



# 2022 GCOS Implementation Plan



**GLOBAL CLIMATE  
OBSERVING SYSTEM**

KEEPING WATCH OVER OUR CLIMATE



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- Climate observations have been a fundamental part of the UNFCCC since its creation
    - GCOS was formed in response to Article 5 of the Convention
  - The Paris Agreement also notes the importance of systematic climate observations and links this to adaptation planning
  - In 2019 the UNFCCC noted the plans of GCOS to provide
    - an overview of the **status of the global observing system for climate in 2021**,
    - address gaps and set new requirements for the system, and publish an update to the **GCOS implementation plan in 2022**.
    - and encouraged Parties, the co-sponsors of the GCOS programme and relevant organizations to actively engage in this work.
- UNFCCC/SBSTA/2019/5
- The UNFCCC noted the importance of systematic observations and work in line with the GCOS implementation plan
    - which is fundamental to **climate indicators, and climate services and decision-making on mitigation and adaptation**.
    - urged Parties to enhance the development of climate services, including by **addressing gaps and needs related to systematic observation**;

UNCCC/SBSTA/2019/2

## Was comprehensive

- Was welcomed by the the UNFCCC which
    - Encouraged Parties, UN agencies and international organizations to work towards the full implementation of the IP
    - Emphasized the need to maintain, strengthen and build capacities for climate observations, monitoring and data management
    - Also emphasizes the need to build capacity in developing countries.
- UNFCCC 19/CP.22 (2016)
- Recognised by WMO and WGClimate

## However, the plan:

- Was a large document (315 pages, 201 separate actions)
- Many actions were not “actionable” more demands than specific actions
- Was not compatible with other plans
- No clear priorities
- Not easy to understand what was needed overall

- Target – Submission to UNFCCC COP in 2022 – at least 2 months before meeting
- We do not want to replicate the approach of the 2016 Plan
- The 2022 Plan should be:
  - More targeted at observing systems – at those who implement it
  - Actions by Observing System NOT by ECV
  - Clear priorities
  - A shorter, more concise document

- We will recruit a consultant as lead author
  - A single author to provide a consistent text
- The “writing team” is really an “editorial board”
- Inputs from the GCOS Status Report, Climate Observations Conference and the GCOS panels
- Review and revision of the ECV requirements in first half of 2021 needs to be completed to provide a starting point.
- Panels will provide technical content – text will be drafted by lead author
- Public review

# Implementation Plan Timeline



# Draft Outline of the Implementation Plan

1. Executive Summary

2. Introduction

3. GCOS Vision

4. ECV

Describe ECV, Significant changes, if any, stewardship, satellite & in situ, accuracy...

Brief summary based on: GCOS Status Report, GCOS Science Conference, IPCC Assessments, Consideration of the climate cycles

5. Main findings on Status of the Global Climate Observing System

6. Improving the Global Climate Observing System

- i. Observations made by/for National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS), (NWP ...)
- ii. Other ocean physics and geochemistry observations
- iii. Observations of the Biosphere
- iv. Global Terrestrial Networks
- v. Observations of Anthropogenic ECV
- vi. Satellite Observations
- vii. Global Climate Data Centres
- viii. How GCOS will support these improvements

7. Summary

Improvements needed targeted by observing system rather than ECV. Section may change and vary to meet the needs of the differing communities.

Thank you



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