support for the GCOS programme.

# GCOS National Coordinators for Climate Observations

## Role of GCOS NC

To promote communication between national systems and regional/global bodies to ensure that the best climate data is available at national level.

More specifically, their role is to:

- Communicate with the GCOS Secretariat, including reporting on national updates, and participate in international GCOS-related meetings and conferences;
- Advocate for high-quality, sustained, long-term national climate observation following GCOS ECV requirements and guidance;
- Promote the reporting and use of climate observations within the UNFCCC.

For more details see the [GCOS NC TORs](#)



# Engaging with Countries

## Ongoing activities

- Identify and contact GCOS NC still in charge
- Interviews with few of them (already had with Germany, Ireland and Switzerland)
- Survey for countries without a GCOS coordination mechanism
- GCOS Secretariat participation in GCOS German and Swiss national meetings



    	
NATIONAL GCOS COORDINATORS	
Country	Contact
Australia	Neil PLUMMER
Austria	Rainer STOWASSER
Belize	Albert JONES
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Kemal SEHBAJRAKTAREVIC
Canada	Michael MANORE
Chile	Gastón TORRES
China	Zhao DATONG
Croatia	Kreso PANDZIC
Denmark	Claus KERN-HANSEN
Ethiopia	Seid AMEDIE
Finland	Minna HUUSKONEN
Germany	Stefan RÖSNER
Hungary	Mónika LAKATOS
Iran	Maryam Razeh KEISAMI
Japan	Daisuke SASANO
Mali	Mamadou DIALLO
Moldova	Lidia TRESCILO
Netherlands	Gé VERVER
New Zealand	Jochen SCHMIDT, Pene LEFALE
Portugal	Teresa ABRANTES
Russian Federation	Alexandre ZAYTSEV
Senegal	Sory DIALLO
Switzerland	Michelle STALDER
Thailand	Thanawut PANCHAPORNUDOMLAP
United Kingdom	Simon GILBERT
USA	Howard DIAMOND

to be updated

# Interviews with GCOS National Coordinators

To discuss relationships and mutual benefits of GCOS national coord. mechanisms

First 3 interviews (May 2024) with Germany, Ireland, and Switzerland

The following common key points emerged from a preliminary analysis:



- GCOS National meetings are very important, to report on progress, provide guidance, highlight gaps and needs, etc.
- Ensure consistency and align the national reporting with the GCOS reporting cycle (i.e. Status Report, Implementation Plan, ECVs Requirements).
- A formal reporting mechanism to GCOS, following a consistent template to identify criticalities and future work, could be beneficial.
- UNFCCC: some of the GCOS National Coordinators are also the national delegates for Research and Systematic Observations (RSO) within UNFCCC.
- Enhance interactions: regional and/or global events to be organized, but considering the current budget limitations, a dedicated online forum could be the first feasible step.



# GCOS Added Value to National Coordinators

- The GCOS national mechanism is important to provide coordination and consistency across the wide range of players at national level.
- Their national strategies for climate monitoring are (or can be) based on the GCOS IP and other GCOS related documents and activities.
- The link with GCOS helps in putting the national activities into the global context.
- GCOS provides the justification for:
  - developing systematic long-term observations of ECVs at national level, and
  - claiming for the required financial support.



# Proposed way forward

- a) Update and expand the GCOS NC list, considering NMHS and UNFCCC national delegates for RSO.
- b) Contact few other countries, from different regions, that either have an operational GCOS National Coordination System, or we have good contacts with them, like: Brazil, Italy, Japan, Spain, and USA.
- c) Online survey targeted to countries without a GCOS nat. coord. mechanism.



**Comments and guidance from  
the GCOS Steering Committee?**

Get further insights for developing a simple and practical strategy for an effective national engagement, including cost-effective way of meetings.

# Thank you!



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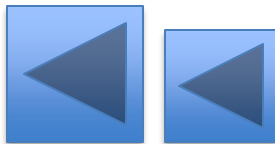
## Annex I - Terms of Reference for the GCOS National Coordinators for Climate Observations

Most of the climate observations that contribute to the global observing system for climate are performed under national auspices. The role of the GCOS National Coordinator is to promote communication between national systems and global bodies to ensure the best climate data is available at national level for science and adaptation.

The GCOS National Coordinator will:

- Provide a national focus to coordinate communication with the GCOS Secretariat, including updates on national GCOS activities, and, where appropriate, to participate in international GCOS-related meetings and conferences:
  - Provide the GCOS secretariat copies of any national climate observation report so they are aware of the overall status of the observing system;
  - Assist where possible in the exchange of information on the composition and performance of national components of GCOS networks with a view to enhancing the overall performance of the networks;
  - Work within an informal network of GCOS National Coordinators on priority GCOS issues common to all nations (e.g., funding, communications, training, data exchange, etc.);
  - Contribute to effective national coordination, amongst those responsible for the component systems of GCOS, including especially the WMO Integrated Global Observing Systems (WIGOS), the IOC-led Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS);
  - Ensure that important issues (e.g. funding, sustainability) are made known to the GCOS Secretariat for dissemination more widely as appropriate.
- Advocate for high-quality, sustained, long-term national climate observation of climate data, in particular:
  - Promote the adoption of the GCOS Essential Climate Variables (ECVs) for climate monitoring;
  - Promote adherence to the GCOS Climate Monitoring Principles and 'best practices' for climate observations;
  - Encourage the free and open exchange of all climate data;
  - Advocate for data rescue and the open and free exchange of digitised historic records.
- Promote the reporting and use of climate data within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC):
  - Promote the use of the 'Revised UNFCCC reporting guidelines on global climate change observing systems' (FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.2) for facilitating reporting on the status of national components of GCOS;
  - Develop a close connection between climate monitoring, GCOS and national representatives to the UNFCCC, including the national delegations to its Conference of the Parties (COP) and Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA).

It is intended that the GCOS National Coordinators will cooperate collectively in an informal network and that groups of National Coordinators will endeavour to meet from time to time, e.g., at SBSTA sessions, to discuss issues related to GCOS and provide advice to the GCOS Steering Committee and GCOS Secretariat.



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