



WMO-CGMS Virtual Laboratory
for Education and Training in Satellite Meteorology

ACTIVITY REPORT

Period: September 2011 to August 2012
Centre of Excellence: Russian Federation

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE (CoE) AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF VLAB TRAINING ACTIVITIES

What were the major achievements of your CoE during this reporting period?

Roshydromet commissioned and deployed ad-hoc Learning Management System based on Hypermethod's eLearning 3000 software. The system has been installed at the CoE and 5 provincial training centres across the country, and is being currently tested. Three Train-the-Trainer workshops have been ran to learn the system and authorware, two for Roshydromet specialists and one for universities faculty. A number of new modules were launched on Vlab, and first distance learning course was ran within the new LMS system with professional development certificates awarded.

What were the main difficulties of your CoE during this reporting period?

Technical problems related to satellite receiving station and server maintainance; satellite imagery data availability; shortage of manpower resources, mainly technical specialists to maintain server and the receiving station, lack of funding; limitations of the LMS commissioned.

Who provides support in the production of your training materials (e.g. produced by own trainers, support from Satellite Operators, IT staff, University researchers and lecturers, etc)?

Large portion of new training materials usually comes from academic community (Perm State University), also Roshydromet research institutions such as All-Russia Research Institute for Agricultural Meteorology, as was the author of the desertification lectures in 2011-2012.

Is any kind of Learning Management System (e.g. Moodle, Blackboard, etc) used by your CoE to conduce training activities?

LMS Moodle has been incorporated into Vlab website for routine testing; eLearning3000 is being now deployed for a wider range of online training.

Is any kind of Online Conferencing System (e.g. Saba Centra, Blackboard Collaborate, GoToWebinar, etc) used by your CoE to conduce training activities?

eLearning3000 includes ad-hoc online conferencing system which is currently being tested; in 2011-2012, St Petesburg component of the CoE has conducted a survey of online conferencing systems available on the market and ran a number of workshops for academia to conduce training activities online using WebSoft virtual class software

What kind of training is provided to the trainers of your CoE and at what frequency?

During the period reported, three week-long workshops were conducted at Moscow component of the CoE for Roshydromet specialists and university faculty, while St Petersburg component ran a continuous consultation aimed to help local academia to work with online conferencing tools. About 40 trainers has been trained in using the LMS, conferencing tool and authorware at the CoE.

Can you suggest ways for the VLab (including CoEs, Supporting Satellite Agencies, Partner Programmes, WMO Space Programme, VLab Co-chairs and TSO) to provide better support to your CoE?

Support is needed from National Satellite Agency to provide satellite data, knowledge on national satellite programme and systems, promotion of Vlab and CoE on a national and international (CIS) level. WMO Space Programme could initiate an invitation to work closer with the Russian CoE sent to Roskosmos and NPO Planeta. This may concern financial, organizational and technical support aimed to improve the availability of national satellite data and products.

Please use the table below to list any training materials you may have developed over this reporting period:

Title of training material	Type of resource	Availability of resource	Submitted to ESRC
Series of online lectures on desertification	Webcasts	Online, in Russian, at http://meteovlab.meteorf.ru/	No
Series of online lectures on meteorological instruments	Recorded webinars	Online, in Russian, at http://fzo.rshu.ru/content/online	No
Synoptic processes and mid-latitude weather	Recorded webinar	Online, in Russian, at http://fzo.rshu.ru/content/online	No

Is your CoE working closely together with the CoE's sponsoring Satellite Operator/Agency in VLab training activities? Can you suggest ways to improve this collaboration?

Not at the moment.

Please use this space for additional remarks you may wish to make relating to the delivery of training by your CoE.



There is an annual plan of training events which is currently filed for approval at Roshydromet. After approval, the plan is to be printed and sent to Roshydromet regional offices and also published on the CoE website.

Please complete the table in the next page with information about the training events organised by your CoE, as part of VLab activities, during this reporting period.

Alternatively, you may export the information you have entered in the Online Calendar of Events to Excel and just add the post-event information needed (i.e. number of participants and Country of origin of participants). You can then copy and paste your own table to the last page of this report.

Date	Title	Location	WMO region	Host	Type	Language	Number of trainees	Country of origin of trainees
March 2013	Marine Satellite Applications	Kaliningrad, Russia	VI	Baltic Federal University	Course	En, Ru	20	Former USSR
May 2013	Series of online lectures on desertification	Online	All	Vlab	Lectures	RU	Unknown	
August 2013	Remote Sensing Basics	Online	All	Vlab	COMET translation	RU	Unknown	