



# **Building a Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS)**

**Geospatial World Forum Rotterdam, The Netherlands** 

12 May 2013

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## The Group on Earth Observations (GEO)

**Earth Observation Summit** 







#### **GEO Vision**

To realize a future wherein <u>decisions</u> and <u>actions</u>, for the benefit of humankind, are informed by coordinated, comprehensive and sustained Earth observations and information.





## **GEO Objectives**

- Improve and Coordinate Observation Systems
- Advance Broad Open Data Policies/Practices
- Foster Increased Use of EO Data and Information
- Build Capacity





Created in 2005, to develop a coordinated and sustained Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) to enhance decision making in nine Societal Benefit Areas (SBAs)

**GEO** today:

90 Members

**67 Participating** 

**Organizations** 







#### **67 Participating Organizations**

































































































































### **Broadening Stakeholder Engagement**

- GEO Plenary (Nov. 2012, Brazil) approved private sector involvement.
- The private sector includes commercial companies, foundations, development banks – i.e. any nongovernmental entities.
- Commercial companies working along the entire value chain – data providers, value-added information products and services, and downstream (SBA) users.





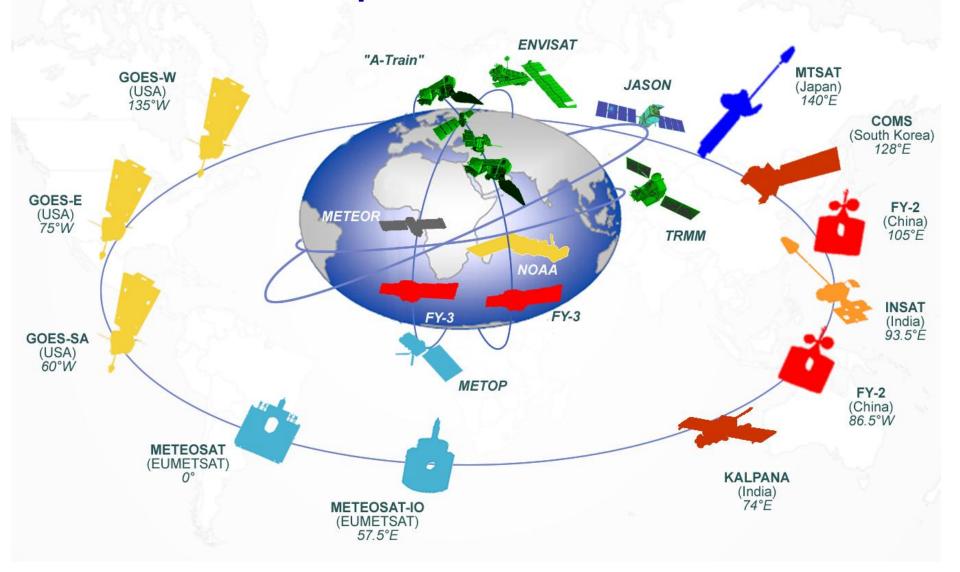
#### A Global, Coordinated, Comprehensive and Sustained System of Observing Systems







## **Space-based Assets**





### *In-situ* Systems







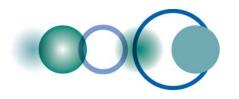
# **GEOSS Targeted Gaps**



- 1. Uncertainty over continuity of observations
- 2. Large spatial and temporal gaps in specific data sets
- 3. Eroding or little technical infrastructure in many parts of the world
- 4. Lack of relevant processing systems to transform data into useful information
- 5. Limited access to data and associated benefits in developing world
- 6. Inadequate data integration and interoperability
- 7. Inadequate user involvement







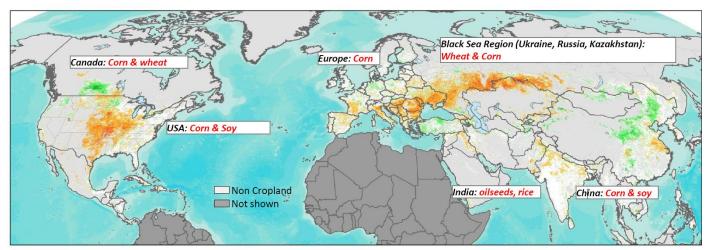
# **Crop Information for Decision-Making**

(Canada, China, EC, France, Japan, Kazakhstan, India, Mexico, Russia, USA, CEOS, FAO)





Northern Hemisphere NDVI Crop Anomaly, August 13th, 2012



-0.4 0 0.4
Worse than normal Better than normal

- Observed highlights:
- Drought conditions persist in US, south eastern
   Ukraine, Russia, and Kazakhstan, with slight
   improvement in some areas in northern Kazakhstan
- Rains in India mitigate dry conditions

\* GEOGLAM part of G20 Action Plan on Food Price Volatility

GEOGLAM

- \* New crop outlook
- \* Rice crop monitoring
- \* Draft space strategy

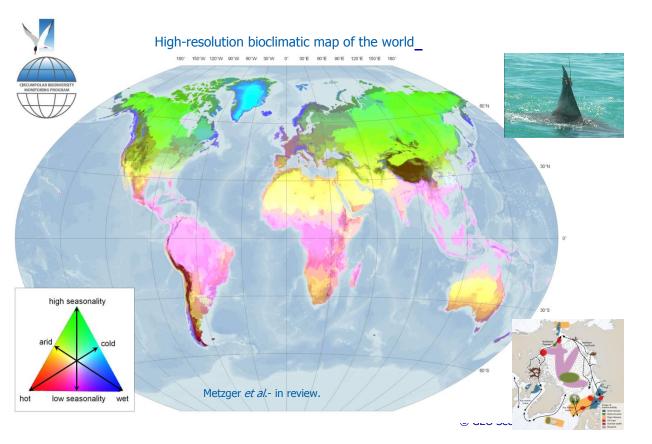


#### **GEO BON**



## **GEO Biodiversity Observation Network**

(France, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, South Africa, USA, Diversitas, GBIF, IUCN)

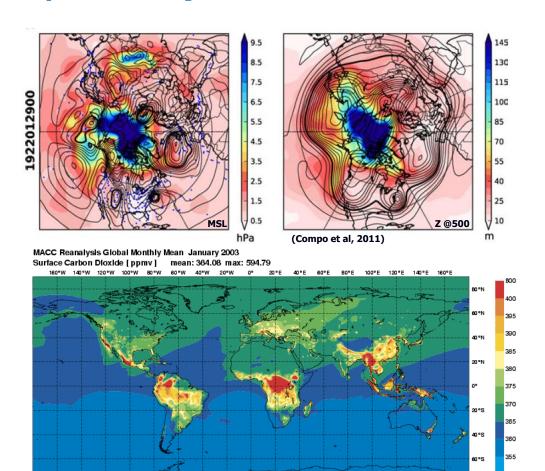


- \* Response to CBD
- \* Essential Biodiversity Variables (EBVs)
- \* Global high-res bio-climatic map
- \* Arctic and French Biodiversity Networks
- \* Strong outreach





# Climate Change Detection (EC, Japan, USA, ECMWF, GCOS, WCRP)



Numerous reanalysis projects underway:

- \* JRA-55 (1958-2012)
- \* ERA-Interim (1979-1988)
- \* MACC (2003-2010)
- \* ERA-CLIM (20th century)
- \* NCEP Reanalysis-Lite (1948-2010)

Most datasets available online (e.g. ERA-Interim)



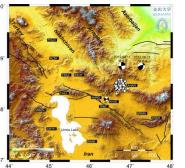


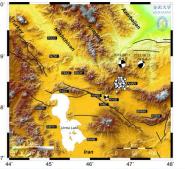
## **Rapid & Open Disasters Information**

(Germany, Italy, Japan, Turkey, USA, CEOS, EPOS, ESA)



SUPERSITES





**EVENT SUPERSITES** OTHER EVENTS



esa





**UNAVCO** 

- \* Hawaii Supersite fully operational
- \* 3 new Supersites (Europe)
- \* Supersites selection & definition
- \* In-situ and space data
- \* All data online

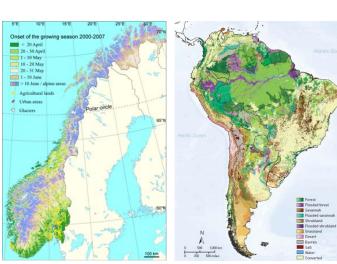






# **Ecosystem Classification & Mapping**

(Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, China, EC, Italy, Paraguay, USA, RCMRD, UNESCO)











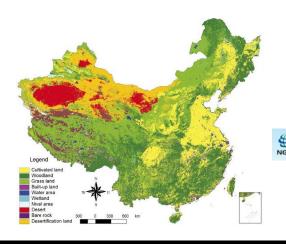
- \* SHARE mountain stations operational
- \* All ecosystem mapping data available; DataCORE
- \* New maps of growing season
- \* Atlas of 40 Chinese World Heritage Sites
- \* Decision-making support: ABCC program





#### **Advanced Land-Cover Products**

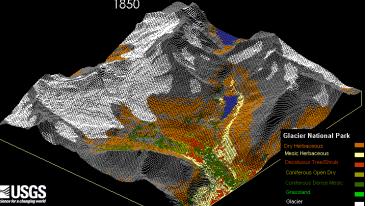
(Canada, China, EC, Greece, Japan, Netherlands, Nigeria, Spain, Sweden, UK, USA, Spain, EEA, ESA, GTOS, ISPRS)

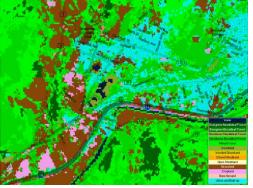






- \* Major land cover types (eg. wetland)
- \* Independent validation databases
- \* Global Land Cover Portal
- \* Growing int'l consensus





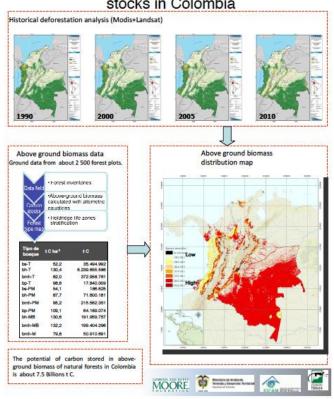


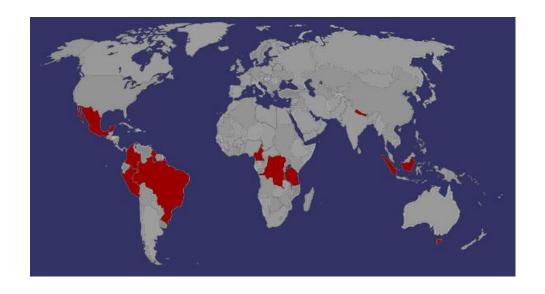




# GFOI -- Forest Monitoring and Carbon Tracking from demonstration to implementation of an operational framework to support Countries

Estimation of above ground carbon stocks in Colombia



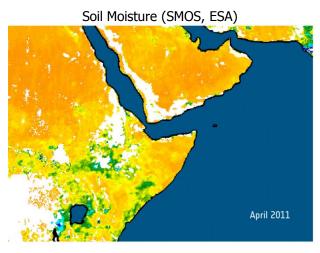


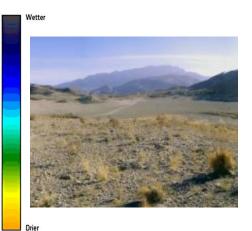




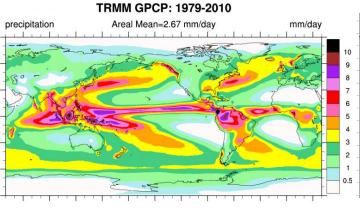
### **More Water Information**

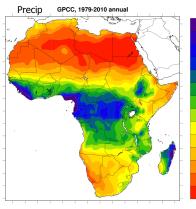
(Austria, EC, Germany, Japan, USA, CEOS, ESA, WCRP, WMO)





- \* Global high-res precipitation datasets 1979-2010
- \* New SMOS products & soil moisture datasets 1978-2010
- \* Satellite data validation
- \* Global Drought Information System underway
- \* Asian/African Water Cycle Initiative



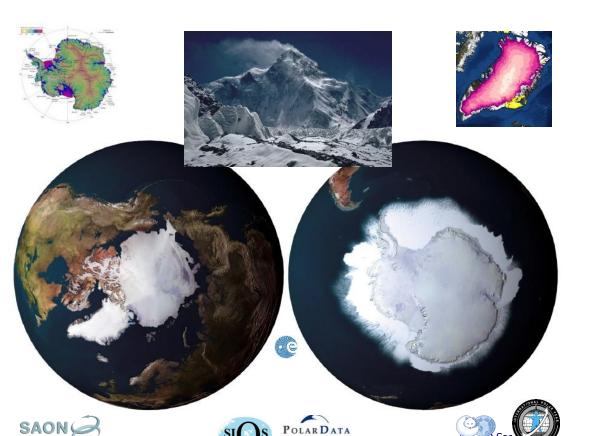






# **Cold Regions Monitoring**

(Canada, China, Denmark, Germany, Norway, India, Italy, Japan, Spain, USA, ICIMOD, IEEE, WCRP, WMO)



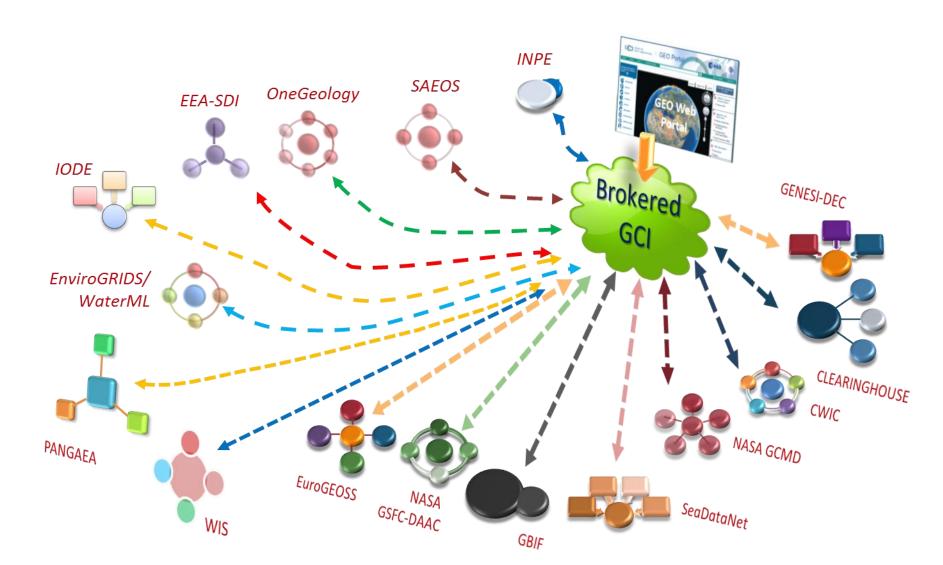
- \* CryoClim climate monitoring service
- \* Svalbard Integrated Arctic Earth Observing System
- \* Sea-ice ECV for Arctic/ Antarctic snow-cover
- \* Focus on Tibetan Plateau
- \* Glacier dynamics mapping



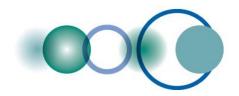




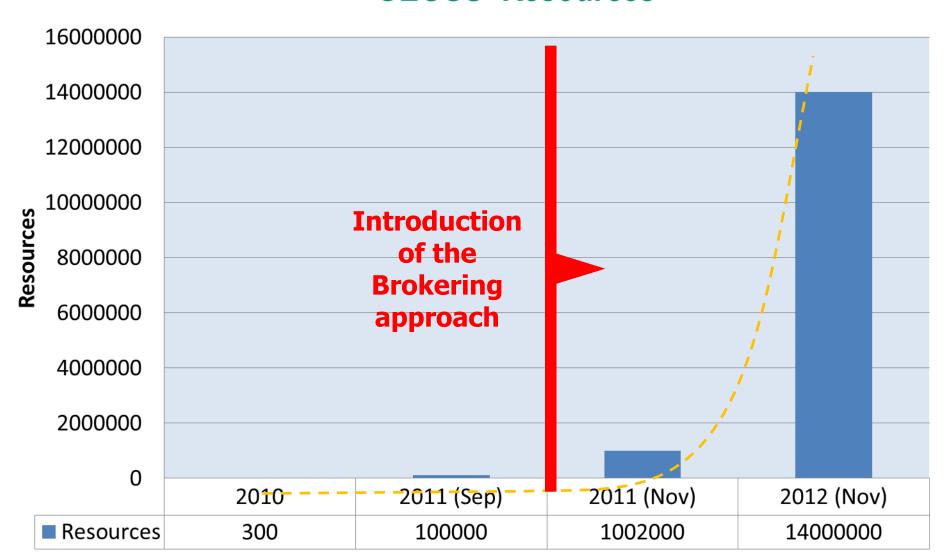
## **Interoperability Brokers**







#### **GEOSS Resources**







## GEOSS Implementation requires: Data Sharing Principles

Full and Open Exchange of Data

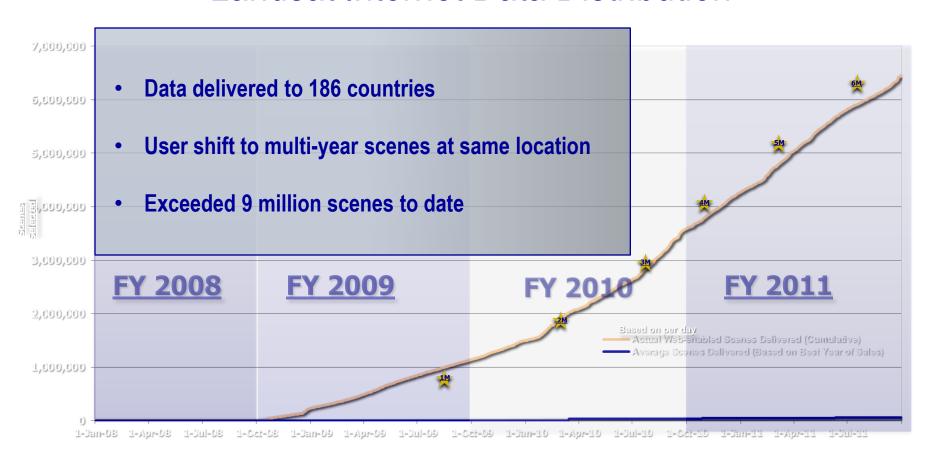
 Data and Products at Minimum Time delay and Minimum Cost

Free of Charge or Cost of Reproduction





#### **Landsat Internet Data Distribution**



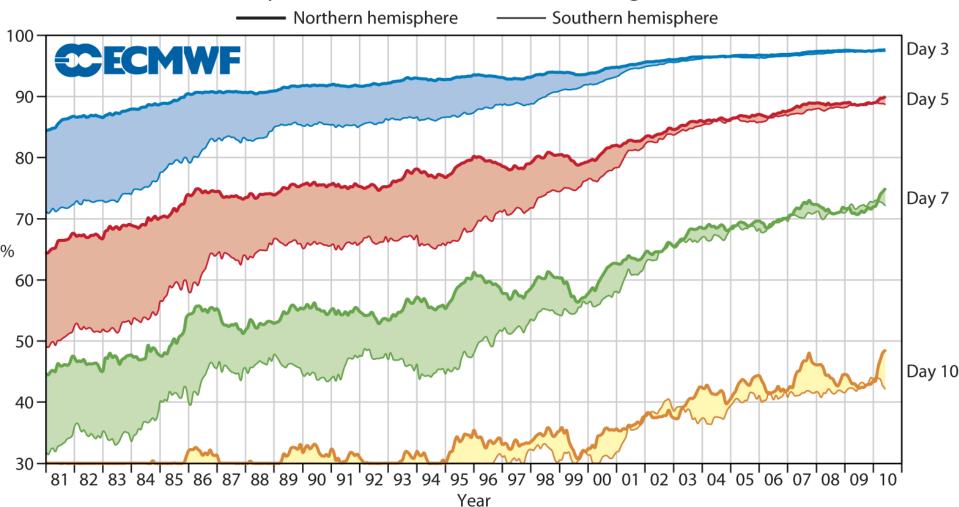
Daily Average = 53 scenes for best year of sales (2001) Daily Average  $\approx 5,700$  scenes of web-enabled data delivered





#### **Advances in Global and Regional Weather Forecasts**

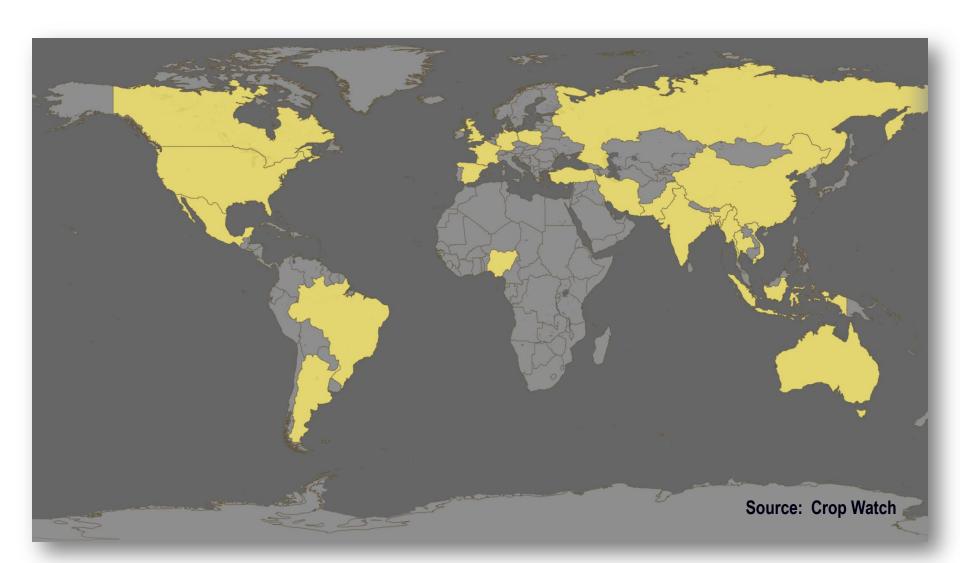
Anomaly correlation of ECMWF 500 hPa height forecasts





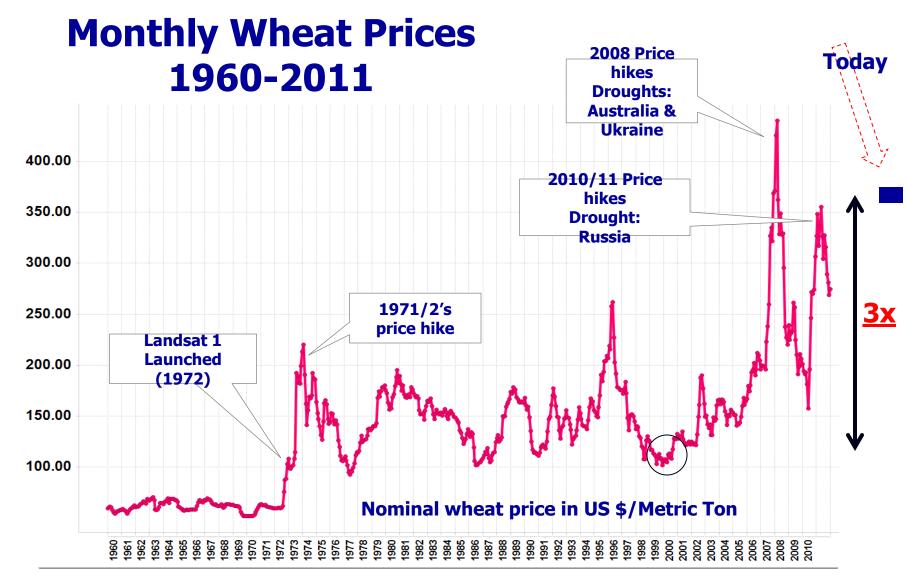


#### 25 COUNTRIES PRODUCE OVER 80% OF WORLD CROPS









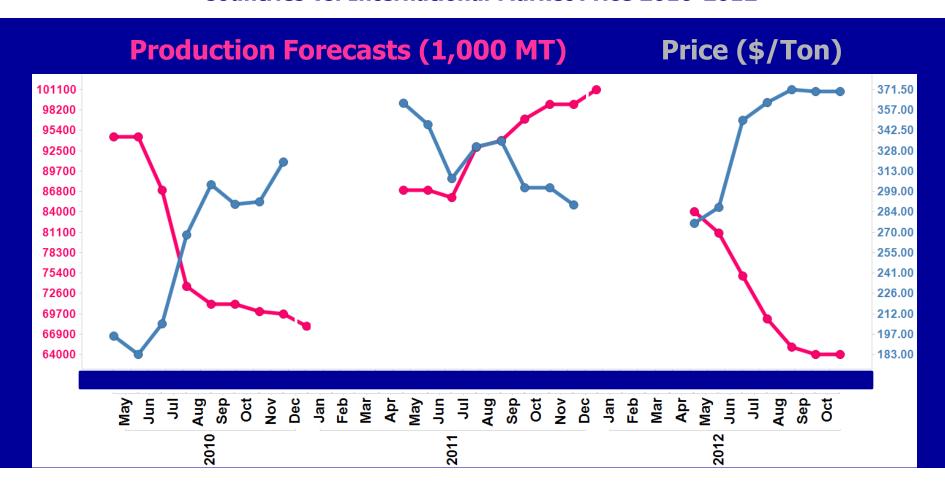
**Source: World Bank** 





#### Making the case for improved crop forecasts

Aggregation of Wheat Production Forecasts from Main Wheat Export Countries vs. International Market Price 2010-2012







# **Summary**

International collaboration essential to leverage national investments

Broad, open data policies are needed for market growth

- GEO is achieving results on both these fronts
- While much has been accomplished, more needs to be done and with broader engagement



http://www.earthobservations.org

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