



ESA's GOFC-GOLD Land Cover Implementation Project Office

(1. Feb`04 - 31. Jan`07)

at Friedrich Schiller University Jena
Department for Geoinformatics

...an initiative by John Townshend and Stephen Briggs



WHAT IS GOFC-GOLD?

- Global Observation for Forest and Land Cover Dynamics
www.fao.org/gtos/gofc-gold/networks.html
- = coordinated international effort
- GOAL: providing ongoing space-based and in-situ observations of forests and other land vegetation cover types for the sustainable management of terrestrial resources and to obtain an accurate, reliable, quantitative understanding of the terrestrial carbon budget
- Originally developed as a pilot project by CEOS as part of their Integrated Global Observing Strategy (IGOS)
- GOFC/GOLD is now a panel of GTOS



THE GOFC-GOLD Land Cover Implementation Project Office

- ...focusses on developing methods, tools and products for land cover measurements and monitoring using space-borne and in-situ observations
- ...assesses current needs and deficiencies for global and regional land cover monitoring to support Global Change research, national and regional forest inventories and international policy
- ...cooperates closely with the Fire Implementation Team and regional networks in Asia and Africa



OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT OFFICE

1. Management and coordination of the execution of the GOFC-GOLD Land Cover Implementation Plan
2. To support ESA in the coordination of land cover validation activities focussed on the development of a user information service for the
 - reporting and exchange of validation results and
 - information relating to the operational activities of satellite platforms and data delivery (> **GLOBCARBON** and **GLOBCOVER** projects)



Implementation Plan Meeting and Project Office Inauguration (2-4 March 04)

- Implementation Plan Status and Priorities
- Science Drivers, Land Change Science, Carbon and Biodiversity Issues
- Programme Requirements and Global Initiatives
- Special Topics - Classification Strategies, Land Cover Products, Data and Information Systems, Validation Schemes
- GOFC-GOLD Applications - Regional Networks
- Synthesis of Status-Quo, Draft for Implement Plan Phase Two