

GlobCover 3rd User Consultation , 9-10 Sept 2008, EEA/Copenhagen

- Global land cover is core data set for UNEP and partners in environment assessment, reporting and early warning e.g. Global Environment Outlook (GEO), Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA), GEO Deserts, Global Outlook for Ice & Snow, Atlas of Our Changing Environment etc. Analysis and illustrations.
- Support automated classification to enable regular updating and comparison. Need for times-series and comparison - change and trends!
After the unique GLCC 1992/93 (IGBP/DISCover et al.), GLC2000, GlobCover 2005/06; what next: GlobCover every 5 years? 2 years? 1 year?
- Good potential for use at (sub)regional, country level and sub-national levels, e.g. boreal forest assessment in Russian federation, land use change in Amazonia, local climate-change impacts and adaptation in Africa and other regions.
However, anomalies found when comparing v1 with existing regional/national maps e.g. in Amazonia basin: under- or overestimation of forest cover in Beni region (Bolivia), near Iquitos (Peru) and in Rondonia (Brazil). How good will v2 be?
- User-friendly packaging, high-quality documentation/manuals and tools for easy display, access, exploration and use. Simple readme's, menu for selecting regions and countries?
- Distribution of public GlobCover v2 data (and posters) to regional offices, inclusion in UNEP databases (GEO Data Portal), together with many other variables/indicators among targeted UNEP user communities. Channel experiences and feedback back to GlobCover consortium.