



## **Drought Side Meeting • 29-Nov-2007**

### Introduction

- *Mark Myers, Director, USGS*

### North American Drought Monitor and NIDIS

- *Jay Lawrimore, NOAA/NCDC*

### FEWS NET

- *Tamuka Magadzire, FEWS NET*  
*Regional Scientist for Southern Africa*

### Drought Management Center for Southeastern Europe

- *Silvo Zlebir, Director, Environmental Agency of the Republic of Slovenia*

### SERVIR

- *Carrie Stokes, USAID*

~40 people from 19 countries

- Argentina
- Australia
- Austria
- Belgium
- Botswana
- Canada
- France
- Germany
- Honduras
- Japan
- Kenya
- Korea
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Panama
- Slovenia
- South Africa
- United Kingdom
- USA



## ***Drought ... The Growing Threat***

- During the past 30 years, there is evidence of an increase in the incidence of drought worldwide
- Increasing temperatures combined with growing populations and unsustainable use of water resources are combining to magnify drought's impacts

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### ***Response: Drought Early Warning System(s) (DEWS)***

- **Required Areas of Expertise**
  - **Drought Monitoring**
  - **Forecasting**
  - **Impacts Monitoring and Assessment**
  - **Research**
  - **Education**
  - **Planning**
- **Some or all of these areas are beginning to be addressed by national and regional programs**



- **Recommended approach to achieving long-term objective**
  - **Initially address by expanding regional activities**
    - Begin with areas strongly impacted by ENSO (Americas and Pacific: North and South America, Australia)
- **Near-term Priorities**
  - **Develop a Task within the GEO Work Plan**
  - **Convene a meeting of technical leadership to identify needs and priorities**
    - Identify needs as well as existing or potential capacities across nations
    - Establish initial approaches and identify one or more fundamental aspects to address first