

*Welcome to the 12th IGWCO COP Meeting
and the AquaWatch workshop*

Introductory Talk on the IGWCO CoP

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12th Annual IGWCO &
AquaWatch Meeting

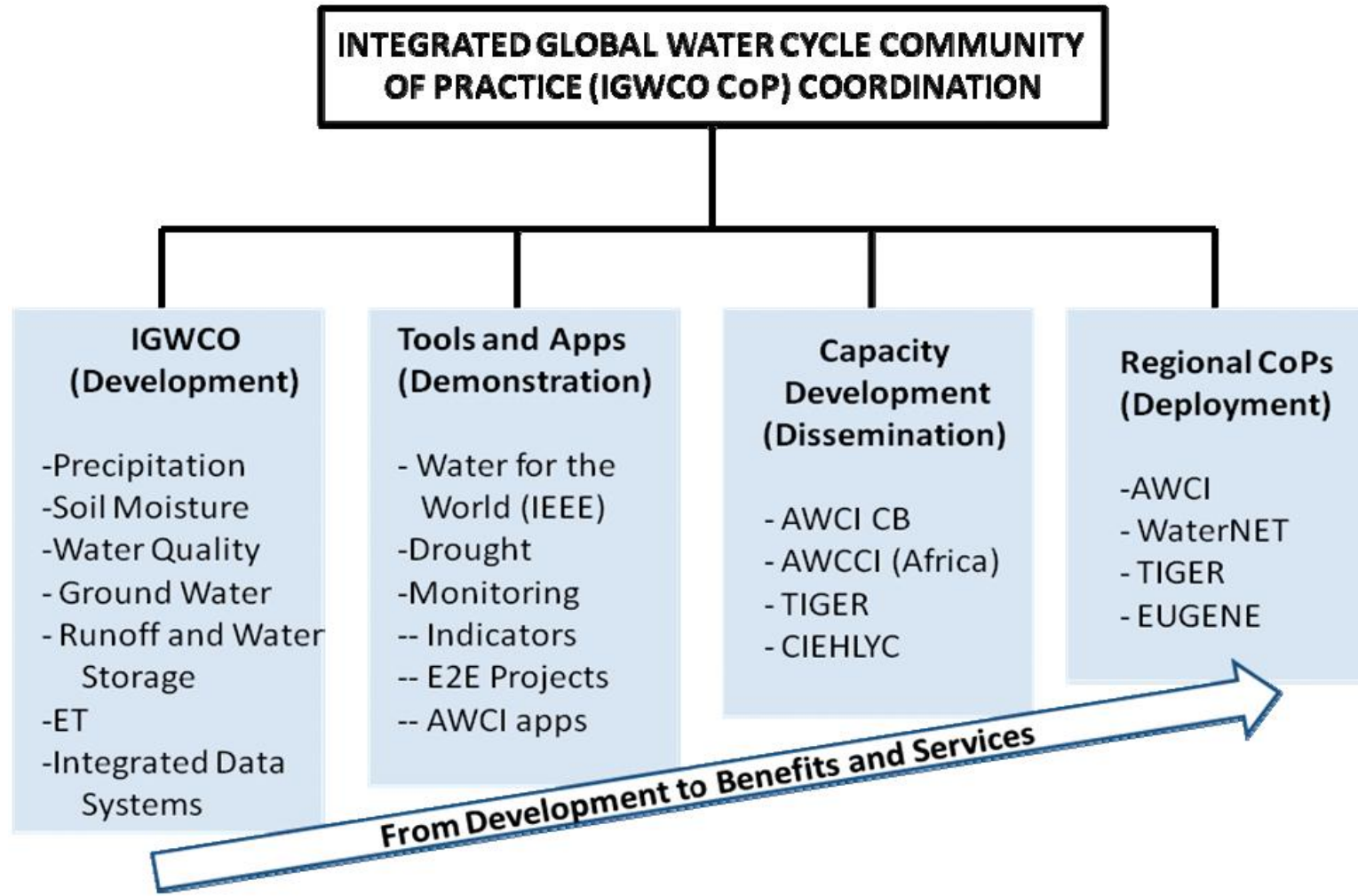
Koblenz, Germany
June 6, 2016

Functions of the Present IGWCO CoP

1. Assists in the coordination of the GEO Water Task
2. Serves as an incubator for new ideas.
3. Contributes to the assessment of the progress of the GEO Water Task.
4. Coordinates the implementation of the GOESS Water Strategy.
5. Develops the User interaction component for GEO Water.
6. Serves as a venue for exchanging information of relevant water activities.

Who can join? Anyone with an interest in water

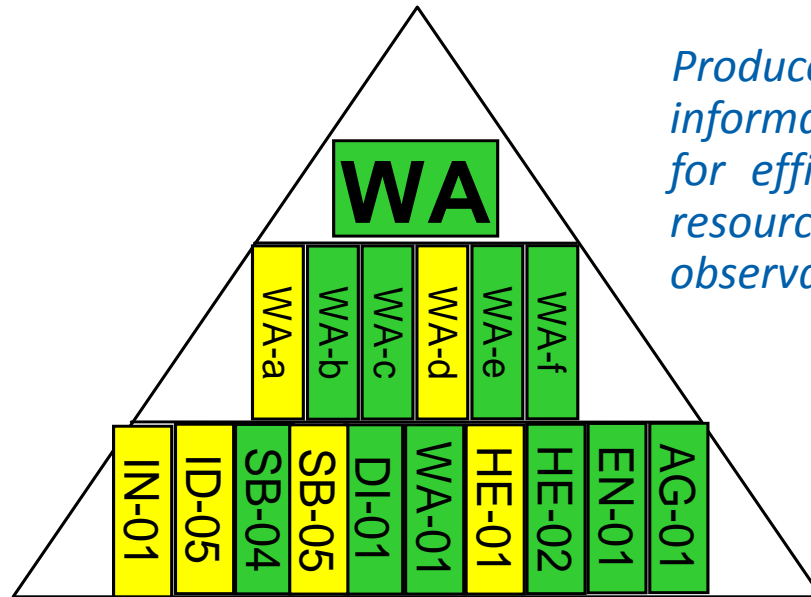
Use the IGWCO (GW?) CoP Structure for Implementation (making changes as needed)



Some achievements of the IGWCO CoP during the past year

- 1) Supported the refinement of the GEOGloWS initiative and assisted in broadening the initiative.
- 2) Members organized a number of workshops in conjunction with GEO Water activities that provided opportunities to present the GEO program and the IGWCO COP activities.
- 3) IGWCO continued to stimulate new activities and track the implementation of the GEOSS Water Strategy.
- 4) IGWCO CoP provided review comments to the GEO Work Plan and made recommendations on the presentation of Water activities in the 2016 Work Plan
- 5) IGWCO CoP provided inputs to CEOS WSIST Study
- 6) IGWCO CoP membership continued to grow

Water (2015)



Produce comprehensive sets of data and information products to support decision making for efficient management of the world's water resources, based on coordinated, sustained observations of the water cycle on multiple scales.

➤ WA3. Although advances have been made, there are many needs and opportunities identified in the GEOSS Water Strategy related to data and information service activities that need to be contributed or funded. GEO Members and Participating Organizations are encouraged to address these challenges

Issues we need to address:

The best way to reduce the number of water community activities

We need to clarify GEO Water activities and their relation to GEOGloWS and the IGWCO CoP role in GEOGloWS

User Engagement role for IGWCO COP

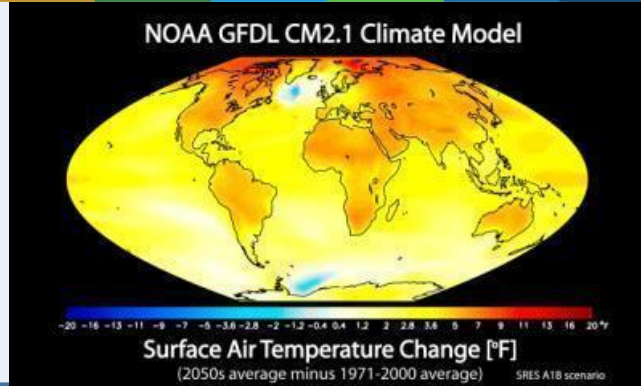
Confirm continued oversight of the GEOSS Water Strategy Implementation

Explore contributions of in-situ measurements in GEO Water

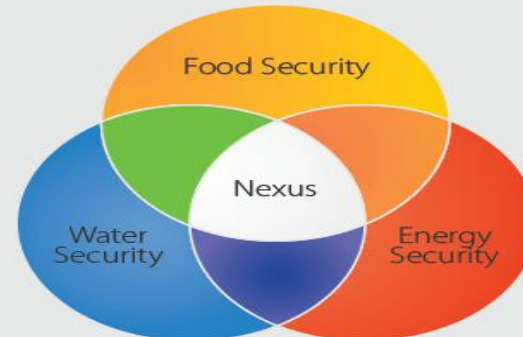
Explore strengthening long-term sustainability of the IGWCO CoP

GEO Global Water Sustainability (GEOGLOWS)

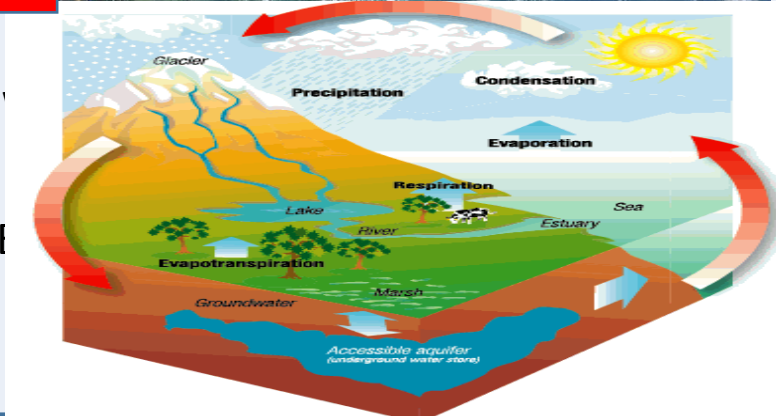
1. Enhancing Global Water Sustainable Development



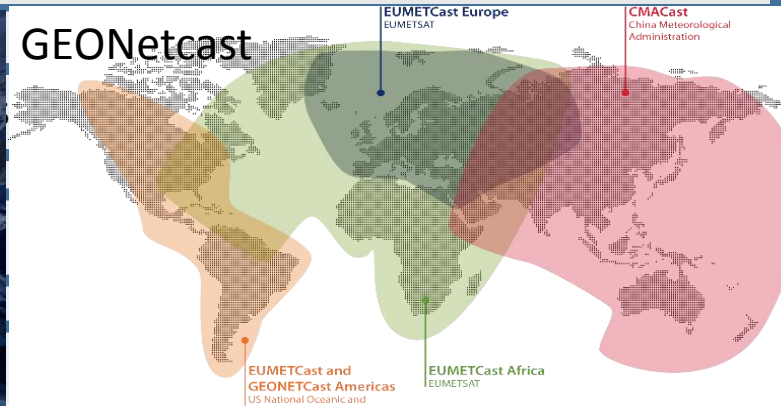
2. Minimizing Basin and Regional Risk



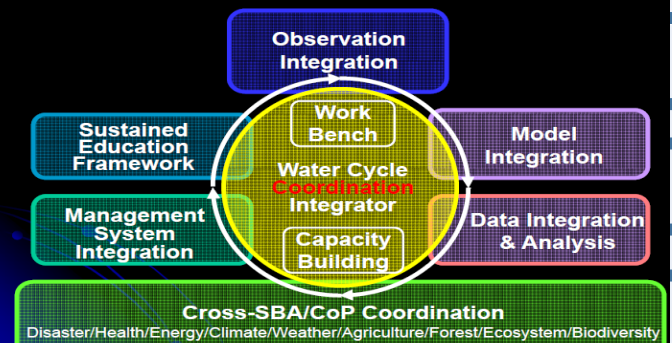
3. Understanding Essential Water Variables (EWV)



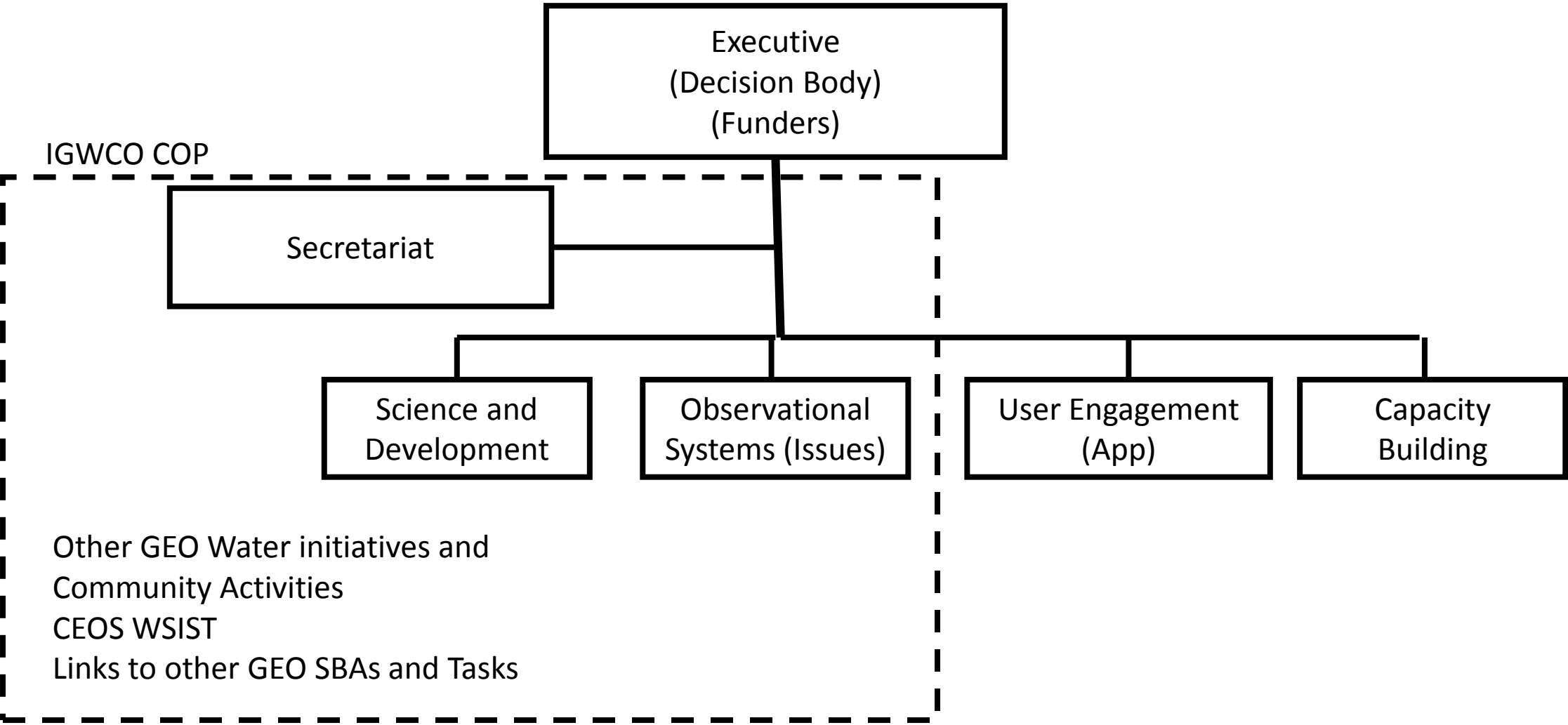
GEONetcast



Integrated & Coordinated Approach



Role of IGWCO COP in Relation to GEOGLOWS



Future:

- All “active” activities are expected to go forward. Most will continue as Community activities. “Activities at rest” will probably be eliminated.
- GDIS will continue to be developed, as a GEO Initiative.
- Cold Regions is expected to expand into a stand-alone initiative
- Potential new initiatives such as GEOGLOWS, Wetlands and Drought.
- New activities anticipated as a result of the developing GEOSS Water Strategy Implementation Plan (through CEOS, GTN-H, others)
- Possible new linkages through a AO GEOSS program

CHALLENGES OF THE 2017-2019 PERIOD

1. Completion of the Implementation Plan for the GEOSS Water Strategy
2. Maintaining engagement of the terrestrial in-situ data networks and centres in soil moisture, streamflow, surface storage and groundwater.
3. Addressing the need to deal with “non-active” elements of the GEO Water Task
4. Need to develop the Earth Observation and WEF activity (through the development of a WEF testbed proposal?) and links to SWFP
5. Support to the monitoring of the UN Water SDG.
6. Continued support to GEO on the water activities.