

Some Thoughts on the Nation's Remote Sensing Capabilities

Non-Agency Perspective

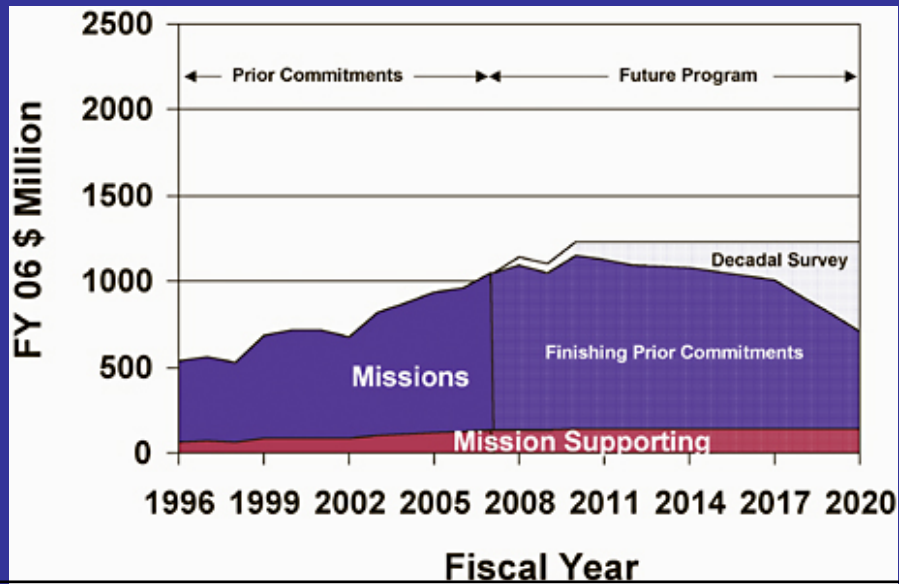
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6 points

- Demand is up, funding is down
- No global strategy for operational Satellites
- European commitment to GMES
- Forest carbon tracking GEO/CEOS
- Role of Google, Spot Image
- Report on Regional Needs for Coastal Remote Sensing

Demand is up, funding is down



No Global Strategy for Operational Satellites

- Weather/Climate systems
- Land Imaging Systems
- Polar Regions
- Atmospheric Chemistry
- Ecosystems

European Commitment to GMES

- Operational services on a global scale to
- Better manage the environment
- Understand and mitigate the effects of climate change
- Ensure civil security

- Series of five space missions called 'Sentinels', which are being developed by ESA specifically for GMES.



Forest Carbon Tracking GEO/CEOS

- Supporting political requirements related to the UNFCCC negotiations
- Window of opportunity for political attention towards COP-15 in Copenhagen end 2009
- Unique opportunity for GEO, CEOS and the forest community to demonstrate their capability to develop a consistent, long-term forest carbon monitoring system

Forest Carbon Tracking GEO/CEOS

- Consolidation of observational requirements and establishment of several regional reference test-sites
- Coordination of observations, including securing their continuity
- Improvement of access to observations, datasets, tools and expertise and associated capacity building activities.

SAR missions in operation

- ALOS-Daichi L-band Continuation approved
- ERS and ENVISAT C-band Continuation approved
- RADARSAT-1 and-2 C-band Continuation approved
- TerraSAR-X X-band Continuation approved
- COSMO-SkyMed X-band group of 4 satellites

Role of Google, Spot Image

- Google capability for storage and access
- Google development of observational techniques
- Google Spot Image agreements
- Spot Image interest in supporting forest carbon measurement systems

Report on Regional Needs for Coastal Remote Sensing

- Needs focus
- Pick one or two topics
- Ocean Color
- Surface Water Ocean Topography