The Global Observations of Forest and Land Cover Dynamics (GOFC/GOLD) Fire Monitoring and Mapping Implementation Team plans to hold the 2nd workshop on Geostationary Fire Monitoring and Applications on December 4-6, 2006. The workshop will be hosted by the EURopean Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological SATellites (EUMETSAT) in Darmstadt, Germany. The workshop organizing committee encourages the participation of geostationary program managers and representatives from operational agencies, algorithm developers, data providers and users, validation scientists, and GOFC network representatives.

The GOFC/GOLD project provides a forum for international exchange of information, observation and data coordination, and serves as a framework for establishing long-term monitoring systems. The GOFC/GOLD Fire Mapping and Monitoring Theme is primarily focused on determining international observation requirements and making the best use of products from existing and future satellite systems for fire management, policy decision-making and global change research (see http://gofc-fire.umd.edu/index.asp). A specific goal of the GOFC/GOLD-Fire program is to develop and foster the implementation of a near real-time operational global geostationary fire monitoring network using current (GOES, MSG, MTSAT, FY-2C) and future geostationary platforms (INSAT-3D, Russian GOMS-N2/Electro, Korean COMS). This effort supports Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) activities and the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) 2006 work plan which calls for the initiation of “a globally coordinated warning system for fire and monitoring for forest conversion, including the development of improved information products and risk assessment models(DI-06-13)” and expanding “the use of meteorological geostationary satellites for the management of non-weather related hazards (DI-06-09).” Participation is strongly encouraged from countries with new or emerging geostationary fire monitoring capabilities in Eastern Europe, Asia and the Pacific.

Meeting Goals and Objectives:

This workshop serves as a follow-on to the Joint GOFC/GOLD Fire and CEOS LVP Workshop on Global Geostationary Fire Monitoring Applications held at EUMETSAT in March 2004. One of the primary goals of this workshop is to assess progress made since the last workshop and discuss ongoing activities and plans for the development, implementation, validation and application of regional and global geostationary fire products. The primary workshop deliverable will be a report outlining the major conclusions, accomplishments, and future plans. Specific objectives and topics of discussion include the following:

1.) assess the status of current geostationary satellite sensors and capabilities for active fire detection and pre- and post-fire monitoring applications;

2.) survey current distribution of geostationary DB stations generating fire products;

3.) review and exchange experiences in geostationary algorithm development activities, product generation and distribution;

4.) discuss current and future applications of geostationary fire products (e.g. air quality, hazards, real-time aerosol model data assimilation, fire dynamics modeling, global change research, etc.);

5.) review progress in geostationary fire product validation;
6.) assess progress in satellite data fusion and inter-use for fire monitoring and analysis;
7.) review the status of the Geostationary Demonstration Project recommended in 2004;
8.) assess progress towards a coordinated near real-time global geostationary fire monitoring applications system;
9.) discuss future geostationary fire capabilities.

Workshop Format:

The format of the workshop will consist of plenary and discussion sessions. Plenary sessions will include both invited and contributed oral presentations addressing the specific objectives and topics of the workshop. There will also be an opportunity to present posters.

Abstract Submission and Registration Information:

If you wish to give an oral or poster presentation at the workshop, please submit a short abstract (200 words or less) by September 15, 2006, and indicate whether you would prefer an oral or poster presentation (or both). Please email your abstract to Yves Govaerts and Elaine Prins.

All attendees must submit a registration form to Elaine Prins by October 15, 2006 via email or fax.

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