# REgional Carbon Cycle Assessment and Processes

Version: 6 October 2010



#### Scope

- To establish the mean carbon balance of large regions of the globe at the scale of continents and large ocean basins, including their component fluxes.
- To do it by comparing and reconciling multiple bottom-up estimates with the results of regional top-down atmospheric inversions, with attribution to main flux components.
- To evaluate the regional 'hot-spots' of interannual variability and possibly the trends and underlying processes over the past two (or more) decades by combining available long-term observations and modeling.

## Why RECCAP?

- To provide higher spatial resolution of the global carbon balance with the aim to improve attribution to processes and hot-spots regions essential to understand the future evolution of the carbonclimate feedback.
- To address a growing demand for a capacity to Measure, Report, and Verify (MRV) the evolution of regional fluxes and the outcomes of climate mitigation policies.
- To develop the technical capacity in regions with regional carbon balances of global significance but with little or not technical capabilities.
- To respond to the Group on Earth Observations (EOS) in establishing a global carbon observatory to track the evolution of natural and anthropogenic carbon sources and sinks.

#### **RECCAP** Principle

Multiple Constraints to Understand One Carbon Budget



#### **Components of Regional Synthesis**



Tier 1 model outputs are coordinated by RECCAP

# Synthesis Approach (top-down and bottom-up)

- *Reconciliation of flux estimates* (independently assessed and often partially overlapping) as a means to build confidence in our understanding of the component fluxes, mean estimates, and inter-annual variability.
- Although we are ultimately interested in building a mathematically-formalized multiple constraint approach, model data fusion or data assimilation, RECCAP is not pursuing this approach in its first phase with a completion date 2012.
- Uncertainties need to be quantitatively estimated.

#### **Global Tier 1 Products**

- 10 Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> inversions
- 5 Ocean forward models
- 1 Ocean inversion
- 7 Terrestrial models (DGVMs)
- 1 NEP-flux empirical model
- 1 Fire emissions product
- 1 Land use change emissions
- 1 Rivers fluxes to oceans
- 1 Embedded fluxes in international trade



### Land and Ocean Regional Syntheses

#### Land

14	
L1	Africa
L2	Arctic tundra
L3	Australia
L4	Europe
L5	North America
L6	Russia
L7	South America
L8	East Asia
L9	Southeast Asia
10	South Asia



#### Oceans

- O2 Pacific
- O3 Atlantic and Arctic
- O4 Southern Ocean
- O5 Indian

#### Mean Carbon Budget of Russia (1990-2009)





www.globalcarbonproject.org/RECCAP

