

National glacier monitoring: strengths and weaknesses, responsibilities and priorities

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World Glacier Monitoring Service

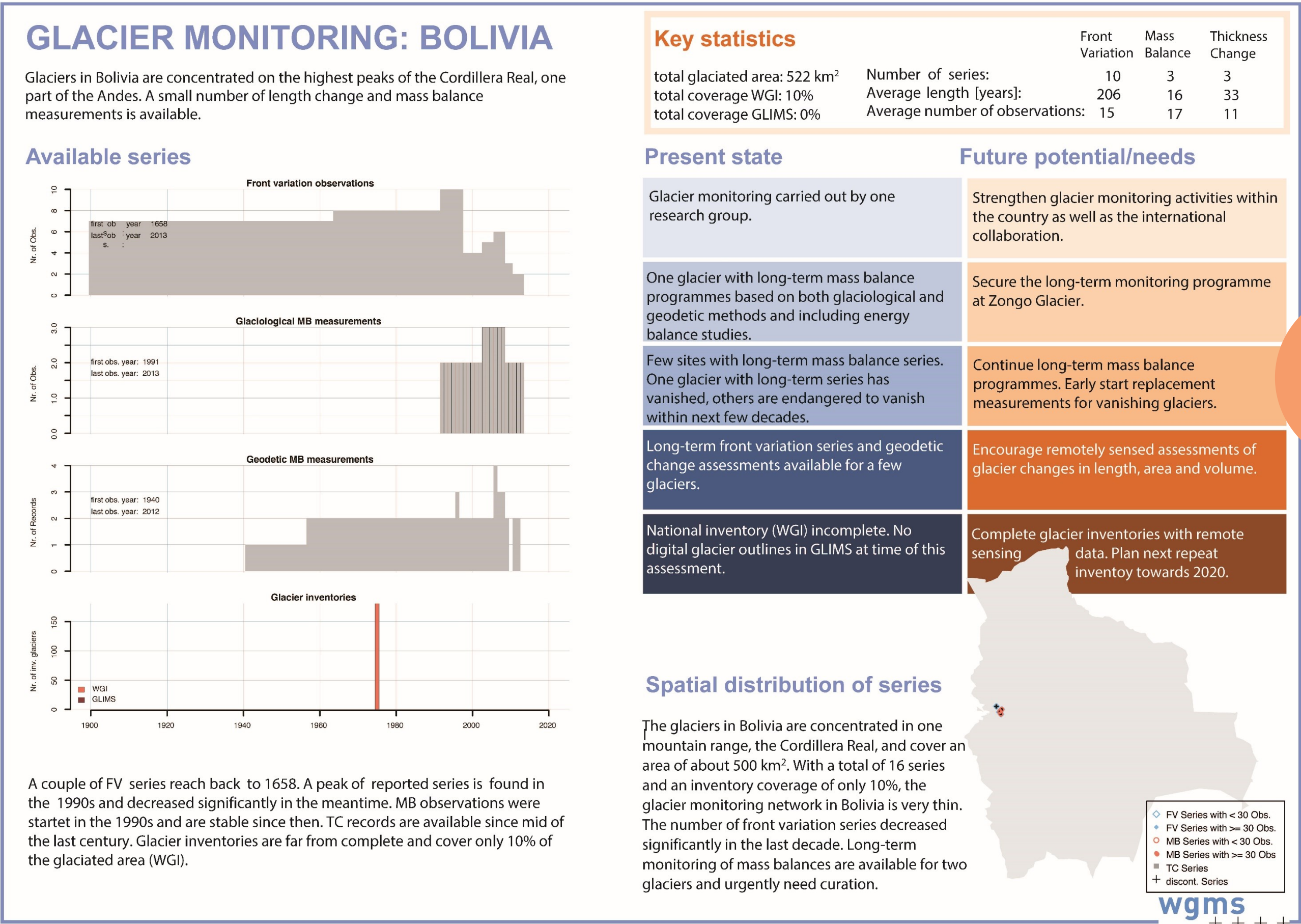
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All country profiles are accessible under <https://wgms.ch/national-glacier-state/>

standardized assessment

- key statistics on available data series and their spatial distribution,
- present state and future needs in regard of the 5 tiers, and
- the national network of investigators and institutions

country profile Bolivia



traffic-light-system

poorly developed/urgent action needed

- most of the glaciers not investigated
- short/interrupted dataseries
- no monitoring network

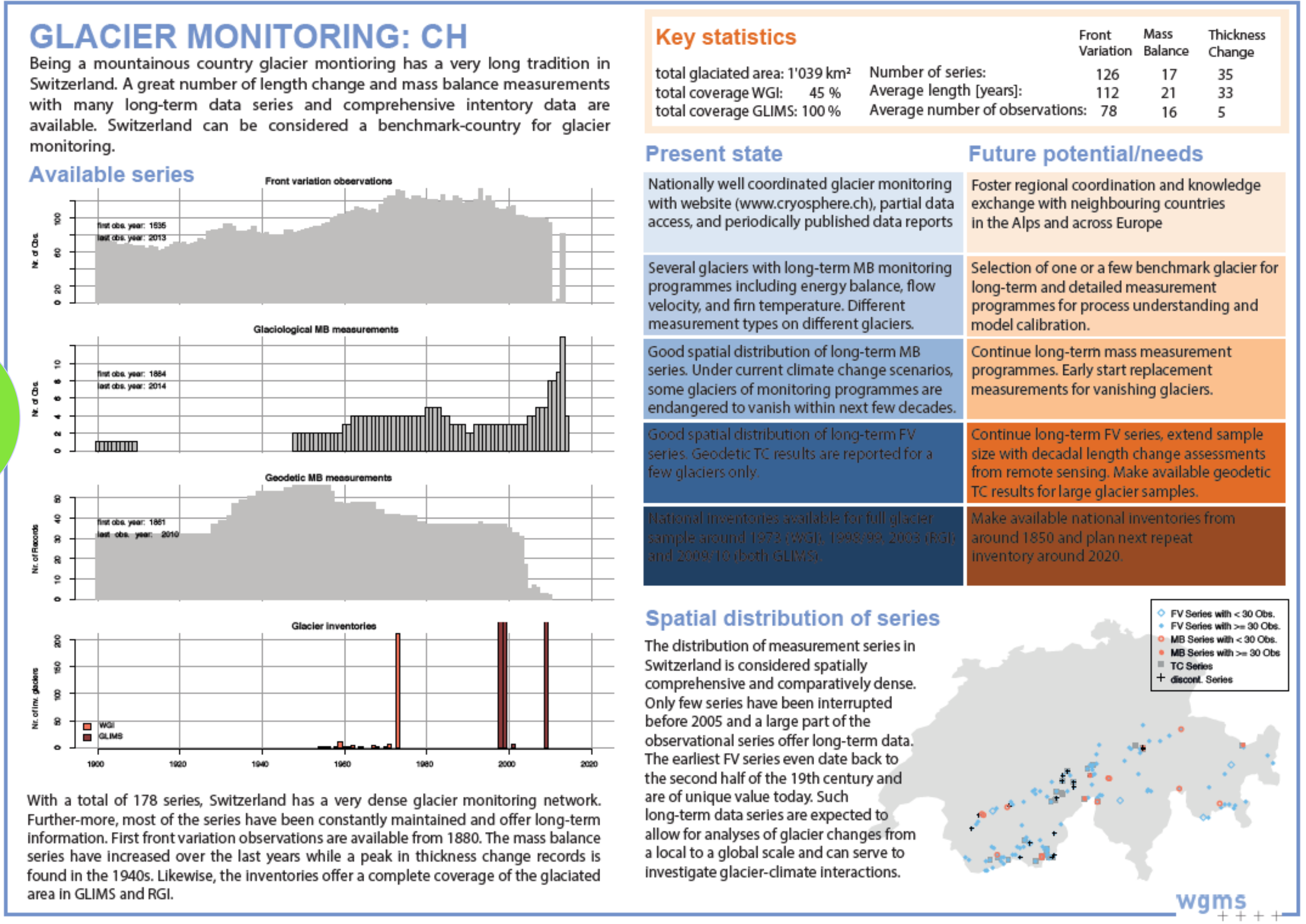
baseline initiated/improvement needed

- some glaciers investigated
- some long-term series exist
- monitoring network is set up

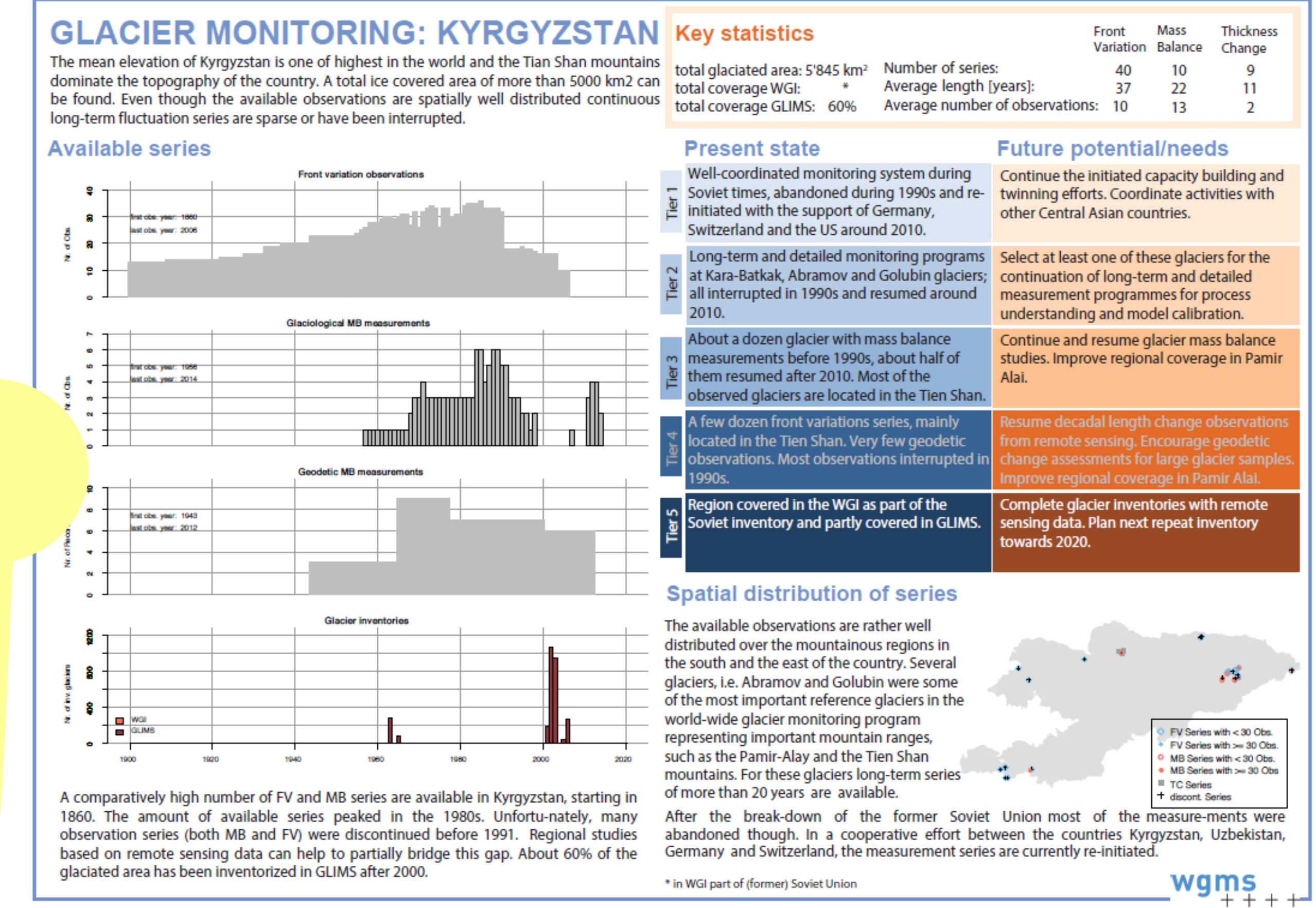
baseline well developed/upgradeable

- a large number of glaciers investigated
- several long-term series exist
- successful monitoring network exists

country profile Switzerland



country profile Kyrgyzstan



The country profiles and their evaluation build an important baseline – a snapshot of national glacier monitoring.

This baseline should be consulted for any adaptation strategy related to climate, as well as for related political decisions.

The survey should be repeated in the future to assess any improvements and/or new challenges.

Open questions regarding sustainable mountain development

- How can national and sectoral policies make use of the compiled profiles; what are the opportunities arising from the "profiling" of glacierized areas to human well-being?
- There is a need for action in specific countries/regions based on delineated gaps, but is the focus on countries where the monitoring is already initiated and improvement is needed or on countries where the monitoring is poorly developed or nonexistent?
- Where do we expect the most promising success rate?