Conducting Regional Focus Group Sessions

Australian VLab Centre of Excellence

VLMG-7 Meeting

St. Petersburg, 21 – 25 July 2014

Bodo Zeschke Australian VLab Centre of Excellence Point of Contact

Conducting Regional Focus Group Sessions
Australian VLab Centre of Excellence

Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

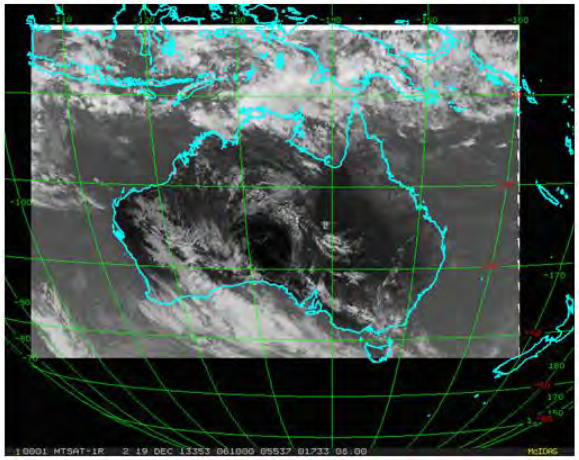
- Our experience in conducting Regional Focus Group Meetings.
- How difficult was it in running the sessions and building an audience
- Do you still face the same challenges after almost a year running these sessions?
- Is the trouble of recording and making the recorded sessions worth doing it?. Can you check how many people access the recordings ?.

Monthly Regional Focus Group Meetings (since October 2013)

Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

HICE MTSAT-IR rapid scan access to data

The first day of data – 19 December 2013 in the infrared channel



images courtesy Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) and Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM)

The past 24 hours ...

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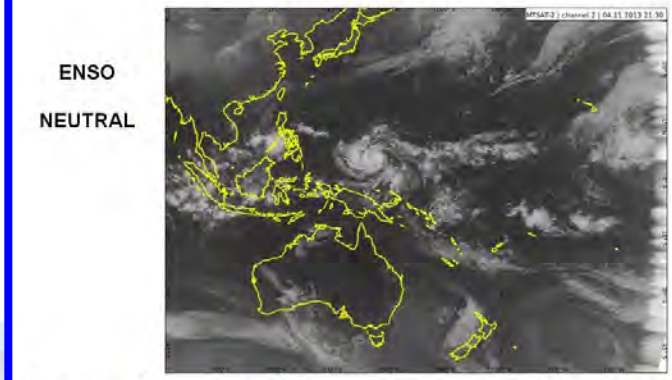
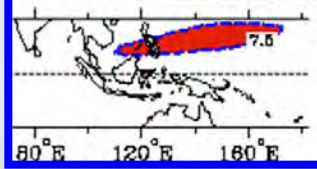
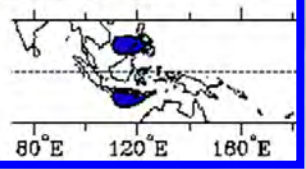




MJO OLR (LHS)
ER=1 OLR (RHS)
6 November 2013



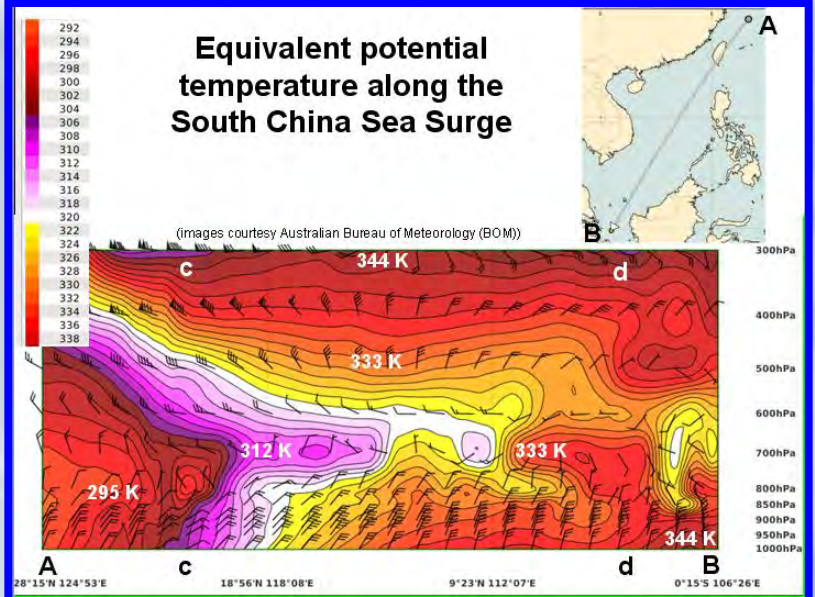
MONITORING OF ASH-CLOUD FROM MOUNT SINABUNG AND MOUNT MERAPI ERUPTION 18 November 2013

MOUNT SINABUNG – NORTH SUMATERA
Coord. : 3°10'12"N 98°23'31"E

MOUNT MERAPI – YOGYAKARTA
Coord. : 7°32'26.99"S 110°26'41.34"E

Remote Sensing Division
Indonesia Meteorological, Climatological, and Geophysical Agency

Equivalent potential temperature along the South China Sea Surge

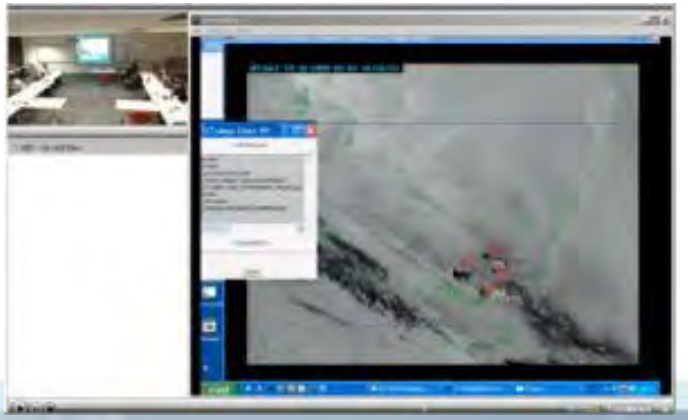


(images courtesy Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM))

Question – how difficult was it to start running the sessions and building an audience ?

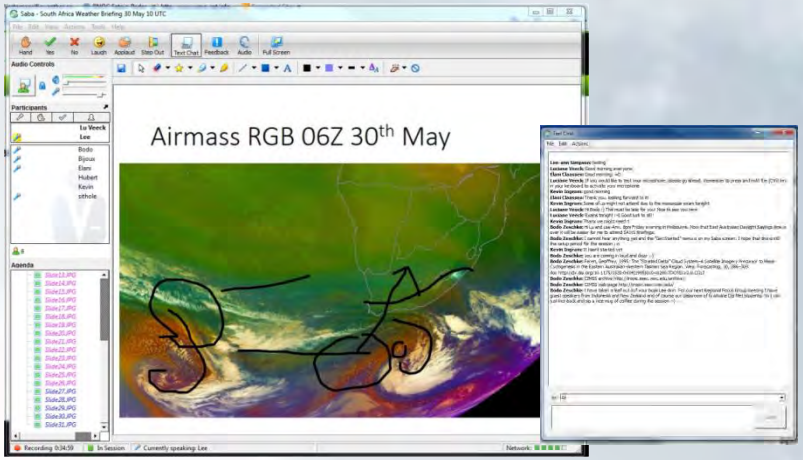
Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

Bureau of Meteorology Training Centre

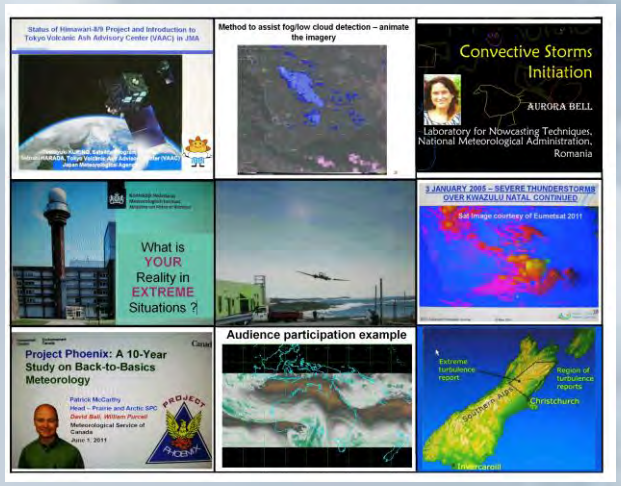


VisitVIEW sessions with JMA

(Advanced Forecaster Course)



Participating in existing RFG meetings (SAWS)



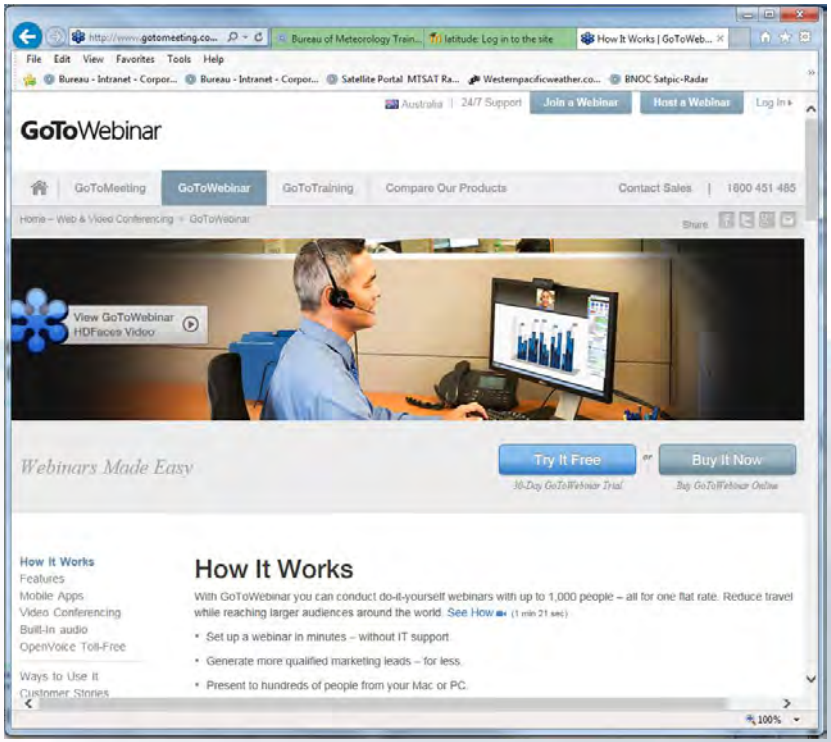
GoToWebinar sessions

(Advanced Forecaster Course)

Collaboration with BMKG Indonesia - The Training Course on Meteorological Satellite Data Applications 12-17 June

Question – how difficult was it to start running the sessions and building an audience ?

Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology



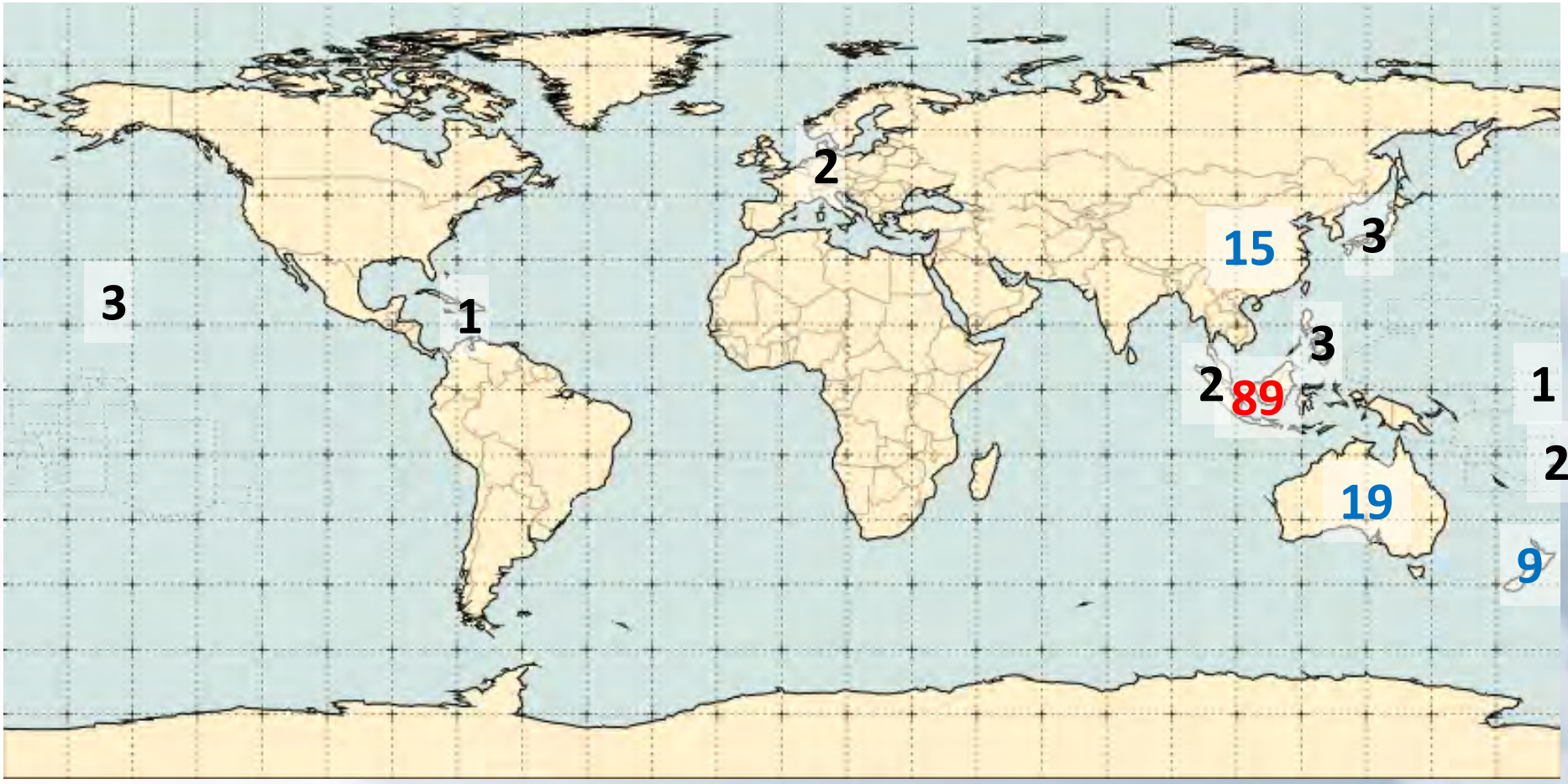
Reliable, versatile, easy to use and appropriate Web Conferencing Software (GoToWebinar)

Updating and improving the Australian Vlab Centre of Excellence web page

RFG preparations

- Session advertised on Australian VLab Centre of Excellence web page, VLab Calendar. Information of the session forwarded to a list of email addresses.
- Prospective presenters contacted and asked to participate.
- Practise GoTo Webinar sessions are organised and conducted with the presenters. Some presenters had given a mock presentation and asked for my constructive feedback. This was very useful in order to give the presenters confidence.
- For the joint Classroom / Online RFG meetings it was necessary to have a classroom coordinator. It was important to have at least 30 minutes time to set up the session.
- Once the session started it was important to check audio, visual, drawing and communication tools with the remote audience.

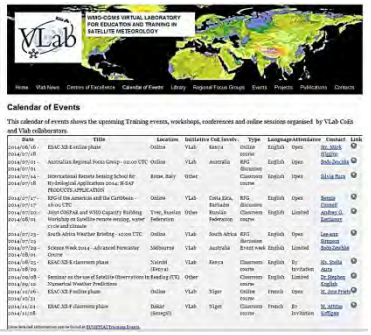
Remote attendees to our April, May, June and July 2014 Regional Focus Group meetings

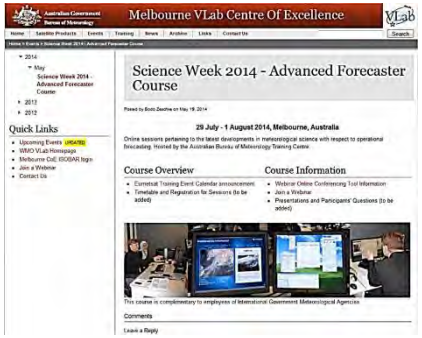


Question: Do you still face the same challenges after a year (or so) running these sessions?

Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

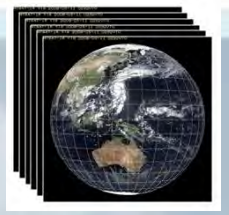
- Advertising





VLab News (website)
VLab Facebook page
Eumetsat Tweeter
WMO Tweeter

- Bandwidth

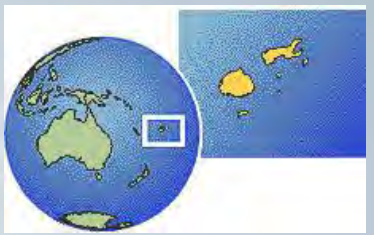


- Presentations

Australia
BMKG Indonesia
Met Service New Zealand
Japan Meteorological Agency

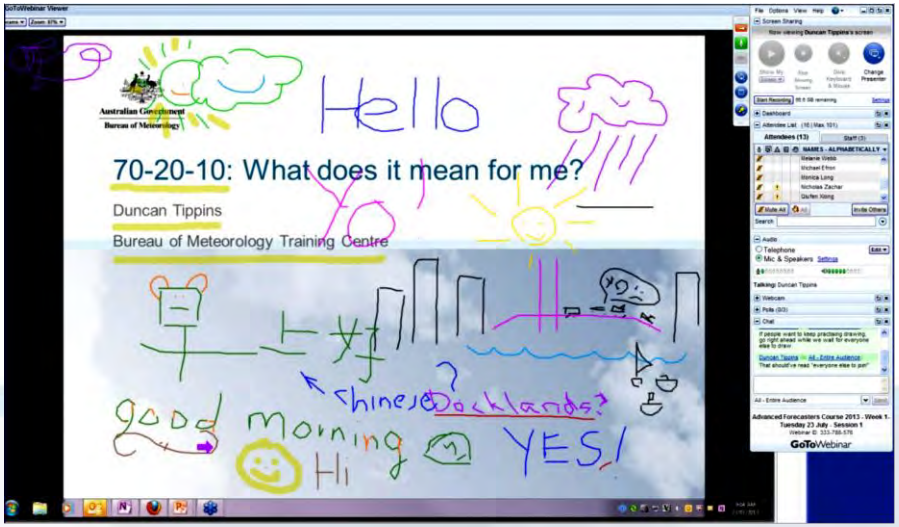
Others ?

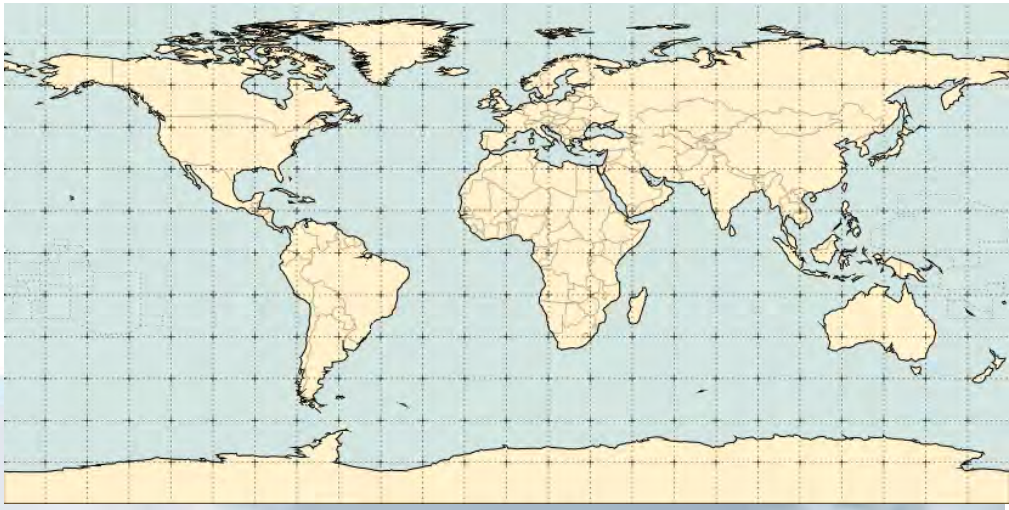
- Viewing of web page

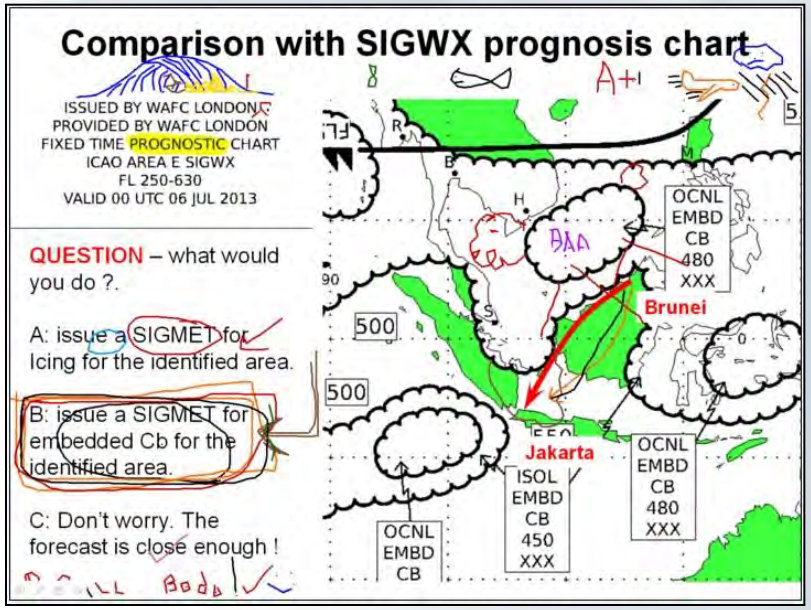


Ongoing Challenges – Audience Participation

(playful engagement, individual engagement, answering questions, pre-course work)







New Challenges - Enabling Skills – Foundations for Training

Satellite Skills and Knowledge for Meteorologist Forecasters

Interpretation of satellite imagery is not an end in itself but contributes to higher order forecaster competencies. In particular, it forms part of "Analyse and continuously monitor the weather situation" and "Forecast … phenomena and parameters".

Thus we have designated the satellite interpretation requirements as contributing skills rather than as competencies in their own right

Satellite interpretation skills

Interpret satellite imagery, data and derived fields to support forecaster competencies, in particular, analysis, diagnosis, prognosis and weather forecasts.

Elements

1. Identify surface features
2. Identify cloud types and their characteristics
3. Identify and interpret atmospheric systems
4. Identify and interpret atmospheric phenomena
5. Interpret derived fields
6. Identify and interpret oceanic features and systems

Application conditions

Satellite interpretation does not happen in isolation. It should always be considered in conjunction with other observation types, numerical guidance and conceptual models. These will provide a context for the interpretation and, in turn, the satellite data contributes to the full analysis.

The performance and knowledge requirements that support these skills should be customised based on the particular context of the organisation, its service requirements and available satellite data. Meteorologists who are in different locations and performing different job tasks will have access to different satellites with different characteristics, varied display and manipulation systems and tools. They will also be dealing with different meteorological systems, phenomena and job tasks.

This document covers the full range of possible skills and knowledge requirements. Any individual will require only a subset of these, according to their needs.

The focus of this document is on meteorological forecasting. Other uses of satellite data, for example, research, oceanography, hydrology, climatology and other specialist areas, need to be considered separately and will be covered in other documents.

Context

In addition to the general competencies of a meteorological forecaster, the following conditions and background skills and knowledge will apply.

General conditions

- Imagery includes single and multiple channels and combinations of channels, including RGB displays, and synthetic satellite imagery from numerical model predictions.
- Satellites include geosynchronous and polar orbiting satellites with passive and active sensing.
- Satellite interpretation does not happen in isolation but occurs within the context of all other observations, guidance and situational awareness

Element 3, Identify and interpret synoptic and mesoscale systems

Description

Identify and interpret broadscale, synoptic and mesoscale atmospheric systems, their characteristics, strength and stage of evolution and deduce atmospheric dynamical and thermodynamical properties

Performance components

For each system, select and apply conceptual models to locate and identify the system, its orientation, strength and stage of evolution, taking into account departures from climatological or idealised models.

Note that a full analysis or prediction involves all available data and guidance and is a higher order competency. The satellite interpretation task is not an end in itself but contributes to this higher level task.

Identify and interpret the following systems. (Categories are not exclusive and some feature relate to more than one category.)

1. **Broadscale systems and features:**
   - Intertropical convergence zones, monsoon and trade wind regimes
   - Westerly regimes with embedded cyclones and anticyclones
   - Polar easterlies and systems
   - Broadscale waves, jet streams, and convergence and frontal zones
   - Zonal, meridional flows, mobile and blocking systems
   - Upper and low level circulations

These are presently being developed by Roger Deslandes (BMTC), Ian Bell, Bodo Zeschke (BMTC), Ian Mills (Eumetsat) and Mark Higgins (Eumetsat)





New Challenges – Classroom / Remote Training Sessions

(already tested during the Regional Focus Group meetings of May and June)

Presenter / Main Coordinator

Local Coordinator

Graduate Diploma of Meteorology Class of 2014

Webinar software

Remote audience (BOM RFC, BMKG, etc….)

Thanks to Vesa for his advice..

Question - Is the trouble of recording and making the recorded sessions worth doing it? (not sure you have any ways to check how many people actually access the recordings?).

Webinar Recording (.wmv file – awkward format)

↓

Expression Encorder (convert into editable wmv file)

↓

Converted wmv file can now be edited using Camtasia Studio

RFG meeting follow up – the recording

Recording of the VLab Regional Focus Group meeting, 1st July 2014 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Bodo Zeschke

Sent: Thu 10/07/2014 10:54 AM

To:

Dear Colleagues

The recording of the Regional Focus Group meeting of the 1st July is on the Australian VLab Centre of Excellence web page at **http://www.virtuallab.bom.gov.au/archive/regional-focus-group-recordings/**

This is a .wmv movie file, and as it is quite large (47 mb) it may be best to download this prior to playing it, in order to avoid bandwidth problems.

The next Regional Focus Group meeting will be held on Tuesday 5th August 2014 at 02UTC. Announcements will be made closer to the time at http://www.virtuallab.bom.gov.au/events/

Regards

Bodo

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email sent with Bcc (blind copy circulated)

RFG follow up – answers to questions

Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

Answers to questions posed at the Australian VLab Centre of Excellence Regional Focus Group meeting of 1st June 2014 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Bodo Zeschke

Sent: Thu 3/07/2014 10:17 AM

To:

Message | InternetCloudServicePlan.jpg (358 KB)

Dear Colleagues

Please find attached a Word document containing the answers to the questions asked by participants at the Australian VLab Centre of Excellence Regional Focus Group meeting of 6th May.

A big "thank you" to Kumagai-san and Bessho-san of the Japan Meteorological Agency for answering the questions pertaining to Himawari 8/9 ☺

I would welcome comments and additional information from the audience.

Regards

Bodo

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email sent with Bcc (blind copy circulated)

Question 1: Are there detailed specifications for acquiring HimawariCast ?.

Answer: JMA would like to announce the more detailed information on HimawariCast in the very near future. Please wait for a while.

Question 2: What will be the estimated computer power (flops) for processing the full set of 10 minute Himawari 8/9 data to images and standard secondary products by users ?

Answer: The amount of full set of 10 minute Himawari 8/9 data is about 2 GB. So you may need the computer power to handle 2 GB data set in 10 min to process them for your own purpose.

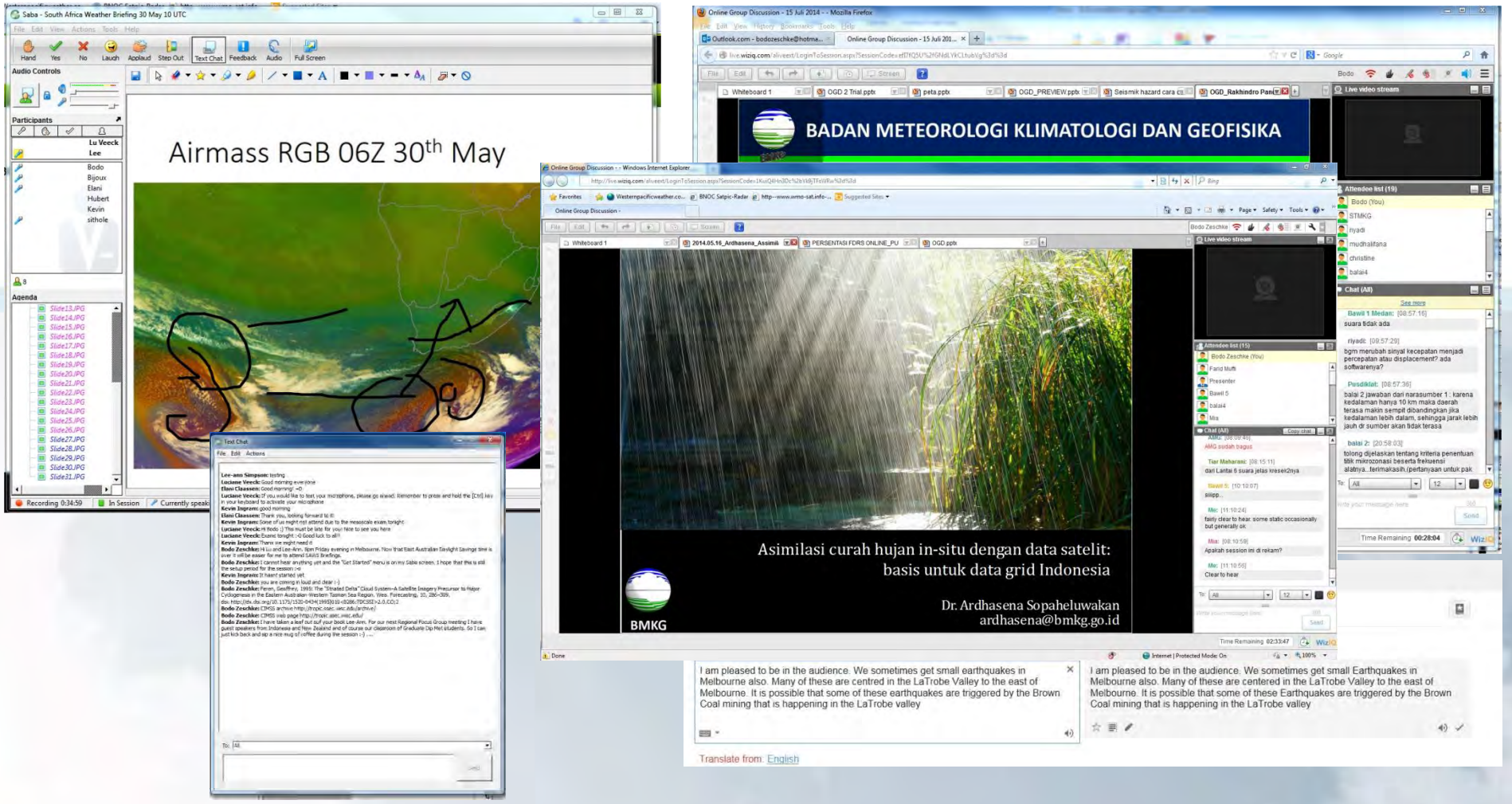
RFG follow up - Certificates of Participation for our Guest RAV presenters

Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

Certificates of our BMKG and Met Service New Zealand presenters

Participating at other RFG meetings

Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology



SAWS RFG meeting

BMKG (Bahasa = Google Translate)

Summary

- Our experience in conducting our first 10 Regional Focus Group Meetings has been presented.
- These required a reliable web conferencing software and a dedicated web page.
- Prior experience in conducting Science Week, etc. training sessions using Webinar. Also joining SAWS RFG meetings for ideas.
- Issues with advertising, bandwidth, presenters, viewing of the web page
- RFG meetings are now joint classroom / online.
- Follow activities mentioned (recording, certificates etc.)