



# GSICS REPORT

## Summary of highlights and request for guidance from GSICS Executive Panel

**CGMS-43 WMO-WP-16**

*Peng ZHANG (GSICS-EP Chair)*

*Kenneth HOLMLUND (GSICS-EP Vice-Chair)*

*Jérôme LAFEUILLE (Secretariat)*

# Outline

1. GSICS overview
2. Highlights of recent activities
3. Organization status
4. Challenges and recommendations
5. Summary and conclusions

# Why GSICS?

- Space-based observations required for weather and climate applications rely on multiple satellite missions from different agencies around the world
- To be reliable and interoperable, these different sources must be precisely calibrated with similar methods and common references. Poor or inhomogeneous calibration would result in degraded performance
- **GSICS members are collaborating to develop and apply “best practices” for state-of-the-art and homogeneous calibration**
- GSICS provides references, tools and guidelines, for **prelaunch characterization, instrument performance monitoring, anomaly resolution, comparison of sensors, and correction if necessary.**

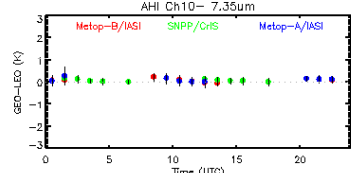
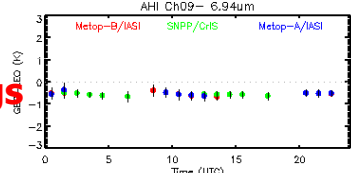
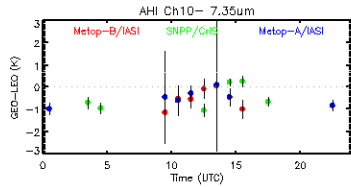
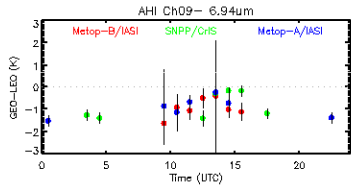
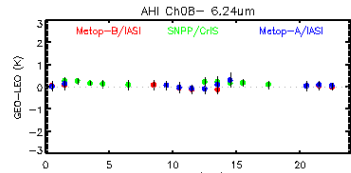
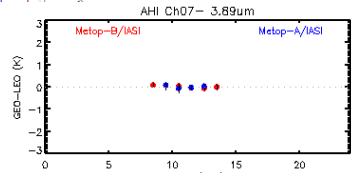
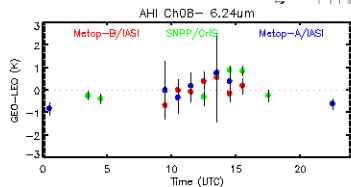
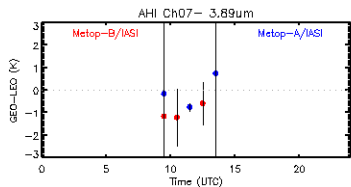
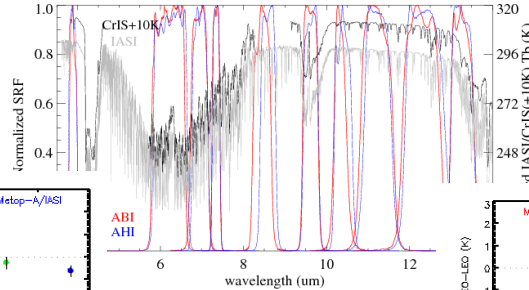
# Through GSICS satellite operators improve calibration and detect /correct anomalies

- Examples:
  - Correction of GOES IR bias through intercalibration with Metop/IASI and SNPP/CrIS
  - Adjustment of SRF of COMS/MI
  - Support to commissioning test of Himawari-8, INSAT-3D, FY-2G and FY-3C

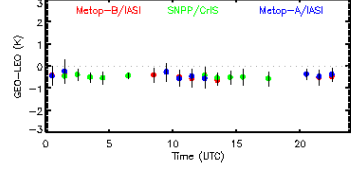
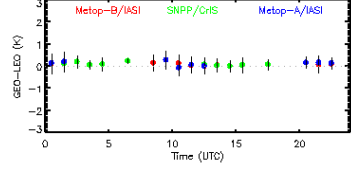
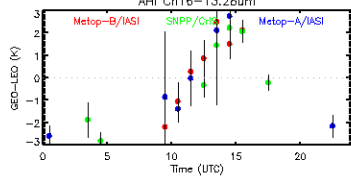
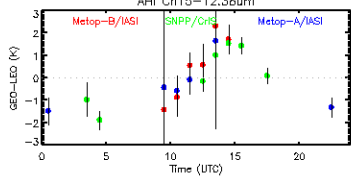
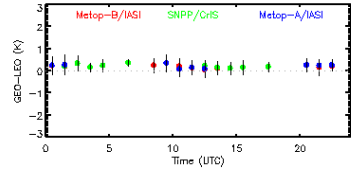
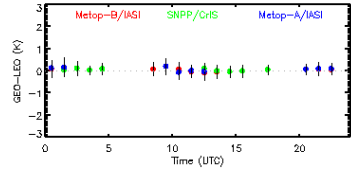
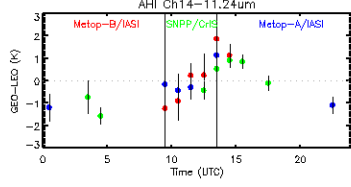
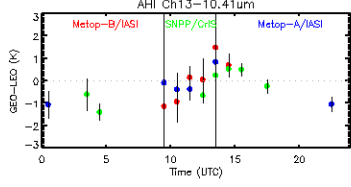
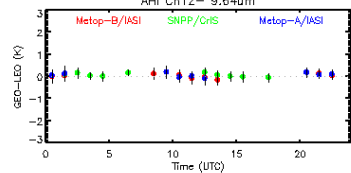
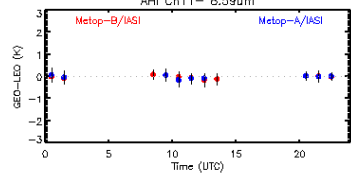
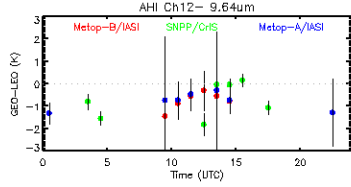
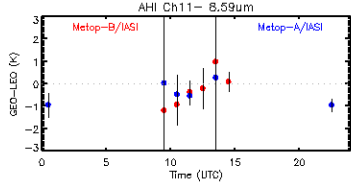
# NOAA Highlight

## GEO-LEO Inter-calibration using CrIS/IASI as reference

GOES-R/ABI and Himawari/AHI IR Band SRFs

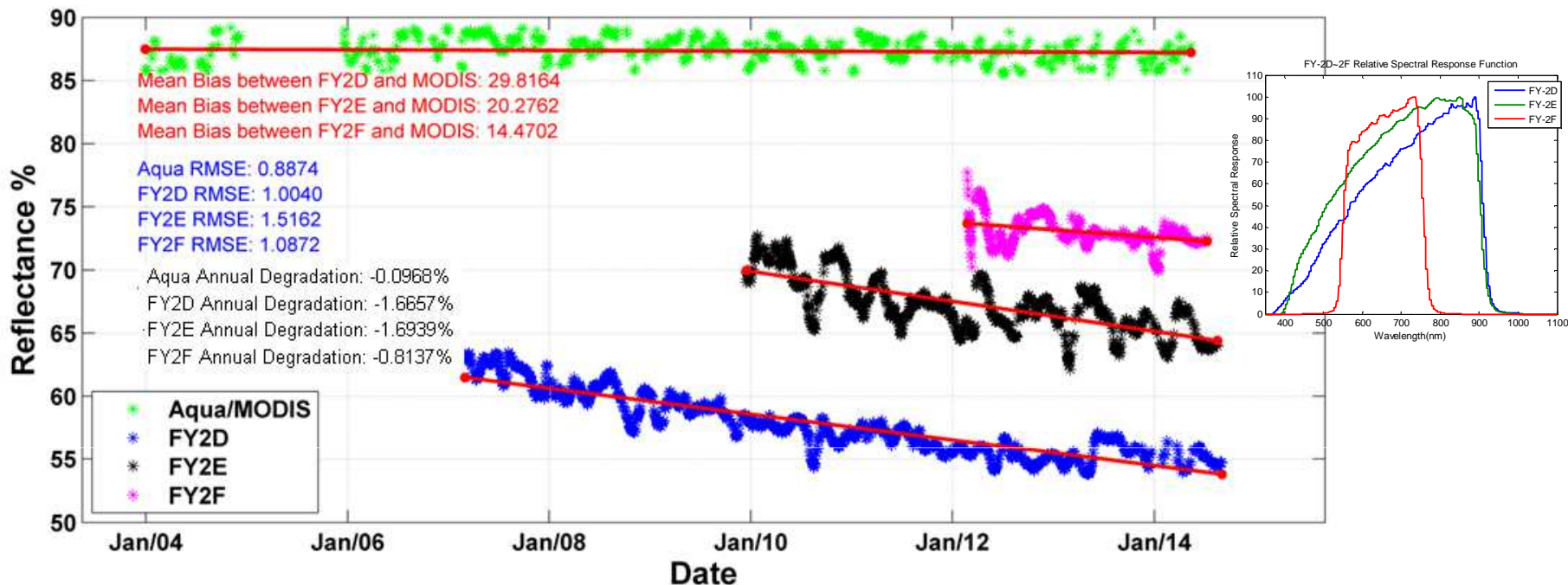


After "fixed" bugs

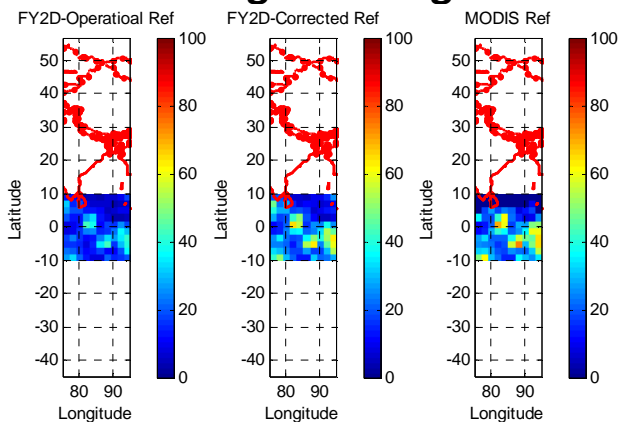


Courtesy.  
FangFang Yu

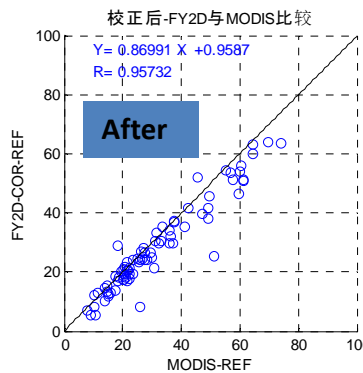
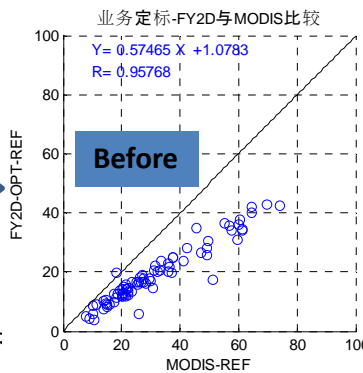
# CMA Highlight: DCC monitoring for FY-2D/2E/2F



1. There is evident inconsistency between FY-2D/2E/2F and large bias with respect to MODIS.
2. There is long term degradation of FY-2 visible band.



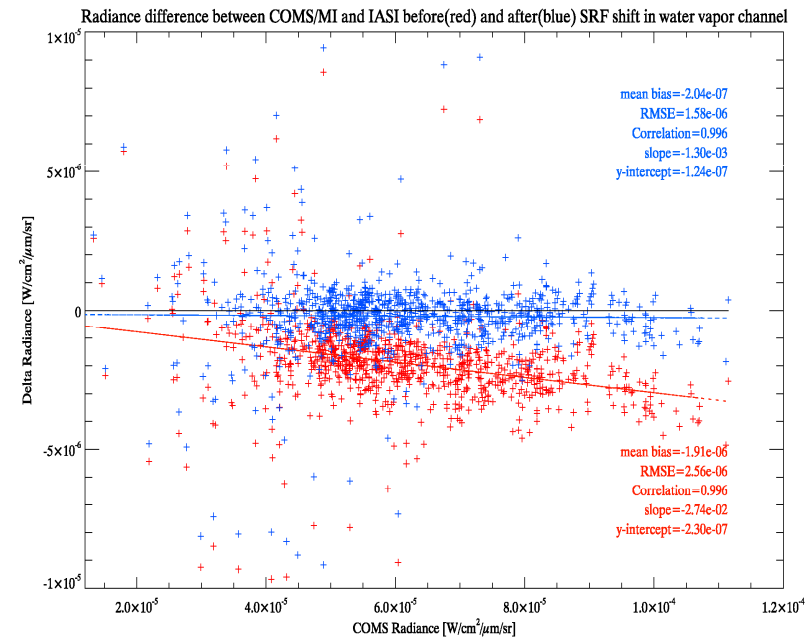
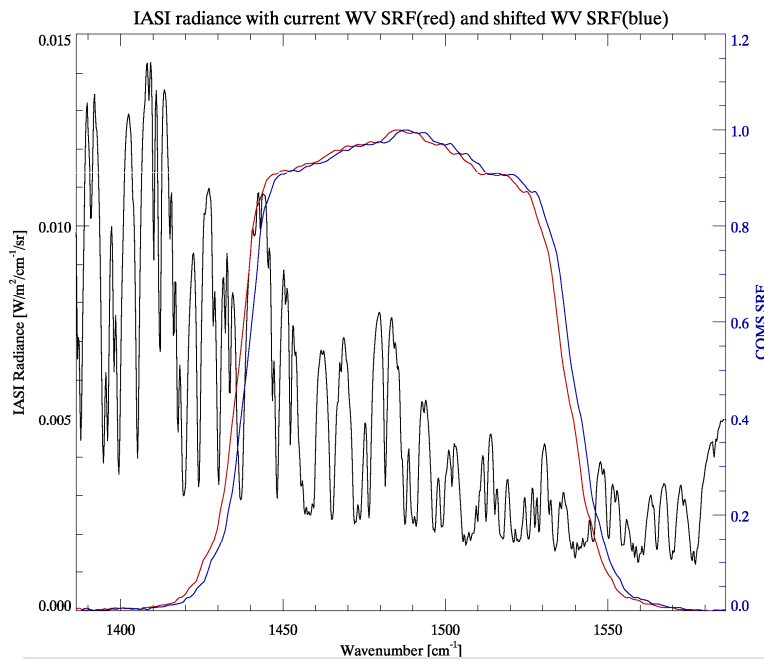
CGMS-43 GSICS F



# Highlights of KMA calibration activities

## Cold Bias Correction in Water Vapor Channel

The radiance difference between COMS/MI and IASI as a function of the COMS/MI radiance for the data obtained **before (red)** and **after (blue)** the SRF shifts



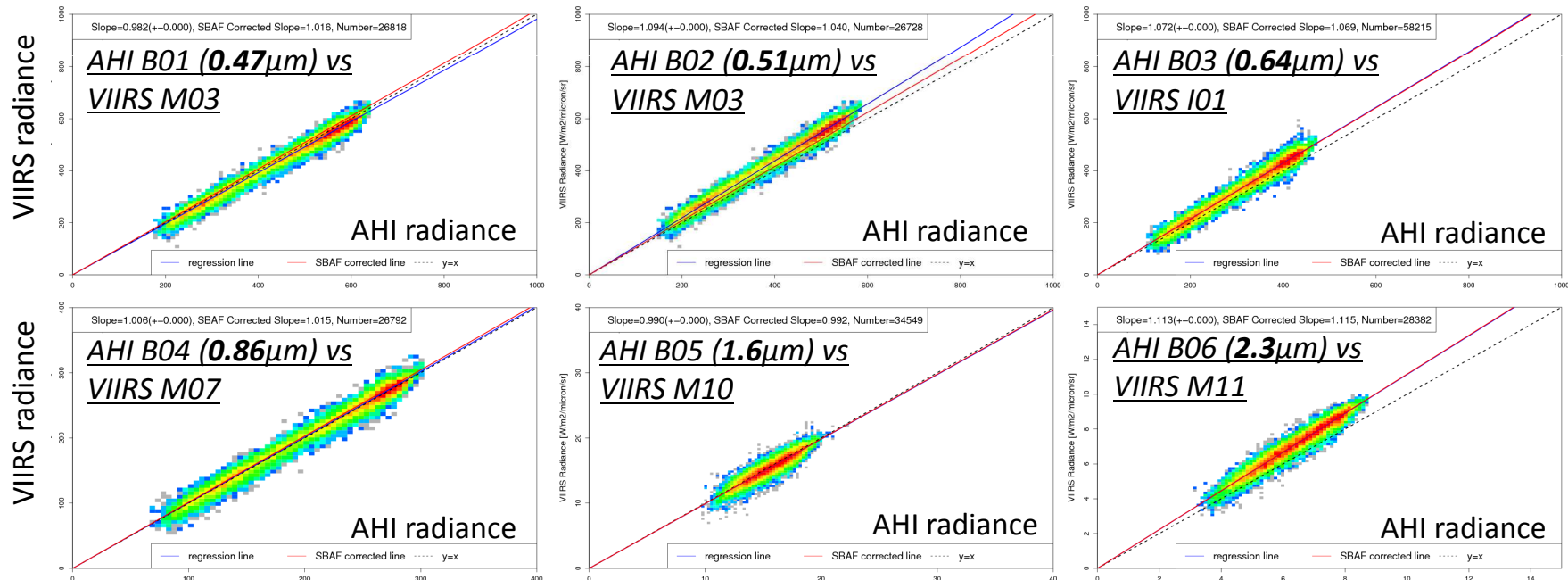
❖ TB bias between MI and IASI reduced by  $\sim 0.4\text{K}$  ( $-0.71\text{K} \rightarrow -0.32\text{K}$ )

# Highlights of JMA calibration activities

## Himawari-8/AHI ray-matching with S-NPP/VIIRS

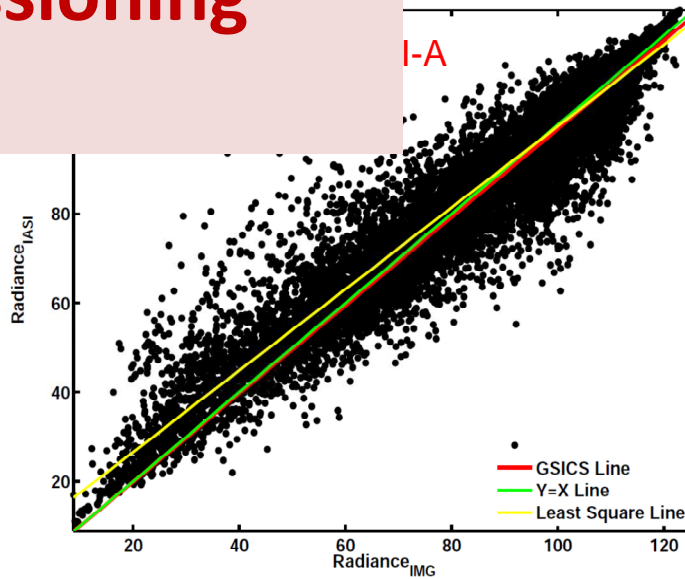
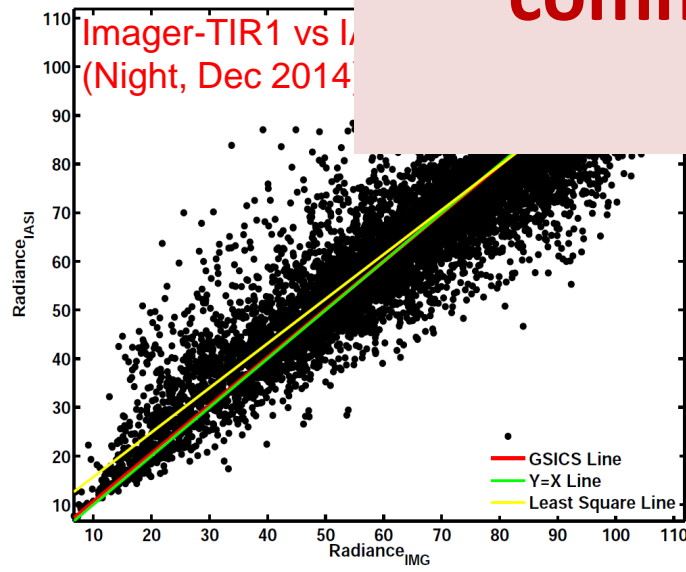
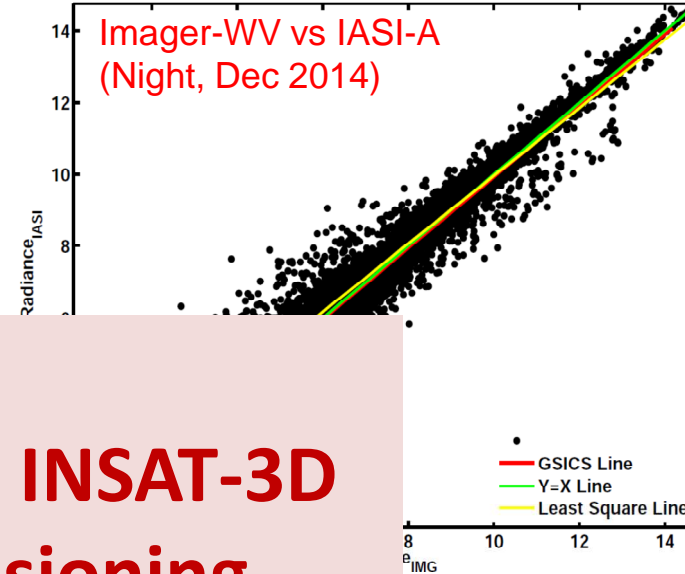
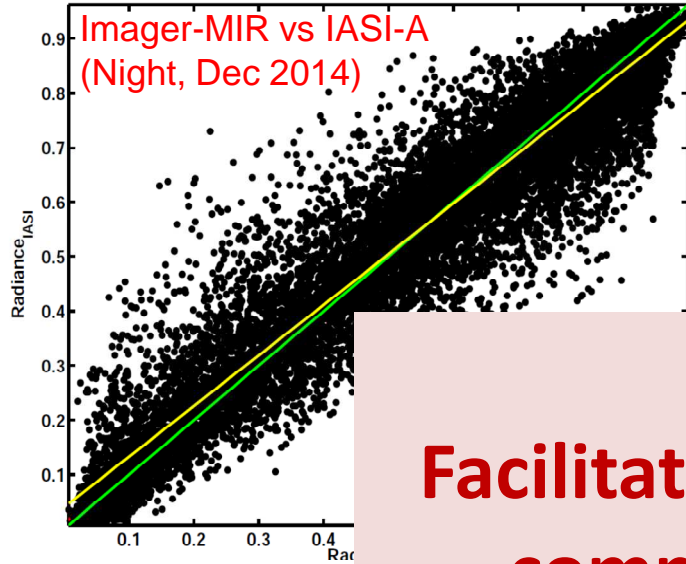
- ❑ Bands #3 ( $0.64\mu\text{m}$ ) and #6 ( $2.3\mu\text{m}$ ) show 5 to 10 % discrepancy
- ❑ Roughly consistent with vicarious calibration using RT simulation

**Facilitated Himawari-8  
commissioning**



Blue: regression line    Red: regression after SBAF difference correction between AHI and VIIRS





**Facilitated INSAT-3D  
commissioning**

# Who benefits from GSICS ?

- **Satellite operators benefit from participating in GSICS**
  - Sharing development effort and sharing resources (calibration references, datasets, software tools)
  - Capacity building in sharing best practices (for instrument monitoring, traceability, sensor comparison and correction)
- **Satellite data users benefit from GSICS**
  - Calibration is improved
  - Corrections available to align to a common reference
  - Assessments, reports, for better understanding
  - Algorithms enabling to reprocess data records
- Improved and consistent calibration across the different agencies builds confidence on reliability of each other's data
- Interoperability increases the benefit of data exchange

# Outline

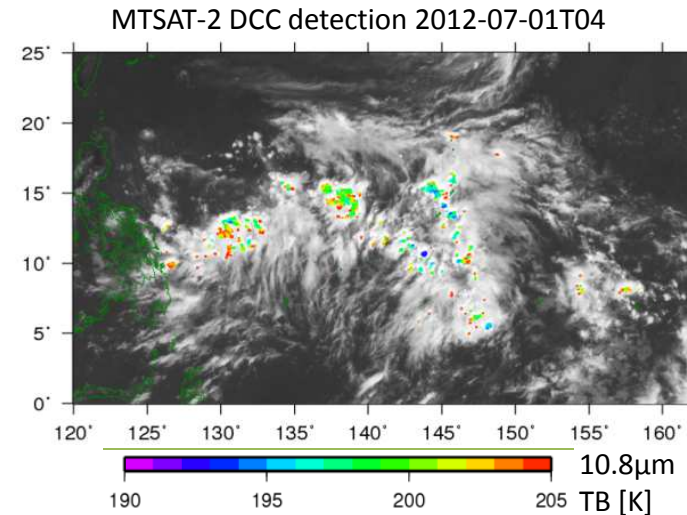
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# Development highlights

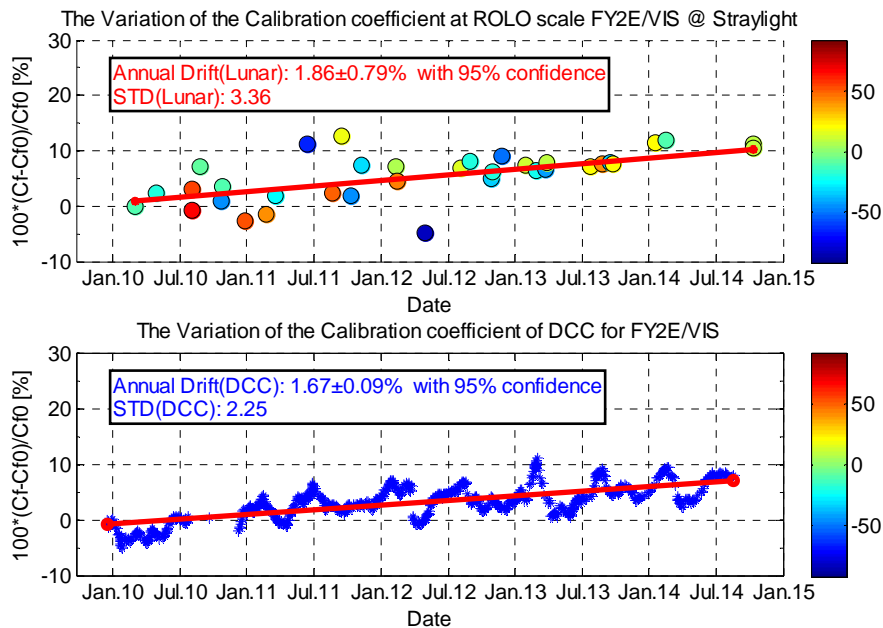
- Joint meeting of Research/Data Working Groups
  - 16-20 March 2015, in New Delhi
- Data management and tools
  - New collaboration server
  - Product development template
- IR calibration with multiple reference spectrometers
  - IASI-A current primary reference for GEO, LEO intercalibration
  - Towards a combined reference including IASI-A, IASI-B and CrIS ensuring stability and seamless transition between consecutive instruments
- GEO-LEO solar channel calibration (VIS/NIR)
  - Using Deep Convection Cloud (DCC) as pseudo-invariant targets
  - Using Lunar calibration combined with ground-based Moon observation
  - Development of a combined approach

# GEO-LEO VIS/NIR

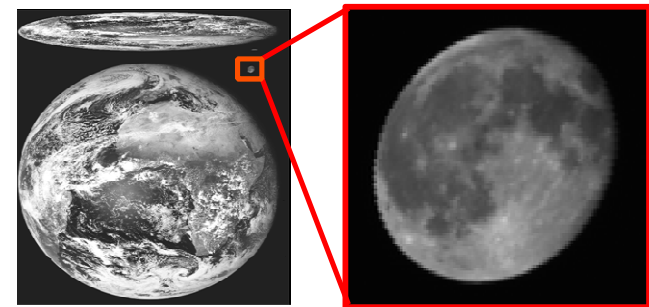
- Currently two main activities on-going:
  - Inter-calibration of GEO imagers with MODIS using Deep Convective Clouds as transfer target
  - Lunar calibration , and using the Moon for inter-calibration.



## The coincident result from Lunar and DCC for FY-2E



SEVIRI L1.0 image

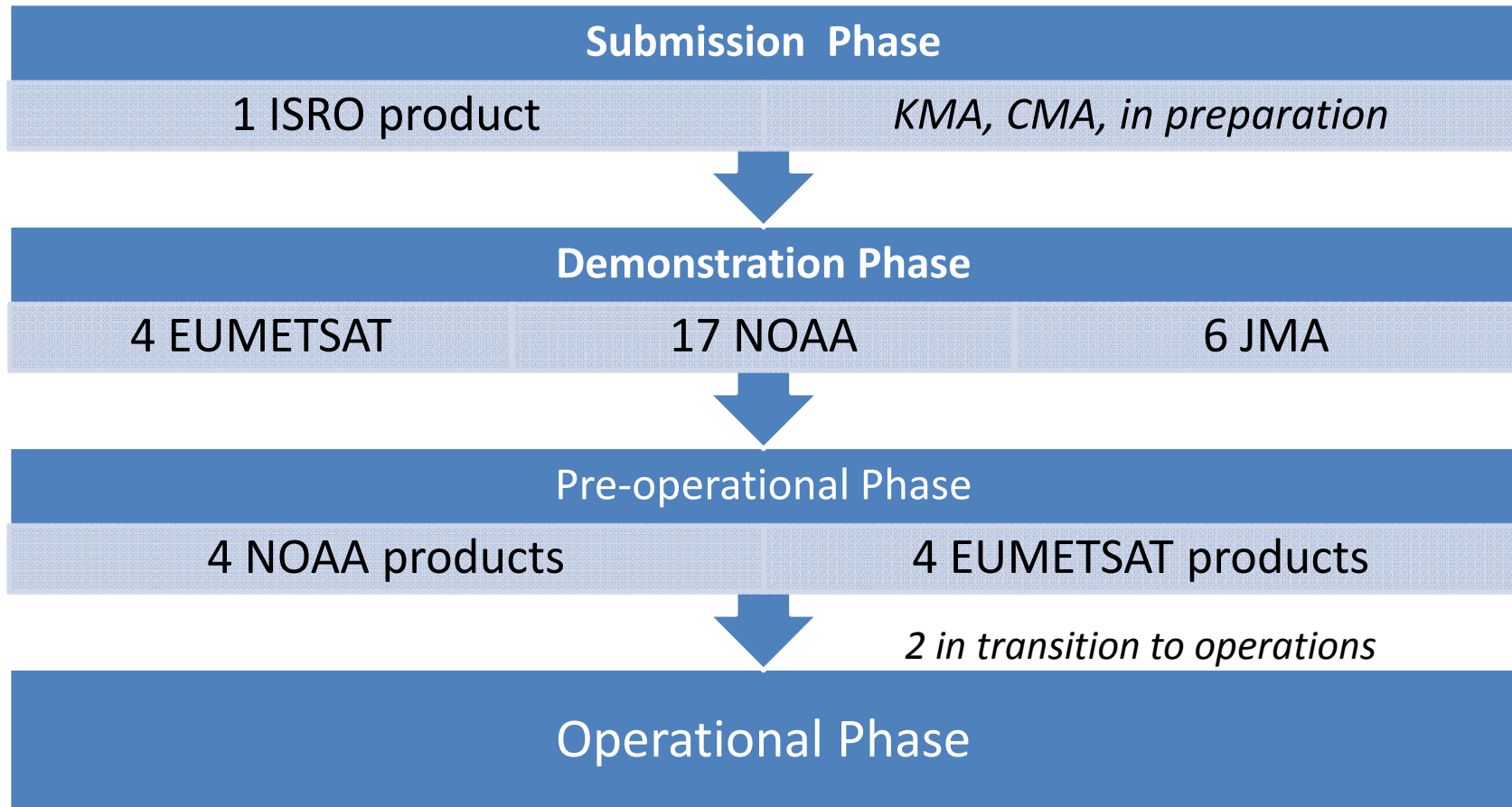


# GSICS holdings and deliverables



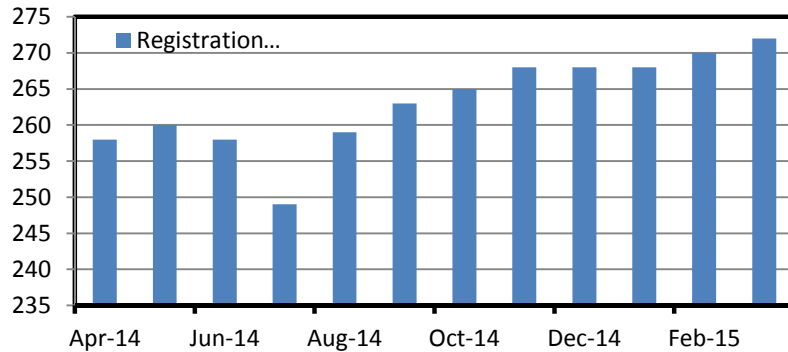
	Holdings or Deliverables	Examples
Resources	Calibration references and databases	GIRO lunar model, ground sites Solar irradiance spectrum
	Software and hardware tools	Plotting tool, THREDDS servers, product generation environment, wiki
	Standards, conventions, guidelines	Formats, etc.
Products	Calibration methodologies	ATBD for NRT correction or re-calibration
	Analysis, monitoring results, assessments	Updated SRF; assessment of bias, of non-linearity, polarization sensitivity,
	Routine operational corrections	Near Real Time or delayed corrections
Services	Information on GSICS & calibration	Science publications, GSICS Quarterly, Outreach material
	User registration, product subscription	
	Web services	

# Operational coordination: GSICS Procedure for Product Acceptance




# User services

## Registration in GUMS



- Growing audience of GSICS user messaging service

- Widely disseminated GSICS Quarterly
- GSICS User Workshops
  - 2014: Shanghai
  - 2015: Toulouse



**GSICS Quarterly**  
Lunar Calibration

**GSICS Quarterly**  
Special Issue on Ultraviolet

**GSICS Quarterly**  
her Energy Photons Arrive GSICS

**The Conundrum of SI traceability at Lsun for the VIIRS Day/Night Band**  
by Changqing Cao, NOAA

It is commonly accepted that any good measurements, including those from satellites, should ideally be made SI traceable, which is defined as the "property of a measurement result whereby the result can be related to a reference through a documented unbroken chain of calibrations, each contributing to the measurement uncertainty" (VIM). For the VIIRS onboard calibration, the pre-launch "reference" would be the instrument's own read and measured at the factory; however, after the satellite is launched into orbit, the reference becomes the solar constant which has been accurately related with well-known uncertainties. After taking into account all the uncertainties in the exact budget analysis, it is concluded that the VIIRS onboard calibration is related to a reference value with  $\pm 2\%$  ( $\pm 1\sigma$ ) uncertainty. In the case of the VIIRS Day/Night Band (DNB), the nominal radiance value difference between the solar and the solar diffuse irradiance is on the order of  $1000 \text{ W m}^{-2}$  ( $\pm 1\sigma$ ) at the same point, or  $0.01 \text{ W m}^{-2}$  which is the low gain range (LGR) in the low gain stage (LGS). However, in light of the reference value

of GSICS Quarterly features a new area of data for GSICS work, the ultraviolet. Unlike some orbital regions, the primary products for the backscatter (bc) (BUV) measurements are the ratios of earth to solar irradiances. These ratios provide information on atmospheric absorption and scattering, and on cloud reflectivity for product retrieval algorithms.

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# Responding to HLPP Targets

- Establish a consistent inter-calibration for thermal IR channels using hyper-spectral sounders as reference. The implementation will be done successively by the individual satellite operators.
- Establish a consistent inter-calibration for solar channels using instruments with adequate in-orbit calibration and vicarious methods as reference. The implementation will be done successively by the individual satellite operators.

# Status of HLPP Targets

- IR is currently being performed by most agencies operating geostationary imagers – albeit at different levels of maturity. The algorithm is also being rolled out to other platforms/instruments by some agencies. So not yet “fully achieved” – however roughly 80% achieved
- VIS is still in development, with the first demonstration GSICS products for the VIS channel of geostationary imagers, based on Deep Convective Clouds, and referenced to MODIS are expected this year. Counterpart products for other satellites will follow. The algorithm will then be extended to include the Moon as a calibration transfer, which is also applicable to channels in the NIR. Roughly 30% achieved

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# GSICS membership



## GSICS members:

- China Meteorological Administration ([CMA](#))
- Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales ([CNES](#))
- European Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites ([EUMETSAT](#))
- Indian Space Research Organization ([ISRO](#))
- India Meteorological Department ([IMD](#))
- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency ([JAXA](#))
- Japan Meteorological Agency ([JMA](#))
- Korea Meteorological Agency ([KMA](#))
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration ([NASA](#))
- National Institute of Standards and Technology ([NIST](#))
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ([NOAA](#))
- Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring ([ROSHYDROMET](#))
- United States Geological Survey ([USGS](#))
- World Meteorological Organization ([WMO](#))

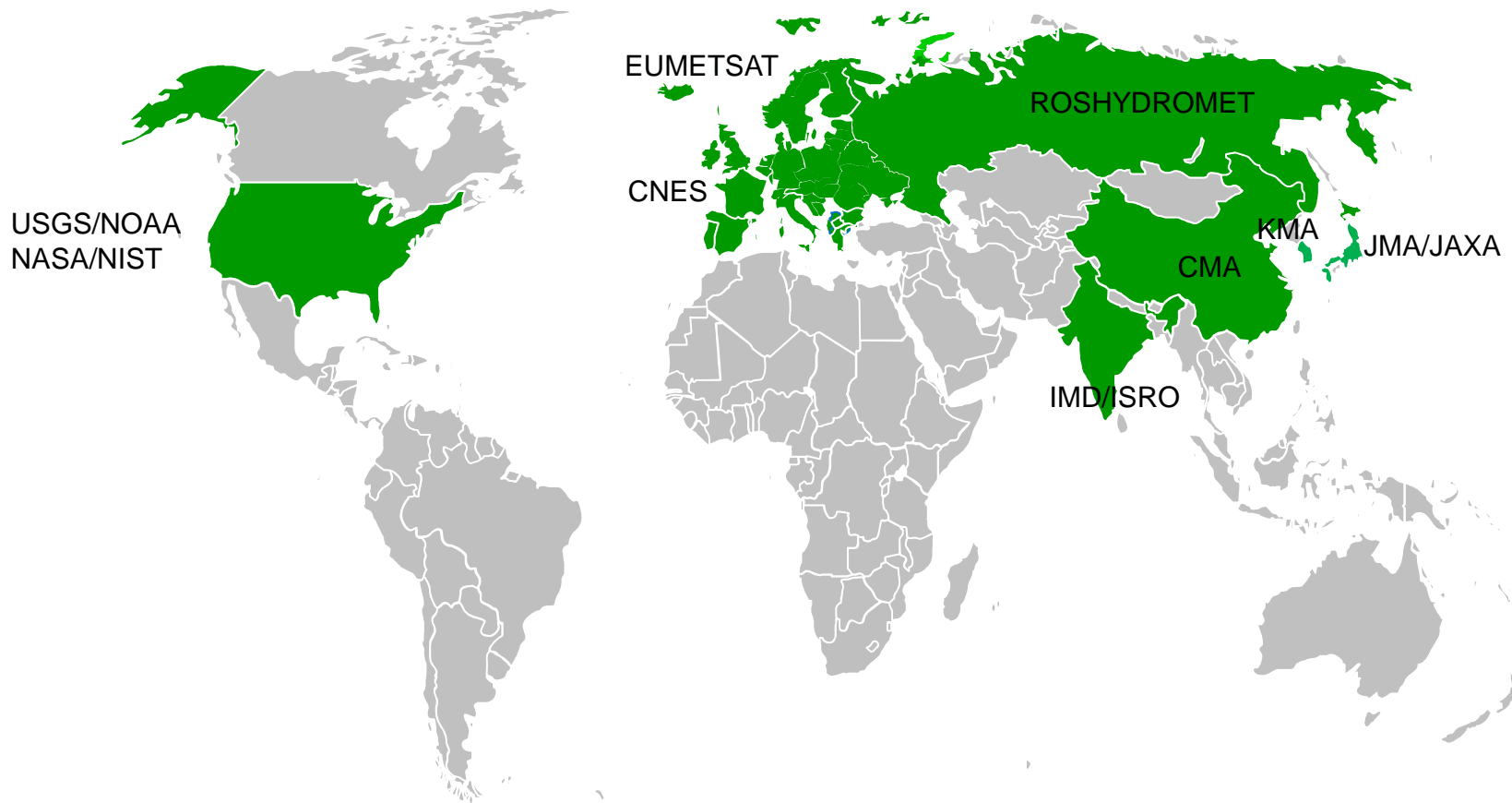
## Associate member:

- Inter-satellite Calibration WG of the Global Precipitation Measurement Mission ([GPM X-Cal](#))

## Observer:

- European Space Agency ([ESA](#))
- CEOS ([CEOS](#)) Working Group on Calibration and Validation ([WGCV](#))
- **Occasional participation of CNSA, ROSCOSMOS, encouraged to join as observer**

# GSICS Members



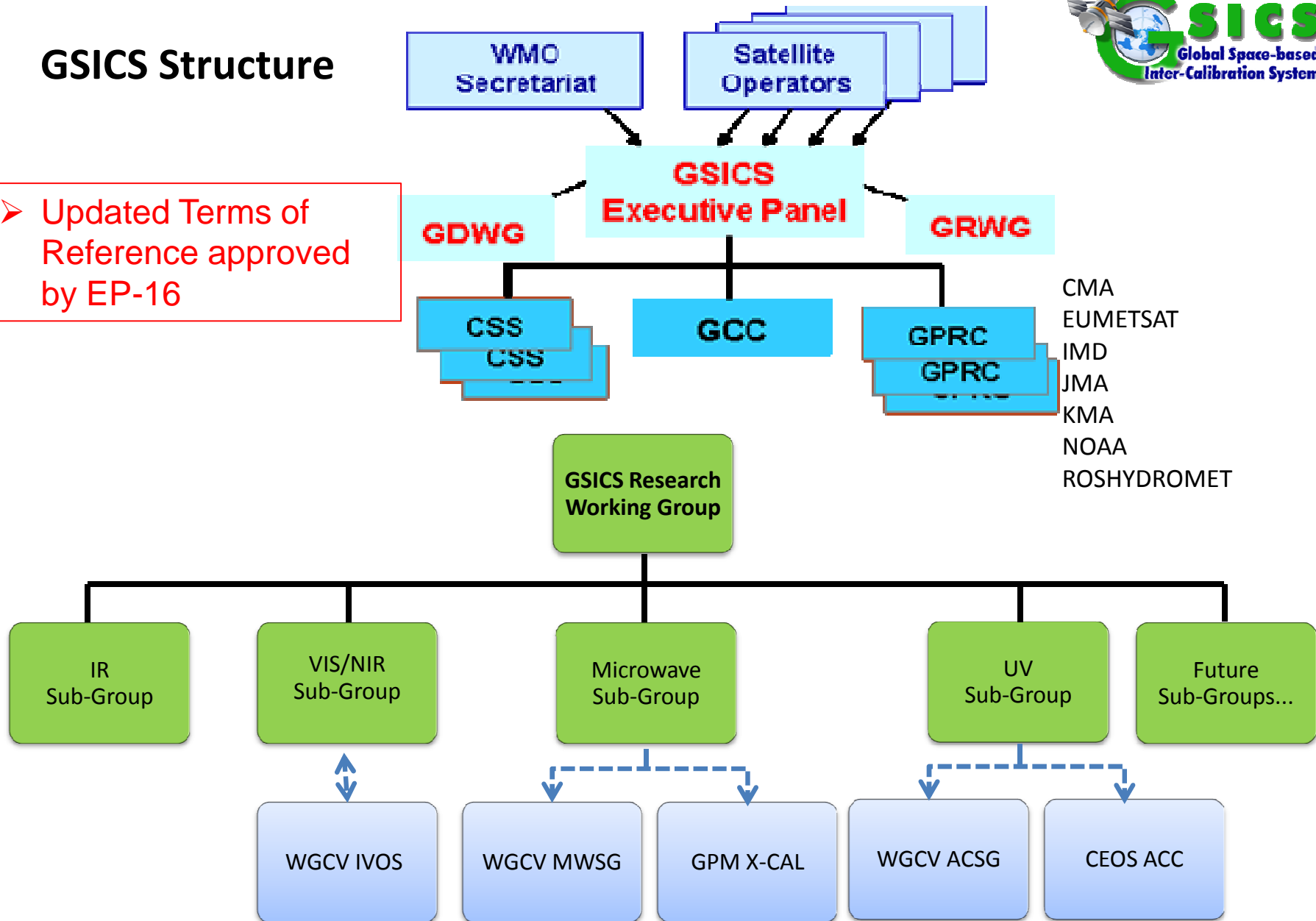
Obs. ESA + CEOS

ASSO. GPX

## 14 Members Worldwide

# GSICS Structure

➤ Updated Terms of Reference approved by EP-16



- CMA
- EUMETSAT
- IMD
- JMA
- KMA
- NOAA
- ROSHYDROMET

# GSICS leadership et Secretariat

- Executive Panel:
  - Peng Zhang (CMA) elected Chair by EP-15 with Ken Holmlund (EUMETSAT) as Vice-Chair
- GRWG
  - Dohyeong Kim (KMA) designated by EP-16
  - Tim Hewison (EUMETSAT) and Scott Hu (CMA) Vice-Chairs
- GDWG
  - Peter Miu (EUMETSAT) and Masaya Takahashi (JMA) Co-Chairs
- GSICS Coordination Centre (GCC)
  - Larry Flynn, Manik Bali (NOAA)
- Secretariat
  - Jérôme Lafeuille (WMO)

All the Chair and vice-chair positions have now rotated once !

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# Challenges/Recommendations (1)

- **Engagement of GSICS members**

- More active participation of GSICS members is required in GRWG and GDWG to ensure sufficient progress and early benefits
- Current under-representation in the GSICS Data Management Working Group (GDWG)

Recommendation: All satellite operators should participate to be afterwards in a position to implement the agreed practices and standards

Target contribution to actions: at least one man-month for a GRWG or GDWG member

- **User requirements**

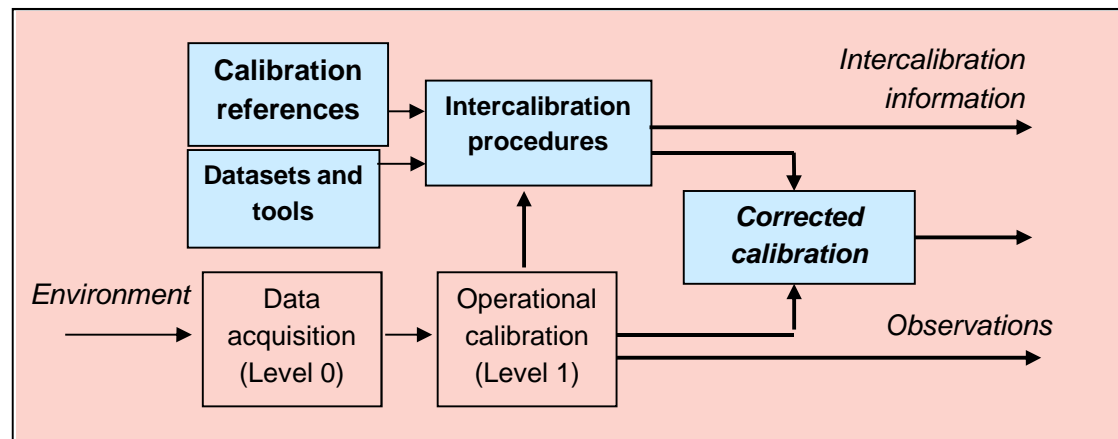
- User requirements are often vague and informal

Recommendation: all satellite operators and user communities to evaluate their requirements for GSICS resources, products and services to serve the needs of their users

# Challenges/Recommendations (2)

- **Role of GSICS in the Architecture for climate monitoring**
  - Procedures ensuring the consistency of data records through accurate and harmonized calibration should be part of the Architecture
  - These belong to the «sensing pillar» (space segment design, pre-launch characterization, maintaining references, instrument monitoring and calibration) and to the «CDR creation and preservation pillar» (intercalibration, re-calibration)

Recommendation : best practices of GSICS and CEOS/WGCV should be considered as elements of an architecture for climate monitoring



# Challenges/Recommendations (3)

- **As an element of WIGOS, documenting GSICS is initiated**

Recommendation: More efforts on the updated set of GSICS Reference documents

- For a clear understanding and shared vision of GSICS among members
- For more external visibility, and recognition of GSICS as a building block of WIGOS and of the Architecture for Climate Monitoring from Space



# Challenges/Recommendations (4)

- **Importance of calibration references**

- Efforts towards in-orbit reference instruments should be supported

Recommendation: to give increased attention to ground calibration sites

- **In particular: ground-based Moon observation**

- The traceability of satellite instruments calibration by lunar observation is achieved by ground-based Moon observatories.
- Absolute uncertainty currently limited by their performance

Recommendation: consider enhancing Moon observatories

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# Summary of recommendations

- Members to strengthen their engagement in GSICS and in particular in its GDWG
- Members to analyze their requirements for calibration
- Give increased attention to ground calibration sites
- Consider enhanced Lunar observation capability
- Acknowledge the role of GSICS in the Architecture for Climate Monitoring from Space
- Support GSICS efforts for outreach: to further document GSICS and communicate to ensure visibility and full benefit

# A continuing progress !

- Upon its 10th anniversary the GSICS community is gradually encompassing all CGMS members
- A great capacity building and collaboration opportunity
- Increasing product maturity
- GSICS value demonstrated in the commissioning of recent satellites
- Several recommendations are proposed to CGMS members

