

DUE GlobBiomass - Estimates of Biomass on a Global Scale

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For the upcoming three years, a new Data User Element (DUE) will focus on creating improved knowledge about the Essential Climate Variable Biomass. The main purpose of the DUE GlobBiomass project is to better characterise and to reduce uncertainties of AGB estimates by developing an innovative synergistic mapping approach in five regional sites for the epochs 2005, 2010 and 2015 and for one global map for the year 2010. The project team includes leading Earth Observation experts of Europe and is linked through Partnership Agreements with further national bodies from Brazil, Canada, China, Russia and South Africa. Progress will be closely monitored by an Advisory Board and a User Group and further intergovernmental organisations included through Letters of Interest.

GlobBiomass will demonstrate how EO observation data can be integrated with in situ measurements and ecological understanding to provide improved biomass estimates that can be effectively exploited by users. The target users will mainly be drawn from the climate and carbon cycle modelling communities, but will include users concerned with carbon emissions and uptake due to biomass changes within initiatives such as REDD+. It will provide a harmonised structure that can be immediately exploited to address user needs for biomass information, but will be capable of being progressively refined as new data and methods become available.

This presentation will give an overview of the technical prerequisites and challenges for the first year of the DUE GlobBiomass project.