

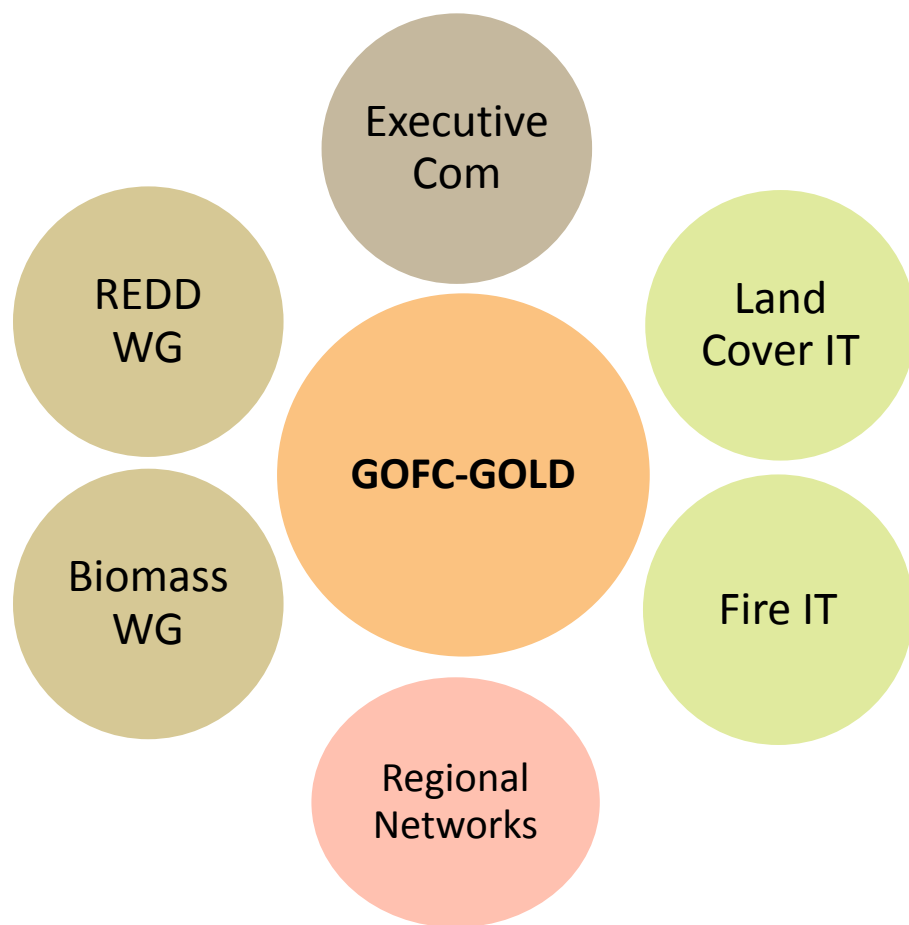
**Senay Habtezion
START International Inc.**

GOFC-GOLD – Fast facts



- A coordinated **international effort** to ensure a systematic and continuous program of space-based and on-the-ground observations of forest and land cover
- A purpose of **sharing data, information and knowledge** to **inform policy and address user needs**
- Implemented **through a network of partners** (scientists, practitioners organizations, universities)

Fast facts ...

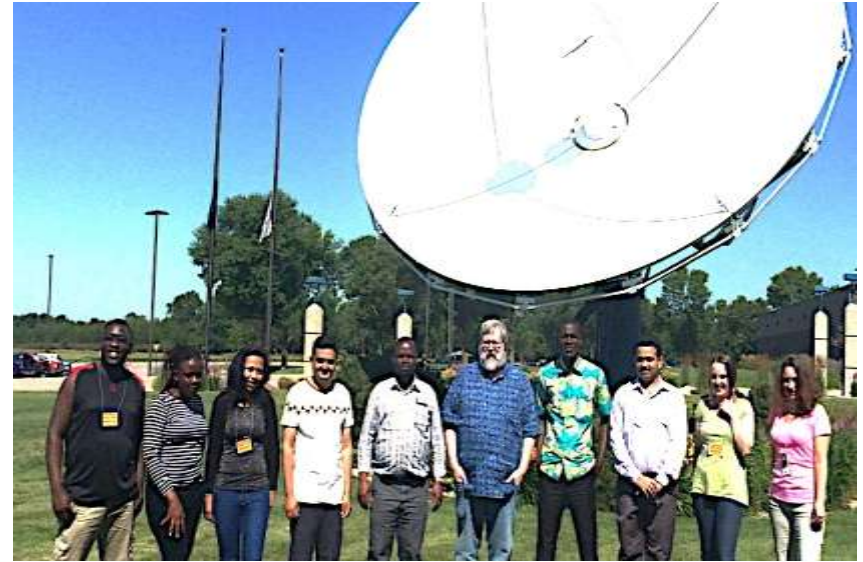


Among GOFC functions ...

- Assessing algorithms and data assimilation procedures
- Ensuring the availability of observations
- Harmonization and the development of protocols and standards
- **Capacity building**
- Creating products and services
- Supporting international assessments
- Advocacy for continuity of observations and validation

CB under GOFC-GOLD

- Part of GOFC-GOLD capacity building in since 1997; currently implementing a 3 year grant from NASA
- START contributes to the overall GOFC-GOLD effort to improve **access to existing data, increase scientists' capacity to utilize and produce the data** needed for research and NRM
 - Main focus on **regional networks** rest cover and land dynamics.
- **Iterative and Integrative approaches** to CB (e.g. GOFC **RN reps** engaged and reengaged in other START programs – e.g. GEC grants in Africa; IDRR Asia)



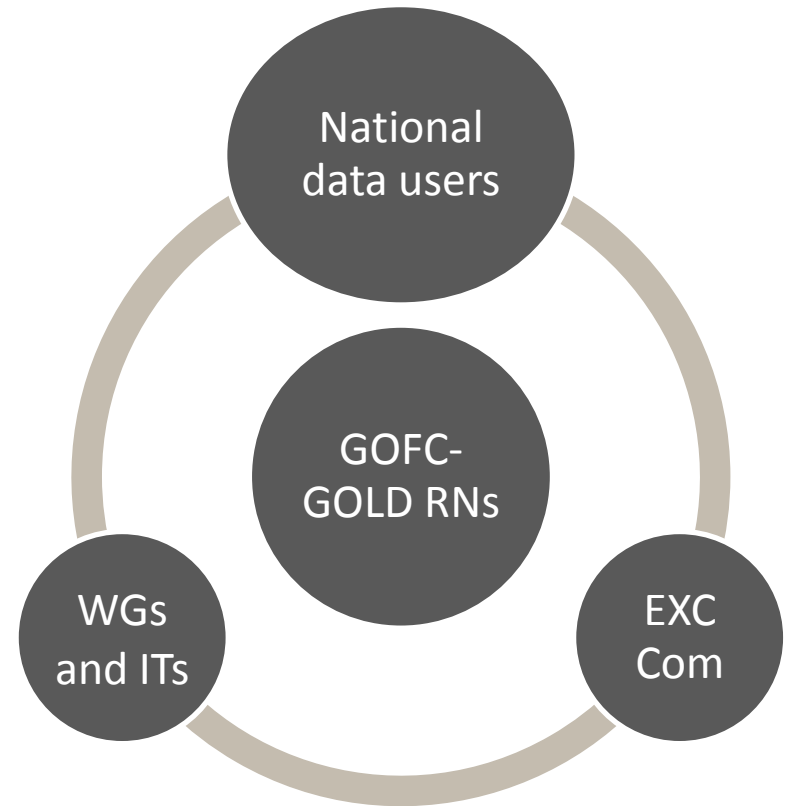
GOFC-GOLD CB modalities

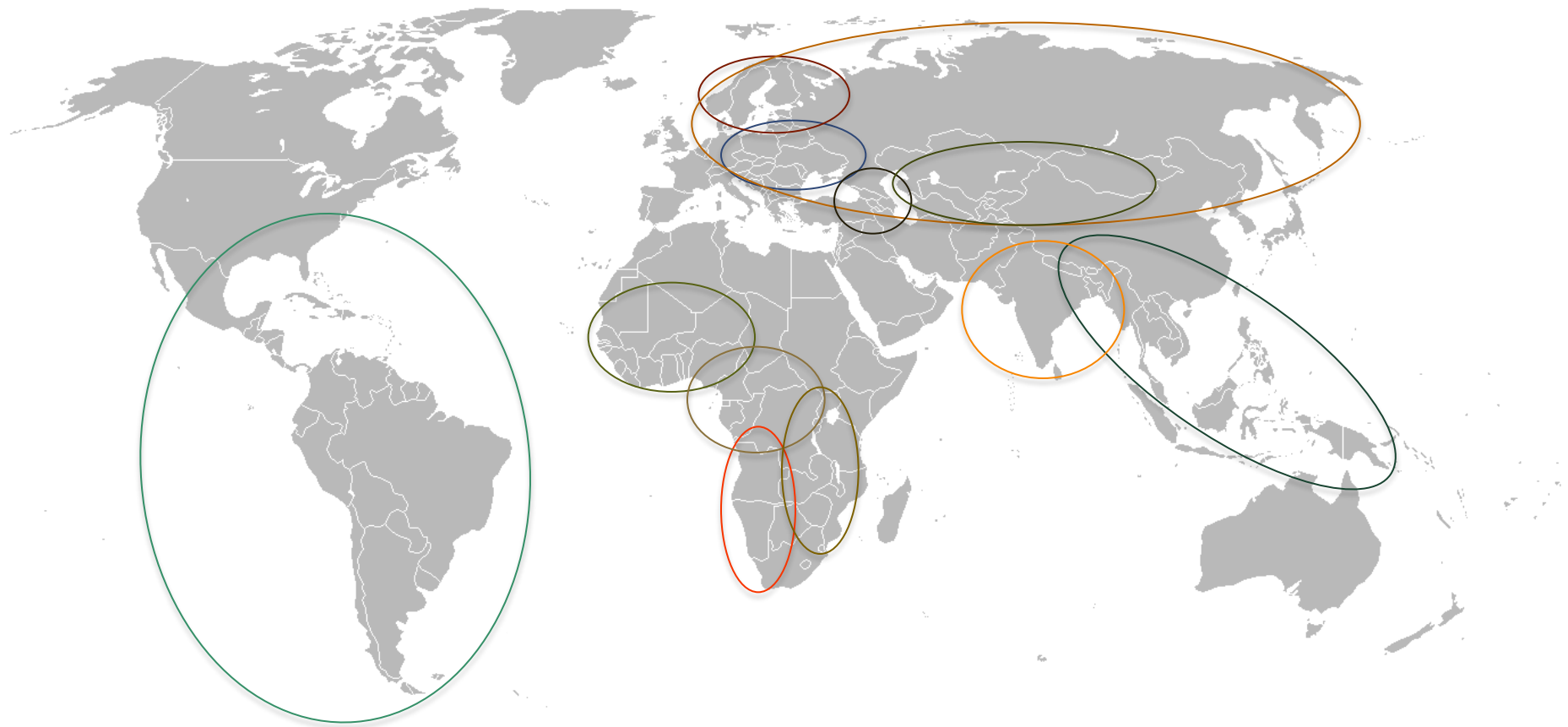
- **Regional Networks Support**
 - Workshops (usually have a built-in training event for young scientists)
 - May include data distribution
- **Data Initiative** (AI in data mgt, access and image analysis)
 - Partners: EROS, BU, GISTDA and etc
- **Visiting scientists program**
- **GOFC-GOLD Conference**
- **Small opportunity grants:** Support RN in GOFC IT, WG or International meetings
- **Learning Forums** to distill added-value outcomes (input to GEO, SBSTA ...)



What are RNs?

- **Self-organizing networks** of scientists, practitioners and organizations with research interest in a region
- **Different** thematic interests and scopes; structures
- Some NASA support through GOFC-GOLD/START
- Inter-network meetings (GOFC-Conference)
- **11 RNs and counting** – some more active than others





GOFC-GOLD Regional Networks

A grayscale world map with a blue oval highlighting the South-Central European region, which includes countries like Spain, Portugal, France, Italy, and Greece. A semi-transparent blue banner is overlaid across the middle of the map.

South-Central European Regional International Network (SCERIN)

GOFC-GOLD Regional Networks

Northern Eurasia Regional International Network (NERIN)



GOFC-GOLD Regional Networks

Central Asia Regional Information Network (CARIN)



GOFC-GOLD Regional Networks

A world map with a light gray background. The landmasses are shown in a darker gray. An orange circle highlights the South Asian region, including India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. An orange horizontal bar is positioned across the top of the map, containing the text 'South Asia Regional Information Network (SARIN)'.

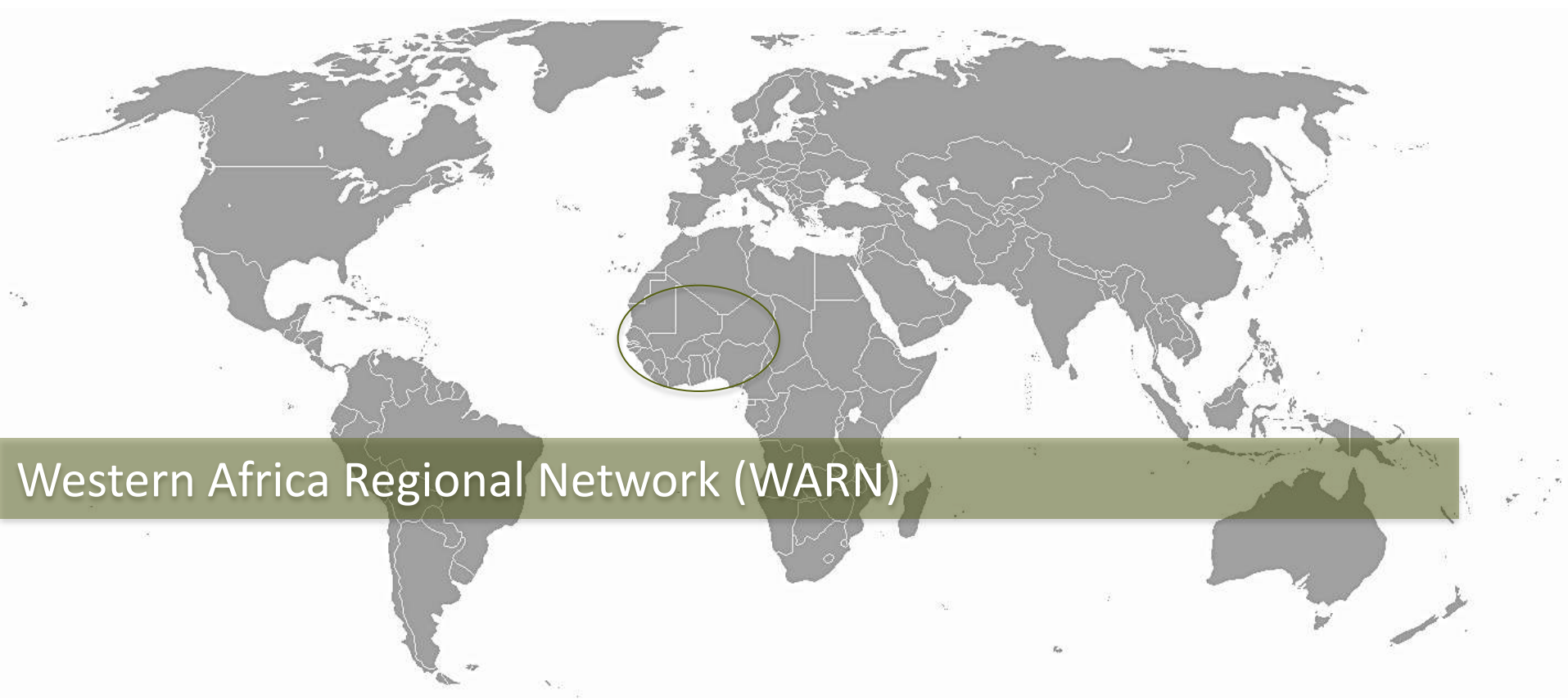
South Asia Regional Information Network (SARIN)

GOFC-GOLD Regional Networks



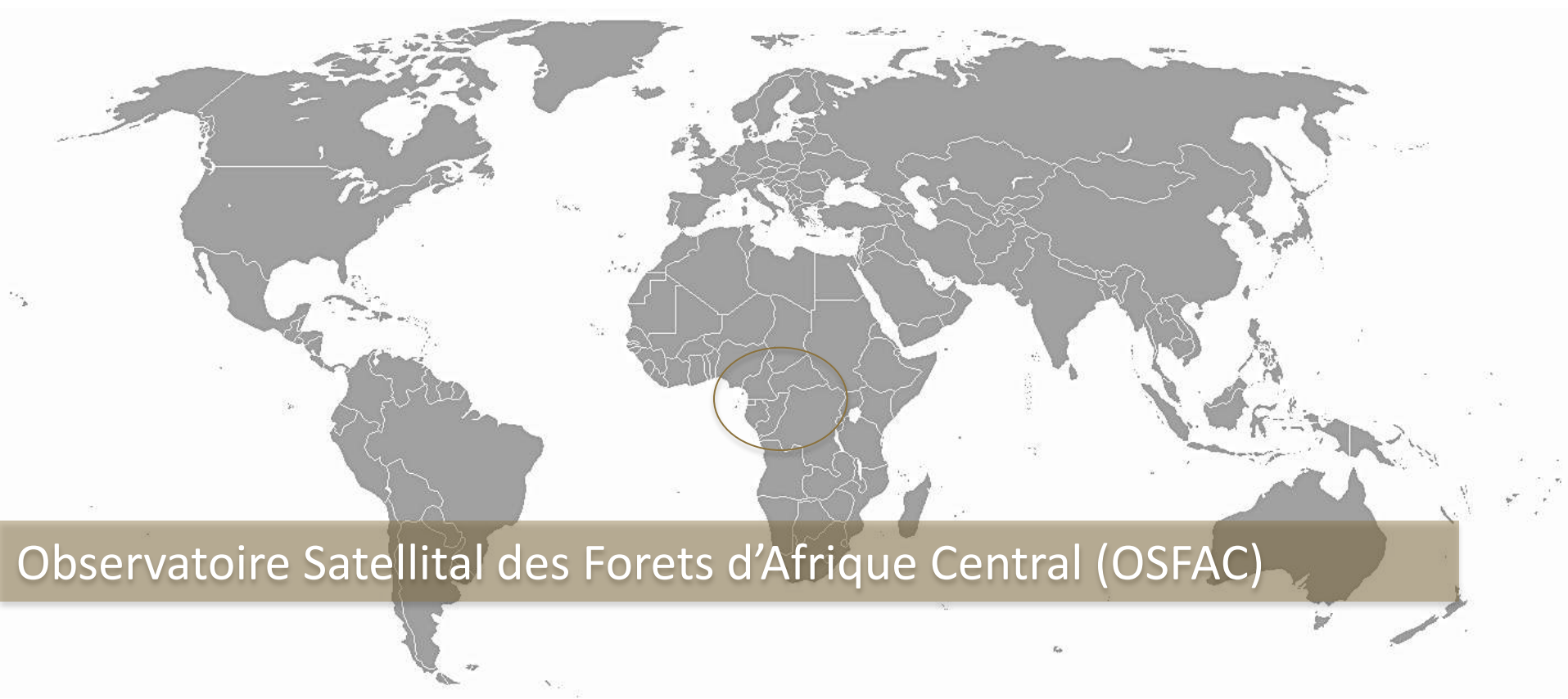
Baltic-Arctic Regional International Network (BARIN)

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Western Africa Regional Network (WARN)

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Observatoire Satellital des Forets d'Afrique Central (OSFAC)

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Southeast Asia Regional Research and Information Network (SEARRIN)

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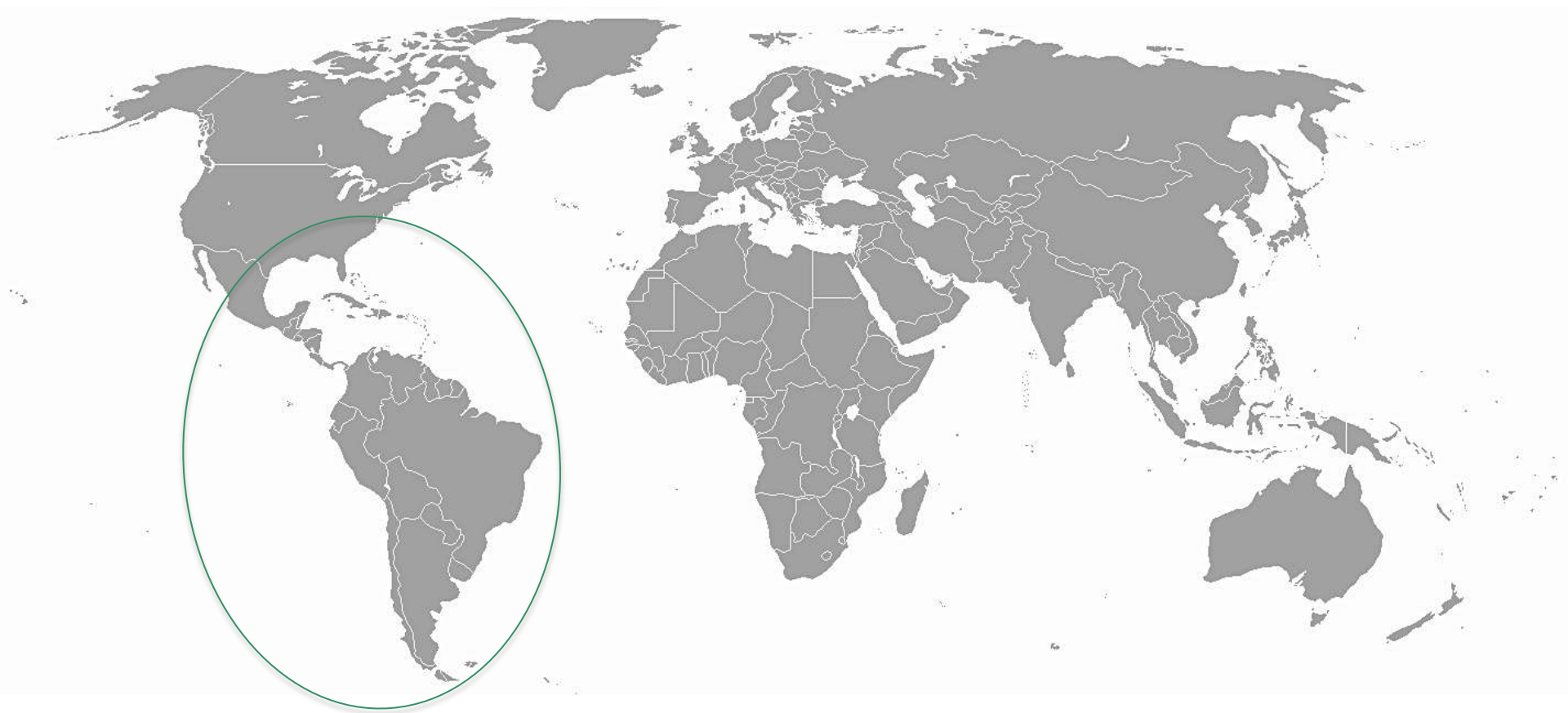


Miombo (South Africa) Land Use Land Change Network (Miombo)

GOFC-GOLD Regional Networks



Southern African Fire Network (SAFNET)



Red Latinoamericana de Teledeteccion e Incendios Forestales (RedLaTIF)



Caucasus Regional Network - TBL

GOFC-GOLD Regional Networks

Role of RNs

- Carry out multiple GOFC functions:
 - observations, validation,
 - facilitating use of data and products
 - promoting technology transfer
- Contribute to implementation teams and working groups
- Undertake RN projects (publications; website etc.)
- Key role in GOFC-GOLD CB (e.g. Data Initiative)
 - Selection of trainees
 - Dissemination of data
 - Participation as trainers



Some observations

- Regional workshops depend on personal commitments and institutions
- Demand-resources mismatch
- Need for creation of more opportunities for cross-network knowledge exchange – *Georgia Summit*
 - More functions? More activities in RNs (e.g. between annual meetings, e-learning?)
 - More Initiative? Data Initiatives could be hosted by RNs
 - More Organizing? Website; membership, fundraising?
 - More outreach? How about related disciplines, esp behavioral sciences?



Thank you !!

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