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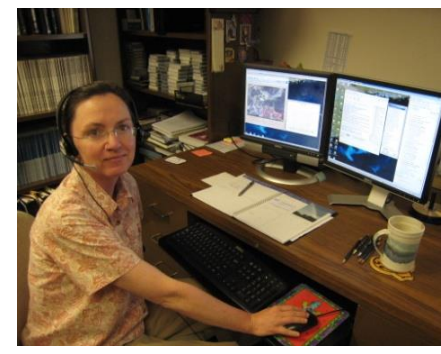
WMO Regional Focus Group of the Americas and the Caribbean March 2004 - current

ORGANIZERS: CIRA, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC International Desks, Centers of Excellence in Costa Rica and Barbados.

GOALS:

- Provide regular exposure to satellite image interpretation to enhance confidence in use
- Motivate the frequent use of satellite imagery in the forecast process
- Provide a means to obtain knowledge about new satellite products and applications

<http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/training/rmtc/focusgroup.asp>

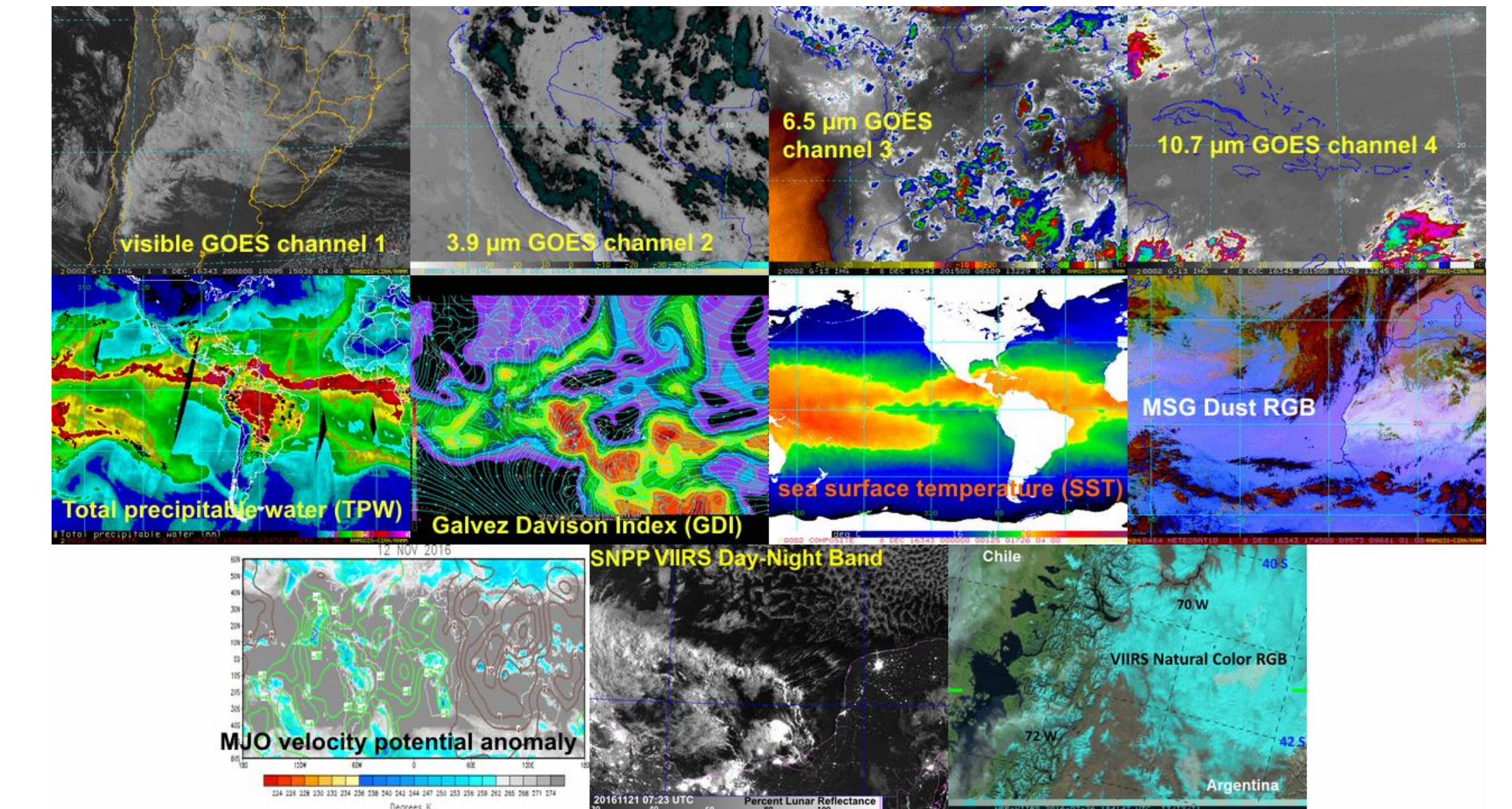


Who is the audience?

PRIMARY FOCUS: National Weather Services

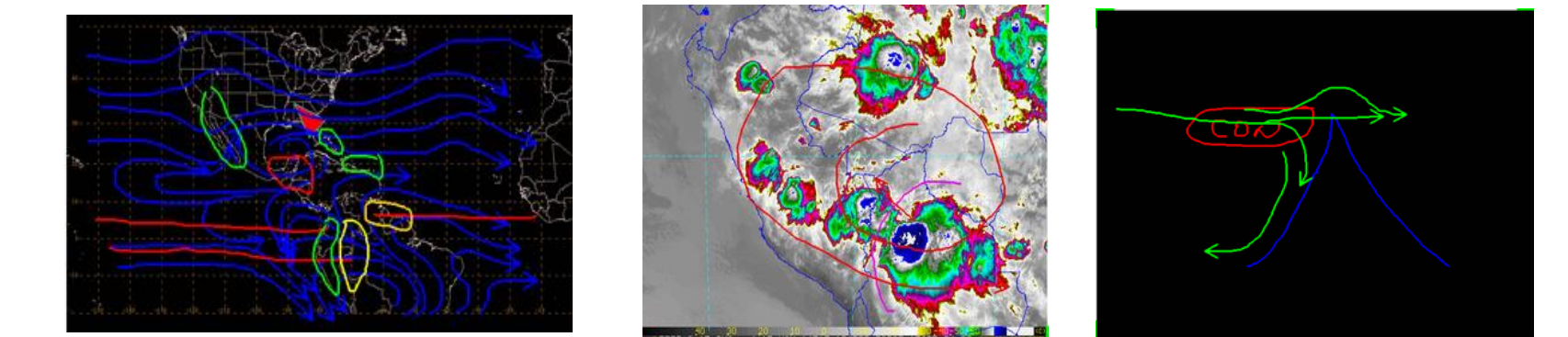
TRAINING IS ALSO APPLICABLE TO:

- Academia
- Managers (Public and Private)
- Weather Enthusiasts
- Media / General Public



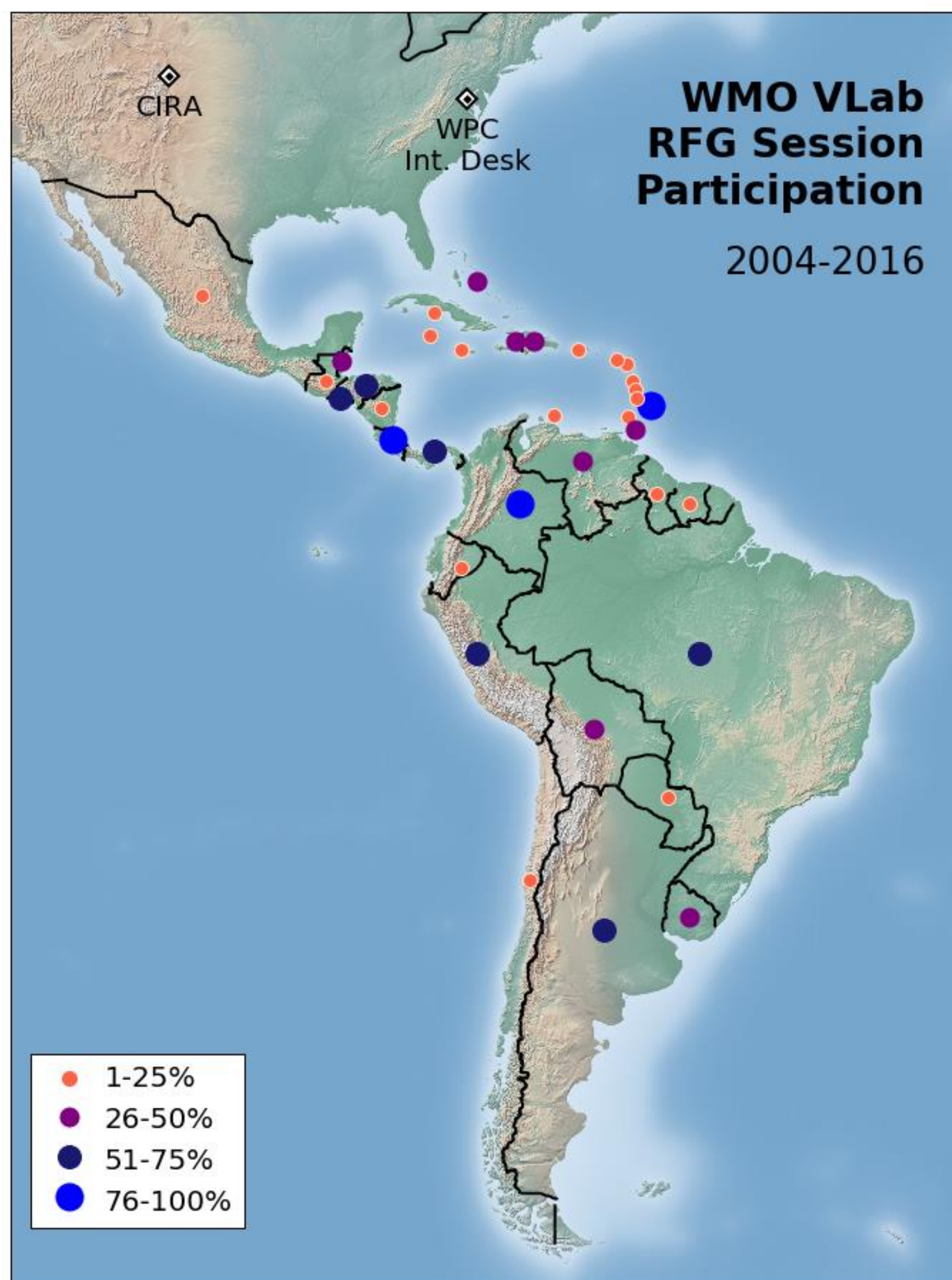
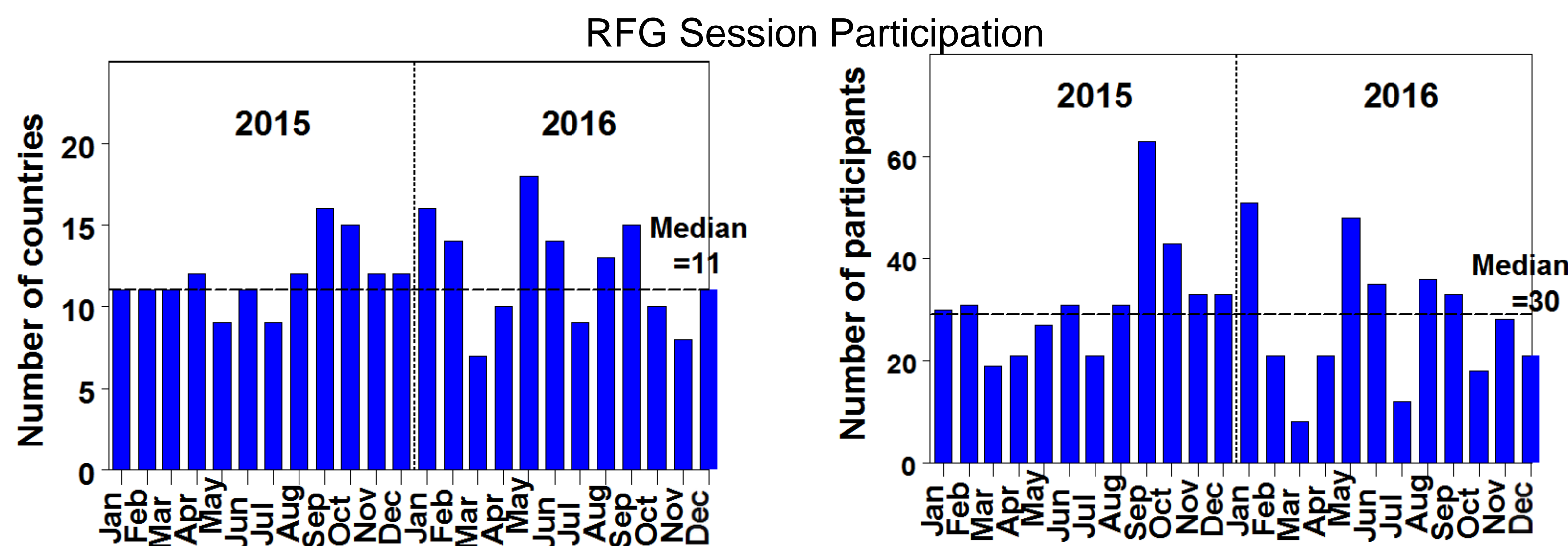
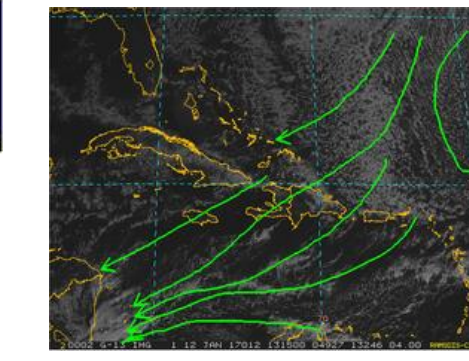
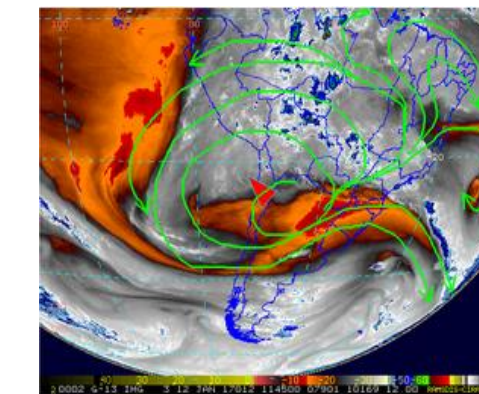
What is discussed?

Imagery, Products and Forecasts related to Weather and Climate from existing and new satellites including GOES-R/16 and JPSS-1



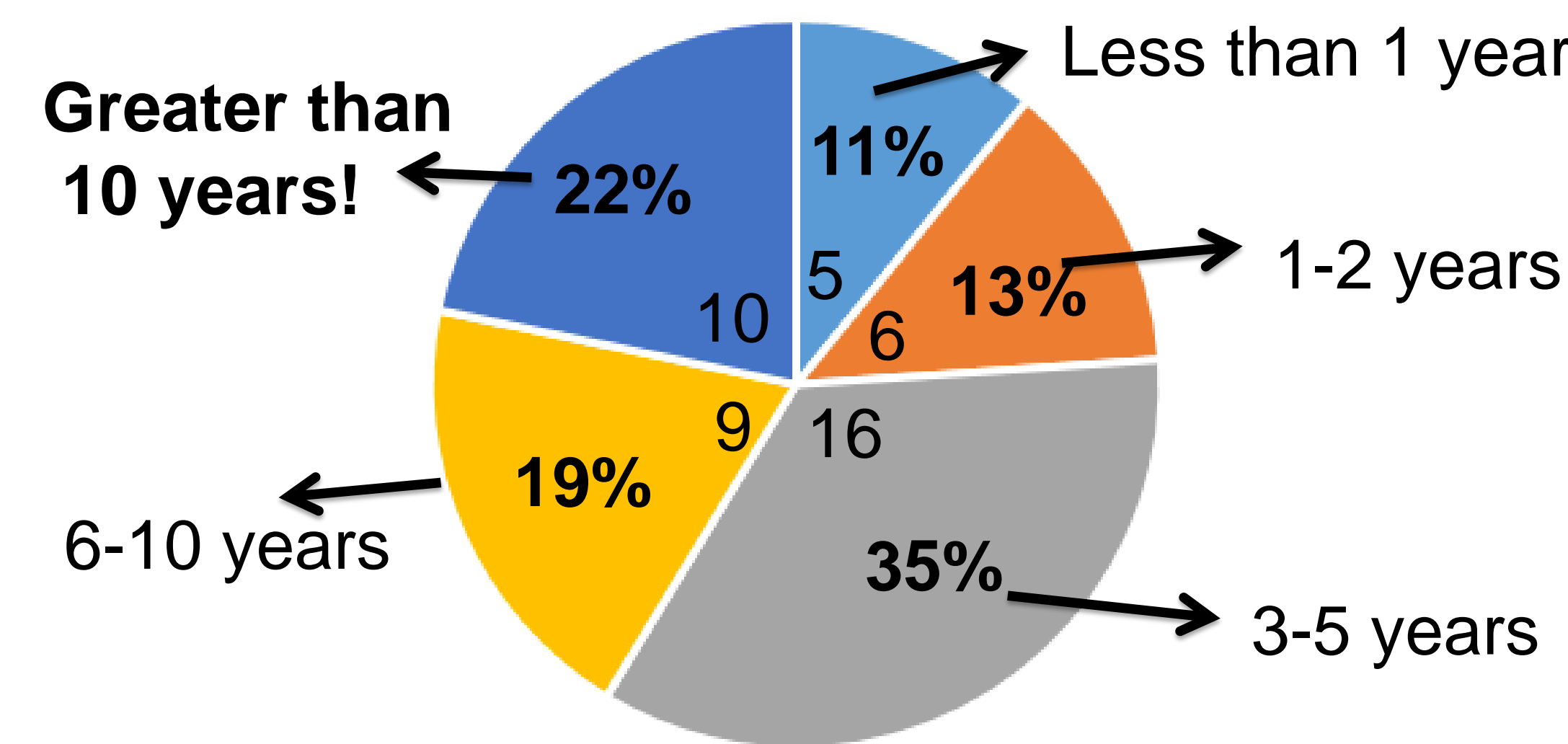
KEYS TO SUCCESS

- Motivation
- Distribution of the workload
- Cooperation and Collaboration
- Input from experts and users
- Discussions in Native Language
- Build capacity



Survey distributed in English and Spanish - 46 responses

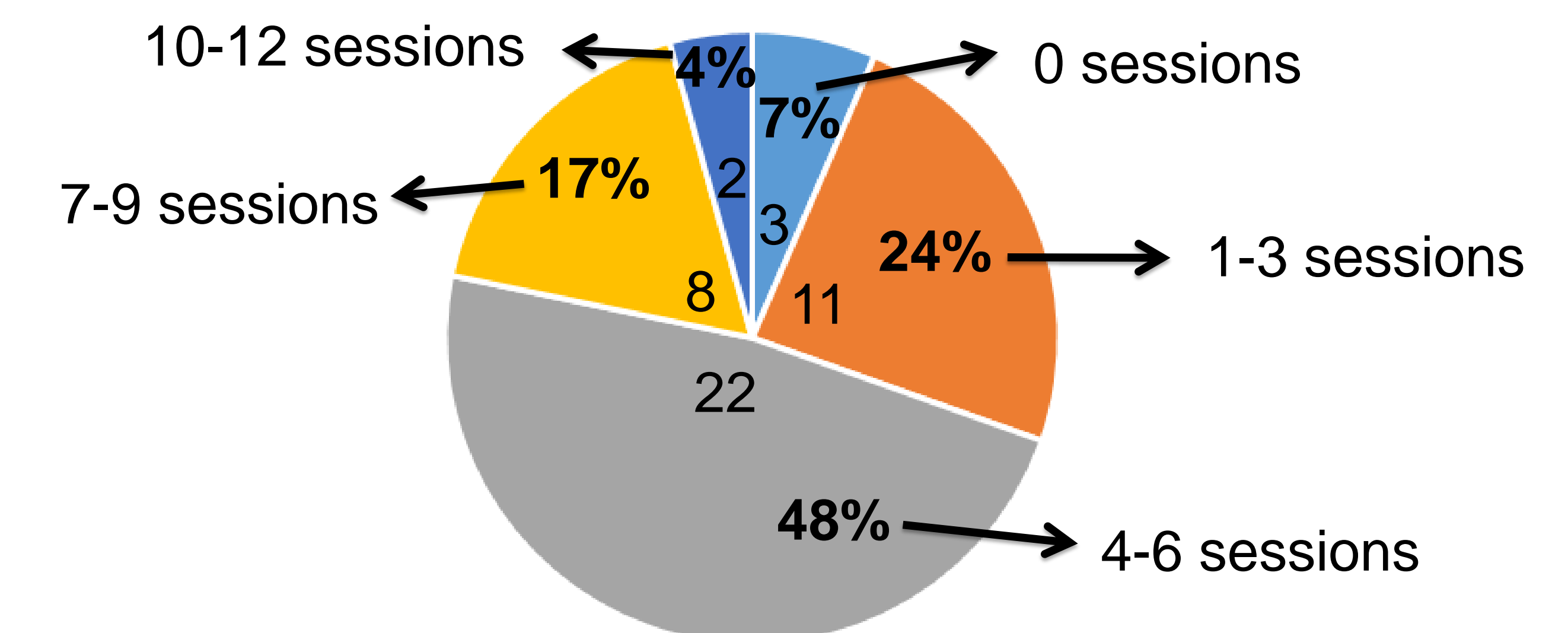
Results: Length of Participation



Participating in the RFG helps the participant to:

- Identify atmospheric and surface features in satellite imagery more readily (89%)
- Feel more confident about the interpretation of satellite images (78%)
- Investigate new ways in which satellite data may assist in their occupation (76%)
- Keep up to date with new satellite products available (74%)

Participation during the past year



Future Plans

- Continue to engage participants in the "regular" Monthly Regional Focus Group Sessions
- Organize supplemental sessions on
 - New and existing imagery and applications from geostationary satellites (GOES-R/16)
 - New and existing imagery and applications from polar satellites (for example JPSS, GPM)
- Engage participants to present a topic from their area of expertise
- Look into developing "hands-on" application exercises

Acknowledgments

This work is supported by NOAA Grant NA14OAR4320125. We are grateful to ALL contributors to the Regional Focus Group Sessions (They would take more than a poster to list!) A special thanks to Rosario Alfaro for translation of the survey.

LOOPS:
RFG Monthly Participation http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/templates/loop_directory.asp?data_folder=visitview/custom/participation/Session_monthly
RFG Yearly Participation http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/templates/loop_directory.asp?data_folder=visitview/custom/participation/Session_yearly
RFG Monthly Participation merged with International Desk Participation http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/templates/loop_directory.asp?data_folder=visitview/custom/participation/SessionDeskMerge_monthly

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