

Contributions of GOFC-GOLD to the Global Forest Observations Initiative (GFOI)

Land Cover Science Meeting, Netherlands, November 2016



Climate Change and Forests

- 🌳 Reporting forest CO₂ emissions and removals is required by the UNFCCC, as well as REDD+ programs.
- 🌳 Many nationally determined contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement include reducing deforestation and/or promoting forest regeneration.
- 🌳 The success of REDD+ and NDCs depend in part on the ability to monitor changes in forest cover and condition at the national level.
- 🌳 International cooperation to develop cost-effective means of monitoring forest change over time is critical.
- 🌳 GOFC-GOLD is a critical means of achieving this cooperation.

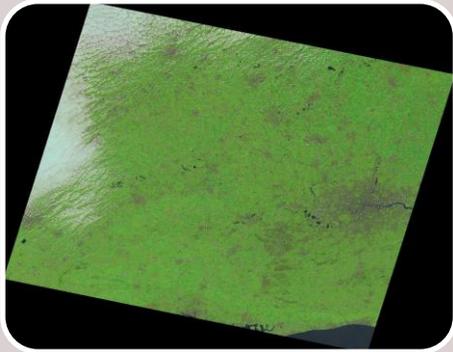


GFOI

- 🌳 The Global Forest Observations Initiative was established under the Group on Earth Observations to help countries develop sustainable, national forest monitoring & MRV systems to meet their individual needs.
- 🌳 Lead GFOI partners include Australia, Norway, USA, FAO, CEOS, GOFCC-GOLD, in cooperation with government, university and NGO experts from around the world.
- 🌳 GFOI is a virtual network, with a secretariat at FAO/Rome lead by Tom Harvey.
- 🌳 GFOI includes 4 major program areas...



GFOI Components



Space Data Coordination

- Works to ensure world-wide, long-term acquisition of core satellite data.
- Coordinates with space agencies, via CEOS.

Capacity Building

- GFOI provides capacity building training and direct assistance. It supports the use of satellite and ground data to monitor forests, and estimate GHGs.
- SilvaCarbon coordinates, in cooperation with UNREDD-FAO.

Methods and Guidance

- Report and website guiding the use of satellite and ground data for national forest monitoring and estimation of carbon stocks.
- Systematic work flow approach to MRV development.

Research and Development

- Identifying and promoting R&D needed for practical, global implementation of National Forest Monitoring
- GOFC-GOLD coordinates.

Current GOFC-GOLD Contributions to GFOI

- 🌳 The GOFC-GOLD Land Cover office coordinates the GFOI research component, a natural role given its extensive network of experts and researchers on land monitoring.
- 🌳 GOFC-GOLD works to ensure that new research, technologies, datasets and methods are developed in a manner that best meets country needs.
- 🌳 GOFC-GOLD staff and partners contribute to GFOI training and assistance activities, including “train the trainers” workshops in Latin America, Asia and Africa.
- 🌳 GFOI’s Methods and Guidance Document (MGD) and online REDDCompass portal have received substantial contributions from GOFC-GOLD experts.



Desired Future GOFI-GOLD Contributions

- 🌳 Continued leadership of the GFOI research coordination program, with a focus on enhancing trans-national research collaboration, especially with developing country agencies and institutions.
- 🌳 Identification of critical research needed to develop practical, cost-effective forest monitoring systems.
- 🌳 Informing donor agencies and institutions regarding key research and technical cooperation needs.
- 🌳 Continued support for GFOI capacity-building activities, including participation in training programs.
- 🌳 Updating and disseminating the Methods and Guidance Document and associated REDDCompass portal.



Thank you

