Proposal for Joint Activity by NSTC Subcommittee on Disaster Reduction, U.S. Group on Earth Observations, and U.S. Global Change Research Program

Opportunity to leverage investments: Connect and leverage the work in GCRP, SDR, and USGEO to simultaneously advance climate adaptation, disaster reduction, and Earth observations.

Opportunity. Connect and leverage the work in GCRP, SDR, and USGEO to simultaneously advance climate adaptation, disaster reduction, and Earth observations. In support of climate adaptation, disaster reduction, and Earth observations, the members of the related NSTC subcommittees—GCRP, SDR, and USGEO—acknowledge that the strategies for mitigating coastal inundation and wildfires as extreme events are the same as the strategies for climate adaptation. If we connect and leverage the work already under way in the three subcommittees, we can coordinate investments in these strategies and get the benefit of true partnership.

Available outcomes. When we connect and leverage the work from GCRP, SDR, and USGEO, we will forward climate adaptation, disaster reduction, and Earth observations in the following ways:

We will coordinate investments that mitigate or adapt to 1) coastal inundation and sea level rise; and 2) wildfires, mudslides, and debris flows.

We will advance relevant projects, especially by 1) Expanding observation networks; 2) Expanding monitoring and forecasting of climate conditions; 3) Developing tools to understand increased inundation and accelerated sea-level rise for infrastructure; 4) Improving intergovernmental response to increased wildfires; and 5) Integrating approaches at the regional level where climate adaptation strategies must occur.

We will make new connections and partnerships, not just between these subcommittees but also within agencies, between agencies, and with new representatives.

We will incorporate relevant initiatives into the President’s Budget FY 2010, an example of expanding work already under way:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relevant Initiatives from the President’s FY 2009 and FY 2010 Budgets</th>
<th>NOAA</th>
<th>USGS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coastal Storms Program ($2.87M)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.csc.noaa.gov/csp/">http://www.csc.noaa.gov/csp/</a></td>
<td>TBD</td>
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</tbody>
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Proposed next step. Set up a combined meeting of the GCRP, SDR, and USGEO leaders and Executive Secretariats to accomplish the following: 1) Learn about the MAX database (offered by Gary Bangs, CENR Executive Secretariat, 202-564-6667); 2) Explore cross-cutting themes and establish a preliminary, coordinated set of strategic recommendations. SDR is...
currently in the process of establishing a Coastal Inundation working group that would benefit from interaction with (and perhaps liaisons from) GCRP and USGEO.