

# COSPAR Capacity Building Program

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### Introduction

- The Committee on space research (COSPAR) was established by the International Council for Science (ICSU) in 1958.
  - COSPAR's main role is to serve as a platform for international exchange of information and cooperation in the various fields of space research, through the organization of Scientific Assemblies, colloquia and symposia, and the publication of a scientific journal (Advances in Space Research) and an information bulletin (Space Research Today).



#### **COSPAR Structure**

- COSPAR is structured in scientific commissions and technical panels, each addressing a specific domain of space research.
  - The Scientific Commission A on "Space Studies of the Earth's Surface, Meteorology and Climate" is one of the most active and numerous commissions. It includes three sub-commissions respectively devoted to atmosphere, ocean and land, and a Task Group on GEO, of which COSPAR is a Participating Organization.



# COSPAR Capacity building and Fellowship program

- COSPAR has developed a series of capacity building workshops and a fellowship program aimed at conveying practical knowledge in areas of interest to COSPAR and at building lasting bridges between scientists.
  - COSPAR Capacity-Building Workshops are held at a rate of about 3 workshops in each two-year period.
     These have as a main objective the encouragement of the scientific use of space data by scientists in developing countries.



# CB Workshops and Associated Fellowship Program

- Any training activity which is related to science covered by one of the eight COSPAR commissions is eligible for support.
  - The fellowship program is open to young scientists who have been participants at one of the COSPAR Capacity Building workshops to enable them to build on skills gained at the workshop. It provides for visits of 2-4 weeks duration for the purpose of carrying out joint research to laboratories that collaborate with COSPAR in providing the fellowship program.



# Past and Forthcoming CB Workshops

- Since its inception in 2001, 19 capacity building workshops have been held in various parts of the world, a large fraction of them covering astronomy and other domains of space physics. However in recent years, a significant effort has been devoted to extending the scope of these workshops in the field of Earth sciences:
  - Regional Workshop for African Oceanographers, 2005, Rabat, Morocco
  - Earth Observation Understanding of the Water Cycle, 2010, Fortaleza, Brazil
  - Remote Sensing of Atmospheric Aerosols, 2011, Delhi, India
  - Advanced Land Surface Characterization, 2011, Cape Town, South Africa
  - Remote Sensing of Global Water Circulation and Climate Change, 2012, Beijing, China
  - Atmospheric Correction of Earth Observation Data 2013, Bangkok, Thailand
  - Indonesian Through Flow, 2014, Bandung, Indonesia

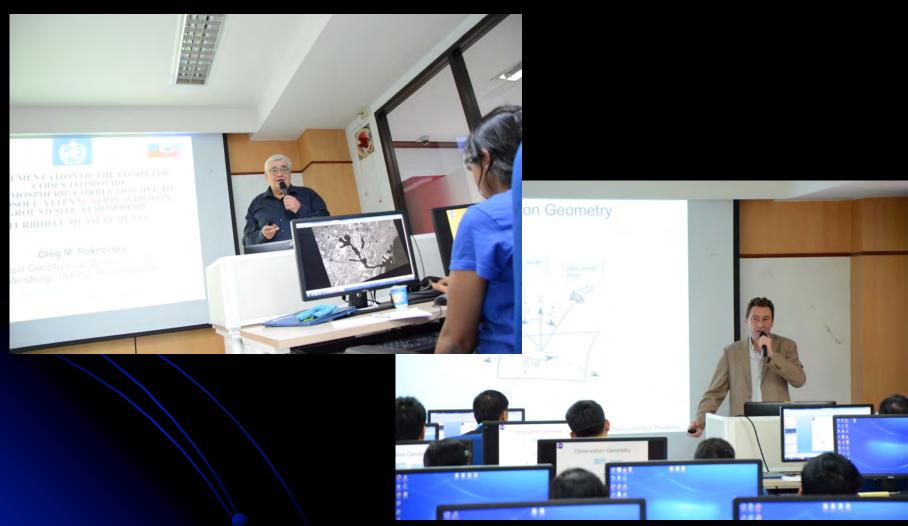


## COSPAR Agreement with WMO SP

- Signed on 21 March 2012 by the Director of the WMO Space Programme and the President of COSPAR
- In view of the mutual interest in training and capacity building related to satellite EO
  - The first co-sponsored event was the Beijing capacity building workshop held in September 2012.
  - The second event involving both organizations was the Bangkok workshop in November 2013.



# The Bangkok CB workshop





#### CB Workshop, Tver', 20 Jul – 1 Aug 2014



Organized in conjunction with the VLab Management Group 7<sup>th</sup> meeting in St-Petersburg (VLMG-7, 22-25 July 2014) and the 40<sup>th</sup> COSPAR Assembly in Moscow (2-10 August 2014), hosted by the State University of Tver, Russian Federation



 Proposed themes for COSPAR-WMO Capacity Building workshop in 2015-2017 period:

see WMO SP presentation & ET-SUP-8 report



#### Conclusions

 General information on COSPAR and its activities, including the capacity building and associated fellowship program, can be found at <a href="http://cosparhq.cnes.fr/">http://cosparhq.cnes.fr/</a>