

Canada

Environment Environnement Canada



Space Activities and Priorities Environment Canada

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Outline

- EC Context
- Space Activities in EC
- EC Priorities
- Space Policy Framework





Environment Canada's Mandate

- Preserve and enhance the quality of the natural environment, including water, air, soil, flora and fauna
- Conserve Canada's renewable resources
- Conserve and protect Canada's water resources
- Forecast daily weather conditions and warnings, and provide detailed meteorological information to all of Canada
- Enforce rules relating to boundary waters
- Coordinate environmental policies and programs for the federal government

A <u>safe</u>, <u>clean</u> and <u>sustainable</u> environment today, tomorrow and well into the future.



EC Context

- Broad and diverse scope of activities
 - <u>environment</u>- land, water, air, flora, fauna
 - geographic large monitoring and stewardship responsibilities
 - roles science, operations, policy and regulations, enforcement
- High use of space capabilities
 - emphasis on access and exploitation of EO data to address data gaps
 - also a user of telecom and navigation services
- EC is the GoC largest user of satellite EO
 - mission-critical dependence on foreign and Canadian missions
 - image and <u>non-image</u> data



EC Context (2)

- Continuum of activity in EO
 - activities science, applied research, technology transfer, operations
 - <u>roles</u> requirements, mission definition, ground segment operations, exploitation
 - scope user, investigator, instrument, mission, program
- Space is more than just hardware in orbit
 - mission operations, data policies, ground segment, value-added processing, end-user capabilities
- EC has a proven track record of operationalization of EO





EC Space Activities – S&T

- Satellite Data Assimilation
 - data assimilation into Numeric Weather Prediction models
 - physical, air quality, surface variables
 - wide variety of operational and research satellites
- Climate and Atmospheric Processes
 - requirements, instrument validation, process understanding
 - e.g, clouds, precipitation, snow and ice retrievals
 - wide variety of research satellite data
- Air Quality and Atmospheric Chemistry
 - assimilation into global troposphere-stratospheric chemical-meteorological models
 - UV forecasts, AQ forecasts, reverse modeling
 - ozone, aerosols, GHG from various research satellites







EC Space Activities – S&T

- Ecosystem Assessment and Monitoring
 - vegetation and disturbance land cover mapping
 - species at risk critical habitat
 - assessment of ecological services
 - high and medium resolution optical data, RADARSAT
- Inland Waters
 - surveillance of water colour, biologic activity, water quality, sediment transport
 - medium resolution multi- and hyper-spectral imagery
- Coastal Sensitivity Mapping and Emergency Pollution Incident Preparedness
 - classification of shoreline materials
 - Airborne video, RADARSAT







EC Space Activities - Operations

- Weather Forecasts and Warnings
 - 1.5M forecasts, 10k severe weather warnings
 - aviation, marine and ice
- Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP)
 - near-real time global data
 - 15-20 satellites, 4M+ obs/day assimilated
 - 90% of obs are space-based
- Sea Ice Monitoring and Forecasts
 - 2000+ ice charts, 400-500 warnings/yr
 - RADARSAT and other SAR satellites, meteorological missions
 - in partnership with Canadian Coast Guard





Satellite Information and MSC Applications

Created by the Satellite Product Working Group (SPWG) Last update: 2014.02.12.

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EC Meteorological Applications

Satellite Missions Inventory (2014)

16 current 10 future + space-based derived products from other centres

EC Space Activities - Operations

- SAR Winds
 - surface wind speed retrieval over water
 - 2013 operational for marine forecasts and warnings
 - RADARSAT and other SAR
- Pollution Detection and Deterrence
 - ISTOP Integrated Detection and Tracking of Polluters
 - aircraft, RADARSAT and other SAR
- Environmental Emergency
 - Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre Dorval
 - plume analysis and reverse modeling (CBRN)
 - oil spill detection and response
 - met, optical, RADARSAT and other SAR







EC Satellite Reception Operations

- EC Satellite Reception Network
 - 10 Geostationary (GOES)
 - 4 Polar Orbiting (POES)
 - operational data exchange within WMO global network
- Other data supply arrangements
 - e.g., NOAA, EUMETSAT, WMO
- Preparation for Next-Generation Met Missions – 2017-2020
 - JPSS, GOES-R, Post-EPS



The Future - EC Space Priorities

- Activities
 - <u>Maintain</u> space capabilities to support current programs
 - <u>Transition</u> demonstrated applications into operations
 - <u>Enhance</u> integration into policy, regulatory, compliance monitoring
- Capabilities
 - Weather and Climate variables (modeling)
 - Water quality and quantity
 - Ecosystem Assessment and Monitoring
 - The North
 - Greenhouse Gases
 - Air Quality
 - Climate monitoring







Priority on Partnerships

- Partnerships are essential to meet EC requirements
 - federal, academia, industry
 - international
 - research space agencies NASA, ESA, …
 - operational space agencies NOAA, EUMETSAT, …
 - WMO Space Programme
 - Group on Earth Observation (GEO)
 - user communities
 -
- Benefits to EC
 - access to essential EO data Canadian and global
 - influence missions to address Canadian requirements
 - leveraging Canadian and international investments in science and technology

Space Policy Framework

- Recognizes the strategic importance of space to Canada
 - strengthens strategic goals and structure of the space program
- Governance
 - higher levels of engagement and decision making welcomed
 - clarifies and increases roles of government departments
 - priority setting, commitments
 - prompting EC to strengthen its internal processes
- Remaining Challenges/Questions e.g.:
 - ensure the full space value-chain is considered in the program
 - how can departments 'Pay-to-Play'?
 - how to harness and support academia to advance government priorities
 - availability of CSA expertise to support departments
 - governance finding the right blend of efficiency and effectiveness
 - others...

Conclusion

- EC is a large, capable, and committed stakeholder in the Canadian space program
 - mission-critical dependencies on Canadian and partner systems
 - end-to-end capability science, technology transfer, operations
 - strong track record of operationalization
- EC has very broad dependencies, opportunities and expectations from space
 - prioritization and choices are required
- EC will work to support the new Space Policy Framework and governance
 - coordinated and prioritized requirements
 - active participation in governance
 - development of viable approaches to 'pay-to-play'

EC Priorities – Extra Slides



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EC Space Priorities (1)

- Green House Gases (GHG)
 - continuous, broad geographic observations of CO_2 and CH_4 in the boundary layer



- Air Quality (AQ)
 - measurements of key AQ species near the surface (O₃, NO₂, SO₂, HCHO, CO, aerosol)
 - limb measurements of vertical profiles of key AQ species (O₃, NO₂, aerosol) in the upper troposphere and stratosphere
 - measurements of stratospheric O₃ to better predict surface-UV



EC Space Priorities (2)

- Weather and Climate Variables
 - for process studies and assimilation into NWP
 - atmospheric tropics and polar regions
 - temperature and humidity (via radiances, GNSS radio-occultation, other limb-sounding)
 - winds image motion or active measurement
 - aerosol optical depth
 - snow
 - a major weather/climate variable and a large observation gap
 - falling precipitation and snow-on-ground
 - surface variables
 - land surface temperature and spectral emissivity
 - surface water extent, soil moisture
 - sea surface temperature –diurnal variation
 - sea-ice fraction and thickness



Cryospheric processes are more complex and have longer time scales than in tropics.



EC Space Priorities (3)

- Climate
 - monitoring
 - Essential Climate Variables (ECVs), Satellite Data Records (SDRs) over Canada
 - model development and validation
 - broad range of atmospheric climate variables, composition, surface characteristics
 - long, homogeneous observational data sets
- Water
 - Productivity assessments of coastal and inland water ecosystems
 - surface water height/extent, soil moisture, ice jams
 - monitoring capabilities for regional water quality; water clarity and harmful algal blooms (NRT detection and long term monitoring)
 - monitor river plumes, erosion, and storm events







EC Space Priorities (4)

- Ecosystem Assessment and Monitoring
 - Essential Biodiversity Variables (EBVs), Essential Ecosystem Variables (EEVs)
 - monitor and assess habitat/ecosystem change, provision of ecosystem services
 - e.g., disturbance, land cover, wind, snow, precipitation, sea-ice formation, Normalized Difference Vegetation Index, digital elevation, soils, phenology
 - Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program



EC Space Priorities (5)

- The North
 - region of growing interest
 - environmental change
 - economic development
 - scientific importance
 - seeking space-based solutions to high cost and logistical challenges of the region
 - extension of full range of EC science, operations and services
 - support to Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS)
 - e.g., Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program Arctic Council
 - existing and proposed solutions
 - Canadian and foreign missions
 - operations, research, telecommunications

