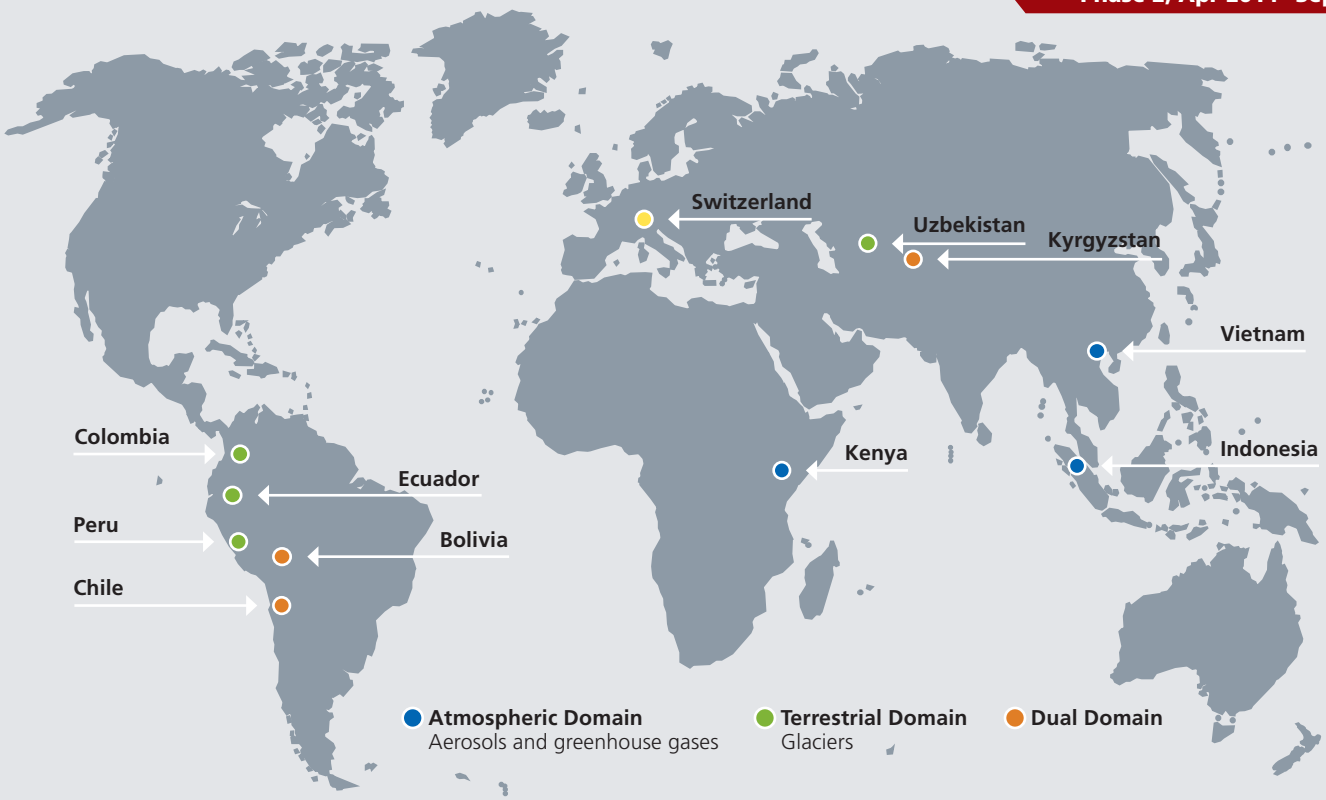
Capacity Building and Twinning for Climate Observing Systems

Project Overview

Phase 2, Apr 2014 – Sep 2016



Improved decision-making on climate change related risks is dependent on a regional network of partners that have become reliable, independent and sustainable climate data providers.

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CATCOS
Capacity Building and Twinning for Climate Observing Systems

High Quality Data Capacity

CATCOS Phase 2 develops capacities in the target countries to monitor the essential climate variables aerosols and greenhouse gases in the atmospheric domain, and glaciers in the terrestrial domain. A dual domain approach complements already established measurements in one domain by work in the other domain. International partners complete training through working stays in Switzerland, regional courses, and twinning with Swiss partners. The resulting high-quality climate data are made freely available at the designated International Data Centers.

Atmospheric Domain	Indonesia, Kenya, Vietnam
Terrestrial Domain	Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Uzbekistan
Dual Domain	Bolivia, Chile, Kyrgyzstan

Cooperation Capacity

In the context of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS), two regional workshops in Africa and South America engage stakeholders in the discussion of regional climate monitoring strategies. A third regional workshop is organized in Central Asia that contributes to the observation pillar of the emerging Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), led by the World Meteorological Organization. This GFCS Observation Workshop brings together data providers, users and decision makers, covering the thematic areas of disaster risk reduction, water and health.

GCOS Regional Workshop	Africa, South America
GFCS Observation Workshop	Central Asia

User Capacity

To ensure sustainable climate observations, CATCOS makes the decision makers in target countries and regions aware of the use and benefits of high-quality climate data. A pilot mobile application for glaciers worldwide links data users with data providers. The map-based interface allows for browsing glaciers with available observations and illustrates information for the decision-making process at the local, regional, and global level. Country visits and station inaugurations with high-level local and national representatives are organized after each successful implementation to highlight the benefits of the enhanced climate data in each country. By presenting CATCOS at political and scientific meetings, the value of the project is emphasized to the users.

PAUL SCHERRER INSTITUT PSI

EMPA Materials Science & Technology

UNI FR UNIVERSITÉ DE FRIBOURG UNIVERSITÄT FREIBURG

University of Zurich[UZH]

Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology MeteoSwiss
Operation Center 1
P. O. Box 257
CH-8058 Zurich-Airport

international@meteoswiss.ch
www.meteoswiss.ch/catcos

Picture credits:
Nicolas Bukowiecki, PSI (top)
Michelle Stalder, MeteoSwiss (center)
SDC (bottom)

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