

GEO Forest Carbon Tracking Data Sharing Issues

Tuesday 2 November 2010
Beijing



Mission 1/2

- The mission of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) Global Forest Observations Initiative (GFOI) is:
 - To foster sustained availability of satellite and ground observations in support of national forest information systems; and
 - To support countries in the use of observations for their national forest information systems – respecting national choices of data and tools;



Mission 2/2

- In addition, the GFOI will support long-term observation needs of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- To realise the mission of the GFOI, GEO will engage with other key users, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).



Ground Observations

- Good ground observation is crucial for biomass estimation
- Access to National Forest Inventories (NFI) ground observations is sensitive, if available
- Restrictions will most likely apply



Satellite data strategy

- For 2011 and 2012:
 - Continue to ensure wall to wall coverage (ideally semi-annual) of the 10 National Demonstrators
 - Progressively implement coverage of all Congo Basin and UN-REDD countries
- For 2013 and beyond:
 - **coordinate global, systematic data acquisition over all forested countries/areas**

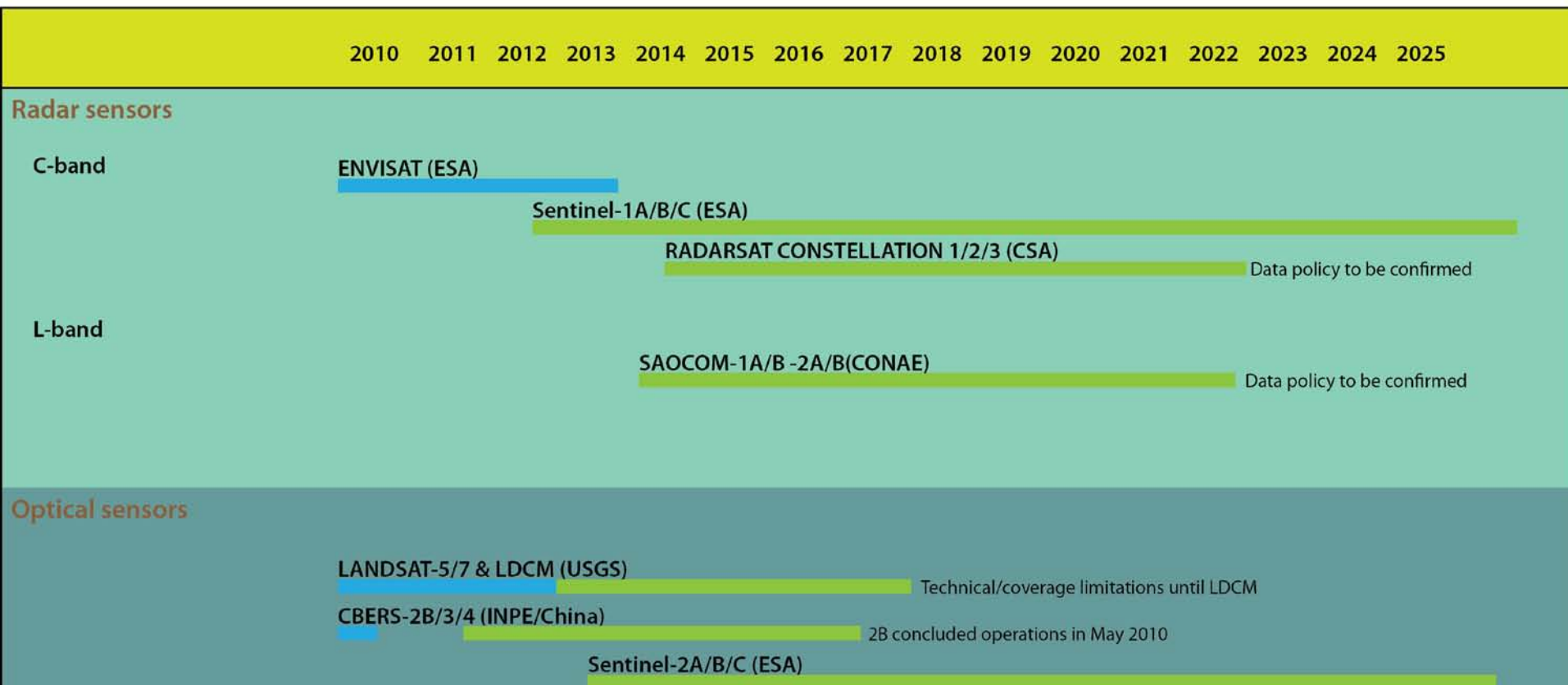


Satellite data providers

- Public good satellite data streams (CBERS, Landsat, Envisat, etc)
- CEOS agencies giving access to data for scientific purposes while operational data are provided through commercial distributors (Radarsat, TerraSAR, Spot, IRS, Kompsat?)
- Commercial missions (Digital globe, GeoEye, RapidEye, DMC)



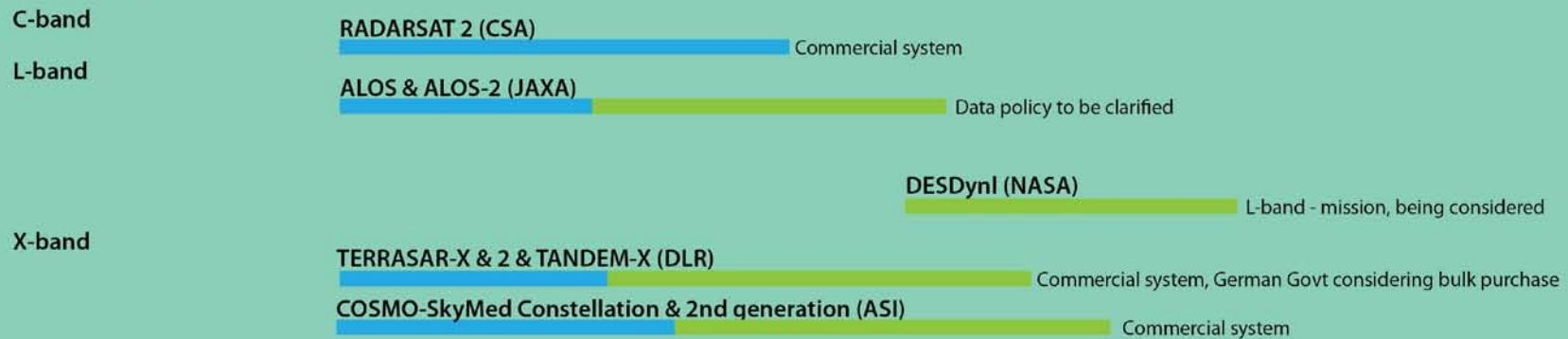
Sub 30m public good satellite data streams for continuous, annual, global coverage



Further satellite data streams of potential value



Radar sensors



There are also numerous one-off C- and X-band missions in planning by several countries

Optical sensors



There are also numerous missions in planning by several countries that may be of value - including many high resolution missions of interest for validation. Few datastreams will have the capacity to provide routine global coverage. But many more will be able to contribute to national and regional coverages.

Access conditions

- Satellite data provided by commercial distributor should ideally comply with GEO data sharing principles
- Will require several individual data provision agreements to be negotiated



Summary

- The success of GEO FCT task will require the GEO data sharing principles to be applied to the largest extent possible
- Compromises might have to be accepted for certain data sets.
- In such cases clear access conditions must be negotiated

