

SERVIR GLOBAL

Collaboration Forum Report

May 18-19, 2015
Washington, DC



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Collaboration Forum Background and Objectives

As SERVIR looks forward to expanding its reach, the program aims to learn more about the current community of climate data and information capacity building programs operating in developing countries. The Program seeks to identify potential areas for collaboration around existing efforts that can help scale up efforts, increase SERVIR's reach, and strengthen science and data sharing.

SERVIR inherently operates in partnerships, currently consisting of six partners that include the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) based in Nepal, the Regional Centre for Mapping Resources for Development (RCMRD) based in Kenya, the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) based in Thailand, and DAI, implementing partner for the SERVIR Demand Activity. SERVIR has additional linkages with universities and science institutions across the country through its Applied Sciences Team (AST) program, as well as through the Small Grants Program (via the Demand Activity) and the Small Scale Applications program (funded by NASA). SERVIR provides data and grants to scientists at different universities and research centers that are developing useful applications or applied research to help stakeholders make more informed decisions around climate change mitigation and adaptation.

While SERVIR works in parallel and in tandem with other USG-supported programs, for example the GHG initiative with the US EPA in the Eastern and Southern Africa region, there is a desire to strengthen these relationships and open more opportunities for potential collaboration. The Collaboration Forum, held on May 18-19, 2015, brought together representatives from 29 organizations supporting complementary programs to share experiences and learn from each other.

The expected results of the Forum included the following:

- US agencies, international institutions, and NGOs gain an increased understanding of each other's science and technology programs in developing countries
- Opportunities are identified for collaboration with SERVIR and existing initiatives and resources

More specifically, for SERVIR the broader outcome of the Forum is to reach more users with tailored products and tools and integrate more appropriate and innovative science through collaboration.

As part of the Forum, participants shared high level observations that facilitated understanding of the landscape in which the attending organizations operate and conducted mapping exercises to elucidate how and where their programs are operating geographically and thematically.

Attendees

Invitees to the Forum came from programs and organizations/agencies that are generating data and analysis, providing technical assistance on decision support products, and working with local decision-makers to increase the uptake of relevant data and analysis in developing countries as it relates to climate change. A list of attendees can be found in Annex A.

By these attendees, twenty-nine organizations were represented, including the following:

- American Red Cross
- Conservation International
- ClimateData Initiative
- US Department of Interior
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- FAO
- FEWS NET
- Global Development Lab
- Global Forest Watch
- International Research Institute for Climate and Society, Columbia University
- IRAP
- Millennium Challenge Corporation
- Mercy Corps
- NASA
- UCAR-NCAR
- NOAA
- National Science Foundation
- USAID Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance
- Red Cross Climate Centre
- US State Department
- US Forest Service
- US Army Corps
- USAID
- US Geological Survey
- USDA
- White House Office of Science and Technology Policy
- World Bank
- World Resource Institute
- World Wildlife Foundation

Collaboration Forum Summary

The Forum agenda was two days (Annex B). The first day had three goals:

- 1) To take an in-depth look at different programs that are working with data services for decision support in developing countries;
- 2) To map institutions to the roles they play, the geographies they are working in, the local implementing partners, and the levels of government or societies they are working with; and
- 3) To identify points where program efforts are strong or where they could use resources or support from other programs.

Day 2 consisted mainly of break-out sessions to delve more deeply into the practical aspects of collaboration related to communications and uptake, data provision and exchange, local institutional engagement, science collaboration, South-South exchange, and technical training.

Throughout the two days, the Demand Team charted the landscape of attendees' programs, captured discussion, and shared useful information. These tools included the following:

- A graphic recording created by a facilitator to diagram important takeaways and discussion points as sessions progressed (Annex C).
- A pre-event survey to capture high-level programmatic information from the attendees to help frame discussions during the event (See findings from this survey detailed in Annex D).
- A "Lookbook" providing a brief description of each of the programs represented, including a program overview, lead organization and implementing partners, geographic locations of operation, and the attendees present.

DAY ONE

Jenny Frankel-Reed, USAID/Washington SERVIR coordinator, and Nancy Searby, Capacity Building Program Manager, NASA Applied Sciences Program, welcomed participants to the Forum. Following the welcome, the Demand Activity Chief of Party, Noemi Danao-Schroeder, presented the initial findings from the survey and gave participants an opportunity to reflect on these findings (see Annex E for the full presentation). According to the survey, participants arrived at the Forum expecting primarily to identify opportunities to collaborate, though the difference in rating for each topic was not significant (Table 1).

Table 1. What attendees are expecting from the Forum¹

Please rate the importance of the following SERVIR Collaboration Forum topics	Score
Identifying opportunities to collaborate	4.38
Learning more about the work of other programs	4.15
Understanding and mapping out our different roles, geographies, and local level partners	4.06
Improving communications and outreach around data, tools and applications	3.97
Opportunity for one-on-one conversations	3.97
Furthering science and data exchange	3.85
Identifying opportunities to engage local/national/regional institutions in developing countries	3.82

Attendees who took the survey were most interested in South-South Exchanges, and less interested in discussing data provision and exchange (Table 2). The topics addressed in the survey are areas that SERVIR has a vested interest in exploring collaboration opportunities. SERVIR participants were somewhat surprised that science collaboration and data provision and exchange were ranked lowest by respondents, given that these areas are of primary interest to SERVIR. However, this might also mean that respondents felt their programs are already relatively stronger in these areas compared to, for example, South-South exchange or communications and outreach.

Table 2. Topics most interested to discuss

Please rank these topics by level interest to your program or institution	Score
Global/South-South Exchanges	4.91
Communications and Outreach	3.89
Technical Training	3.43
Local Institutional Engagement/Regional Platforms	3.37
Science Collaboration	3.06
Data Provision and Exchange	2.34

Noemi's presentation went on to describe the results from the pre-event survey and the programs represented at the Forum. The high-level results were presented to spur discussion and build upon each other throughout the rest of the first day. The information in the survey was only representative of the 17 programs that responded to the survey:

¹ Scoring was 1 out of 5 with 5 being the highest importance

- CASCADE
- Enhancing National Climate Services (ENACTS)
- Firecast Satellite Monitoring System
- International Research and Applications Project
- Land Cover for Climate (LC4Climate)
- National GHG Inventory Capacity Building
- NEON
- PEER
- Public-Private Partnership for Climate Data and Information for Resilient Development
- SERVIR
- Silvacarbon
- US Climate Data Initiative
- Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture
- ARSET
- Climate Science and Applications Program
- Environmental Monitoring Program

Figure 1 (below) shows what activities programs are doing, while Figure 2 shows what thematic areas they work in. Based on this information, SERVIR Demand facilitated a session in which attendees diagrammed how their work intersects on matrices presented later on in the report.

Figure 1. Program activities

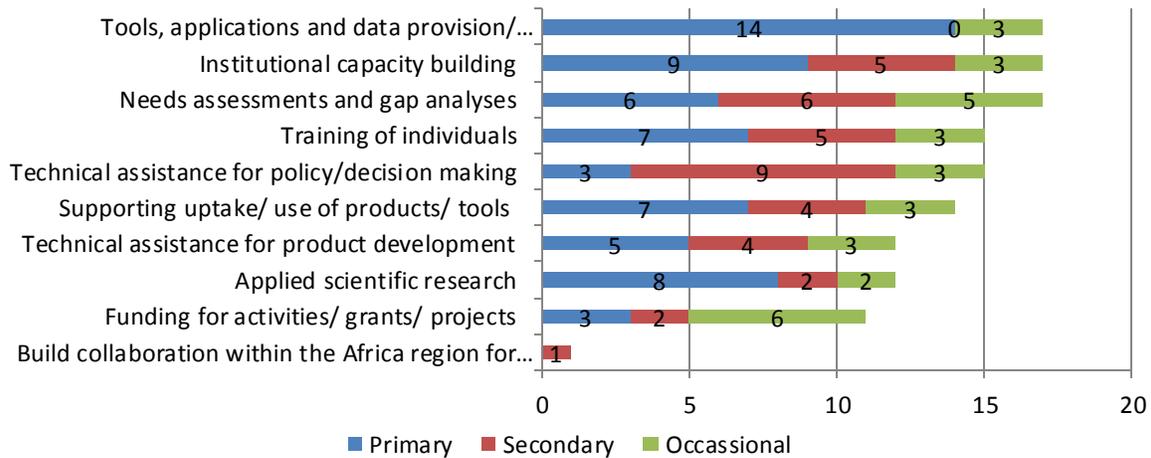
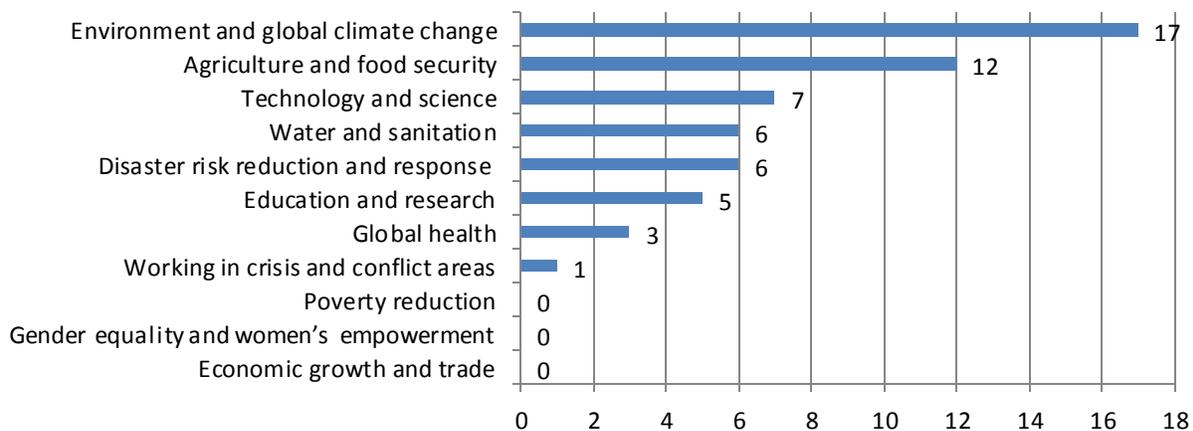


Figure 2. Program themes



The morning of the first day continued with a presentation by Jenny Frankel-Reed from USAID and Dan Irwin from NASA to help attendees get a more thorough understanding of SERVIR. This session resulted

in a productive Q&A session that set the pace for the rest of the two days. This was followed by four presentations by other groups that are advancing climate services and decision-support products and tools. The presentations were as follows:

- Land Cover for Climate (LC4Climate) - Building Capacity for National GHG Inventory Needs – *Jean Parcher, DOI and Tom Wirth, EPA*
- World Bank Global Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (GFDRR) – *Alanna Simpson*
- Silvacarbon – *Evan Notman, USAID*
- International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) – *Lisa Goddard*

In the afternoon, attendees joined interactive sessions designed to map out programmatic roles, geographies, and local level partners. During the first part of the afternoon attendees listed their local partners on post-it notes to indicate where their programs are operating.

Figure 3. Mapping local partners



The second part of the afternoon was spent learning about the kinds of activities that programs were doing and the specific thematic areas that these programs are operating in. The results are illustrated in Table 3 on the following pages.

Table 3. Matrices representing programs by theme and what activities they are doing

AGRICULTURE									
Program Name	Tools, applications, and data provision or development	Applied scientific research	Institutional capacity building	Training of individuals	Funding of activities, grants or projects	Needs assessments and gap analyses	Technical assistance for decisions making	Technical assistance for product and tool development	Supporting uptake and use of decision support products or tools
CASCADE		✓	✓	✓		✓			
FEWS NET	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
IRI - Ministry of Agriculture	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
World Bank	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Climate Data Initiative									✓
LandPKS	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓
Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture			✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
PEER		✓	✓	✓	✓				
UCAR - NCAR	✓	✓					✓		
SERVIR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Global Resilience Program					✓				
PPP for Climate Data and Information for Resilient Development	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
NOAA								✓	✓
HEALTH AND AIR QUALITY									

Program Name	Tools, applications, and data provision or development	Applied scientific research	Institutional capacity building	Training of individuals	Funding of activities, grants or projects	Needs assessments and gap analyses	Technical assistance for decisions making	Technical assistance for product and tool development	Supporting uptake and use of decision support products or tools
FEWS NET	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Climate Data Initiative									✓
IRI - WHO - PMI	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
PEER		✓	✓	✓	✓				
UCAR - NCAR	✓	✓					✓		
SERVIR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
NOAA	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY									
Program Name	Tools, applications, and data provision or development	Applied scientific research	Institutional capacity building	Training of individuals	Funding of activities, grants or projects	Needs assessments and gap analyses	Technical assistance for decisions making	Technical assistance for product and tool development	Supporting uptake and use of decision support products or tools
Firecast	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Climate Data Initiative									✓
WWF	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
NOAA	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PEER		✓	✓	✓	✓				
SERVIR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
IRI	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
Mercy Corps		✓	✓			✓	✓		
CASCADE		✓		✓		✓	✓		
WEATHER AND SEASONAL FORECASTING									

Program Name	Tools, applications, and data provision or development	Applied scientific research	Institutional capacity building	Training of individuals	Funding of activities, grants or projects	Needs assessments and gap analyses	Technical assistance for decisions making	Technical assistance for product and tool development	Supporting uptake and use of decision support products or tools
NOAA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
FEWS NET	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Firecast	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
IRI	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
IRAP	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
UCAR - NCAR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
SERVIR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mercy Corps	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PPP for Climate Data and Information for Resilient Development	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
NATURAL DISASTERS									
Program Name	Tools, applications, and data provision or development	Applied scientific research	Institutional capacity building	Training of individuals	Funding of activities, grants or projects	Needs assessments and gap analyses	Technical assistance for decisions making	Technical assistance for product and tool development	Supporting uptake and use of decision support products or tools
IRI - IFRC	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
USGS Flood Info Systems	✓		✓						
WWF Green Recovery and Reconstruction Training	✓			✓			✓	✓	✓
Firecast	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
NOAA	✓	✓	✓			✓			

PEER		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
FEWS NET	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
SERVIR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
OFDA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mercy Corps	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
IRI ENACTS	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
IRAP	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Global Resilience Program					✓				
PPP for Climate Data and Information for Resilient Development	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

Program Name	Tools, applications, and data provision or development	Applied scientific research	Institutional capacity building	Training of individuals	Funding of activities, grants or projects	Needs assessments and gap analyses	Technical assistance for decisions making	Technical assistance for product and tool development	Supporting uptake and use of decision support products or tools
SERVIR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
World Bank PPCR Country Climate Resilience	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
WWF - Ecosystem Biodiversity	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cascade		✓	✓	✓		✓			
FEWS NET	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
USGS Groundwater Exploration	✓		✓	✓					

Climate Data Initiative						✓	Want to do	Want to do	✓
Uruguay - DACC	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
PPP for Climate Data and Information for Climate Resilient Development	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		
PEER		✓	✓	✓	✓				
IRI	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Mercy Corps		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
UCAR - NCAR	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	
NOAA	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Global Research Program					✓				
Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH)	✓		✓		✓		✓		

WATER AND SANITATION

Program Name	Tools, applications, and data provision or development	Applied scientific research	Institutional capacity building	Training of individuals	Funding of activities, grants or projects	Needs assessments and gap analyses	Technical assistance for decisions making	Technical assistance for product and tool development	Supporting uptake and use of decision support products or tools
FEWS NET	✓	✓				✓			✓
Climate Data Initiative									✓
SERVIR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
WWF Natural Capital Project	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
NOAA	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
PEER	☐	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
SWP (DOS)			✓	✓		✓	✓		

UCAR - NCAR	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓
OFDA					✓	☐			
Mercy Corps	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			
LAND COVER AND SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES/REDD+									
Program Name	Tools, applications, and data provision or development	Applied scientific research	Institutional capacity building	Training of individuals	Funding of activities, grants or projects	Needs assessments and gap analyses	Technical assistance for decisions making	Technical assistance for product and tool development	Supporting uptake and use of decision support products or tools
WWF Natural Capital Project	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
SERVIR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
West Africa LU/LC	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓
LC4Climate	✓		✓	✓			✓		
Global Forest Watch	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PEER		✓	✓	✓	✓				
NOAA	✓	✓	✓			✓		☐	☐
Firecast	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Silvacarbon	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓

DAY TWO

The objective of Day 2 was to delve into the practical aspects of how to increase data and information sharing across institutions and how to foment their use across institutions and partners. This was done primarily via breakout sessions, which covered the following topics:

- 1) Science collaboration
- 2) Communications and uptake
- 3) Data provision and exchange
- 4) Local institutional engagement
- 5) South-South exchange
- 6) Technical training.

Participants expressed a desire to learn more about the SERVIR networks and what aspects they could leverage to strengthen their own capacity building initiatives and reach the appropriate users. Ultimately a recurrent question posed by attendees was: “what is in it for everyone involved?” Some of the other takeaways are presented by topic below.

Science Collaboration

This breakout focused on discussing opportunities to work together around existing activities at the SERVIR hubs. It was envisioned that this could happen in the form of products, datasets, and analyses that could either be ingested by SERVIR, leveraged by external organizations to fit their needs, or by SERVIR working with external organizations to design something new. Long-term examples of these kinds of collaboration in the SERVIR Applied Science Teams Program (ASTs), while short term examples lie in leveraging existing mechanisms, assembling advisory boards, and creating quick synergies. SERVIR should look at how to capitalize its reach, and NASA needs to look to the whole of the science community to see where they can form linkages. Examples could be in knowledge management, collecting stories, connecting experts, and raising solutions.

Communications and Uptake

The big questions when it comes to communications and uptake are who are the audiences and stakeholders of SERVIR, and what do “they” get from working with SERVIR. Communicating does not necessarily lead to uptake. This also brought up the bigger issue that many organizations and agencies are still not clear on what SERVIR does, so it was recommended that SERVIR make this more explicit. It was also recommended that NASA [and USAID] do a stocktaking of what exists in other organizations and agencies in terms of tools and applications for climate change, with an eye to potential SERVIR linkages. The Climate Data Initiative has already conducted a national stocktaking of USG efforts, so this would be a good place to start. Since the science policy link happens at the hubs, it was also suggested that the hub workplans could be used as a communications document to solicit input from others.

Data Provision and Exchange

This group focused on the issues of working with policies and standards, interoperability, ensuring open access, and harnessing knowledge (in situ, data analysis, packaging, etc.). The group found it was important to promote USG open data policies (ex: hub products/tools and global online tools such as the Product Catalogue, the Data Catalogue, and the Geoportal). Examples from SERVIR hubs include:

- RCMRD mandate to support NSDI in 20 member countries

- ICIMOD support for Bhutan and Nepal’s national geoportals
- Exchange of data between end users (ground data/observations)
- Software/code release information sharing

The group also talked about examples of data provision and exchange from other programs beyond SERVIR. Examples included:

- CI – WDPA/IUCN QC on input datasets
- National Capital project WWF
- User forum, frequent releases written in Python, operated by Stanford
- WWF Hydrosheds – consolidation of most commonly used data sources needs for particular applications
- NOAA – 90% satellite inputs; others in situ; GEONetcast, free satellite data (current)
- NOAA historical observation data from 70s available at a nominal fee, but free to disseminate after 2016
- FEWS – NDVI, WRSI, Global ET data available – improved geoportal with analytical products
- Reinsurance companies buy data
- Methods to blend station data with gridded satellite products (ENACTS project) – Met Offices
- FEWSNET and IRI OGC enabled layers
- World Bank incentives
- USG pressure on USG projects to publish all input data.

Local Institutional Engagement

The objective of this group was to talk through how to sustain local capacity. The discussion also focused on the knowledge that some potential collaborators lack local end users, so how does SERVIR partner with those groups? The breakout group discussed the following:

- Learning from the SERVIR external evaluation – specifically Question 2 about the ability of hubs to act as regional service providers
- Shifting toward consortium and/or starting with grantees
- Ensuring strong hubs with the right skills deliver high quality results
- Exploring embedded experts and champions within SERVIR’s key sectors (agriculture, hydrology, weather, forest, land)
- Better sharing of our information about users/collaborators. (ex: A broker role in which hubs identify appropriate partners)
- Closer engagement with universities and NGOs.

South-South Exchange

The group discussed how to enable information exchange across networks. NASA gave examples of SERVIR hub-hub exchanges, such as how “older” SERVIR hubs helped newer hubs set up their servers. NASA also noted that hub exchanges are contractual activities. A few possible hub exchanges might include how to task satellites, how institutions are governed, best practices being used, and adapting product development, among other topics. Another purpose of exchanges could also be seen as fomenting and maintaining a community of practice. In this way, it would be less about applied knowledge exchange and be more about information exchange. Exchanges could also be centered on uptake, as many people noted that face to face

interacting is critical for uptake. Because different programs also operate on a hub model (e.g., Mercy Corps), the group also suggested exchanges between program hubs (dubbed “hub-hub-hub” exchanges) wherein hubs from one program participate in joint events or activities with other program hubs.

Discussion points and areas that were mentioned for potential future collaboration include:

- Mercy Corps manages "resilience hubs," and the idea was proposed to have a SERVIR-hosted exchange at one of these hubs that would bring together USAID programs to adapt/replicate a SERVIR tool for a particular USAID program.
- The idea of "adapt-a-tool" exchange would bring together all relevant stakeholders and science alongside of users to adapt a tool for a particular program, user, stakeholder, or issue. The idea would be to share lessons across the developers and also across the users involved in the tool.
- Set up a “college.”
- Share workplans.
- Conduct webinar-based exchanges.
- Do policy and technical exchanges.

Technical Training

The group focused on capacity building – what that means, how you build capacity, how to enable capacity, and how to determine the need. Strategies and approaches shared included making products and trainings more available and determining clear points of contact. Ideas and opportunities for moving forward included better donor coordination; more US government coordination; conducting pre-surveys; and determining who is working with whom because there is currently a lot of overlap between groups.

WHAT DID WE LEARN FROM THE FORUM

Based on the After Action Review (AAR) (Annex E), it became clear that not a lot of other organizations, institutions, or agencies are doing what SERVIR is doing. This means there is space for SERVIR as a program to be a thought leader and convener – not just in the development of tools and applications, but also in how it reaches out to users. It was also clear that there is an interest among others to better link to SERVIR’s connections to users and Hubs. Additionally, attendees indicated that they would like to better understand the SERVIR program. One interesting comment, mentioned by more than one participant was that they were glad to hear that SERVIR was “opening up” to collaboration.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

Evaluations (see Annex F) completed by attendees on the second day were positive, though a common sentiment was that further clarification on SERVIR’s role and mission is needed. This also echoes what was said during the AAR. Next steps that emerged from the AAR include:

- SERVIR’s role should be that of thought leader, convener, and broker of the “community of practice” of the organizations that attended the forum.
- Develop a partnership development plan.
 - Get clear on the “what,” then the “how.”
 - Start with what is manageable.

- Prioritize the top bilateral relationships.
 - Decide on appropriate levels of partnership from particular projects to MOUs.
- Create communication/outreach mechanism with forum participants, such as a quarterly communication.
- Continuously build maps using this network.
- Include partnerships in hubs' new cooperative agreements.
- Identify who will own and drive each of these actions.
- Develop tool to track who is doing what in communications and what relationships the hubs have with partners (e.g. CRM).
- Decide how much of user information will be made public.

Additional recommendations include:

- Provide more concise and consistent communications around SERVIR.
- Be explicit about tangible ways to link directly through hubs and have them involved in these conversations.
- Explore opportunities for collaboration on a thematic level, using the information in the matrices as a starting point for invitees; it would be helpful to have technical experts present as well.
- Follow up on breakout conversations.

Annex A: Collaboration Forum Attendee List

Organization	Name	Email
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EPA	Tom Wirth	Wirth.tom@Epa.gov
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IRI	Lisa Goddard	goddard@iri.columbia.edu
IRI	Pietro Ceccato	pceccato@iri.columbia.edu
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TRG	Steve Yank	syank@trg-inc.com
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US State Department	Olivia Gilmore	GilmoreOC@state.gov
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World Bank Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction	Amal Ali	amalali@worldbankgroup.org
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WWF	Nirmal Bhagabati	nirmal.bhagabati@wwfus.org

Annex B: Forum Agenda

SERVIR Collaboration Forum: Collaborating to Improve Climate-Resilient Decision-Making in Developing Countries

May 18 and 19, 2015

Expected Results:

- US Agencies, international institutions, and NGOs have increased understanding of each other's science and technology programs in developing countries
- Opportunities are identified for collaboration with SERVIR and existing initiatives and resources

Strategic Goals for SERVIR: Reach more users with tailored products and tools and integrate more appropriate and innovative science

Monday, May 18 – Understanding the Landscape

Objective of Day 1: Gain more in-depth understanding of each other's organizations and programs

Time	Session/Topic
9:00 – 9:30	Registration and Breakfast
9:30 – 9:40	Welcome – <i>Jenny Frankel-Reed, USAID and Nancy Searby, NASA</i>
9:40 – 10:00	Introductions - <i>Noemi Danao-Schroeder, DAI</i>
10:00 – 10:30	Initial findings from pre-forum survey - <i>Noemi Danao-Schroeder, DAI</i> <u>Presentation:</u> Share initial findings and trends for data collected before the event <u>Plenary Discussion:</u> Reactions to the survey results
10:30 – 11:00	About SERVIR- <i>Jenny Frankel-Reed, USAID and Dan Irwin, NASA</i>
11:00 – 11:15	Break
11:15 -12:45	Working toward Climate-Resilient Development – <i>Noemi Danao-Schroeder, DAI</i> <u>Panel:</u> A few programs share examples of their efforts for advancing climate resilient development <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Land Cover for Climate (LC4Climate) - Building Capacity for National GHG Inventory Needs – <i>Jean Parcher, DOI and Tom Wirth, EPA</i>• World Bank Global Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (GFDRR) – <i>Alanna Simpson, World Bank</i>• Silvacarbon – <i>Evan Notman, USAID</i>• IRI and IRAP – <i>Lisa Goddard, IRI</i>
12:45 – 1:45	Lunch
1:45 – 3:15	Round Tables: Mapping Our Work – <i>Noemi Danao-Schroeder, DAI</i> We will map our work to understand how our programs intersect thematically, geographically, and operationally. The following questions will be explored: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• With whom are we working?• Where are we working?• How are we engaging local institutions?• Where are we already collaborating?• What are existing opportunities for furthering collaborations? <p><i>(Two 45 minute rounds)</i></p>

3:15 – 3:30	Break
3:30 – 4:30	Mapping Our Work (cont'd) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gallery Walk to review maps from the roundtables session (3:30-3:50) • Facilitated review and discussion (3:50-4:30)
4:30 – 5:00	Plenary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review findings for the day • Preview Day 2 Agenda
5:00	Social Hour

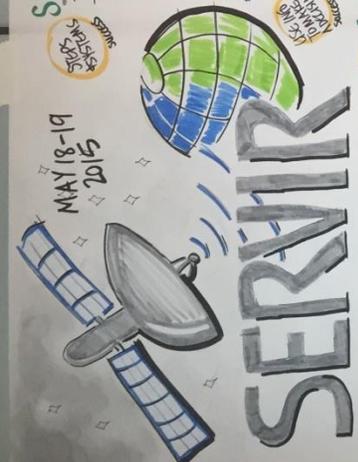
Tuesday, May 19 – Exploring Opportunities for Collaboration

Objective of Day 2: Delve into the practical aspects of how we can increase data and information sharing across our institutions, and how to foment their use across institutions and partners.

Time	Session/Topic
9:00 – 9:30	Registration and Breakfast
9:30 – 10:00	Welcome <i>Noemi Danao-Schroeder, DAI</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectives and agenda for Day 2 • Survey results applicable to Day 2 - TBD
10:00 – 11:00	Breakout Sessions (2 hours) Session Design: 2 rounds, 1 hour conversations, explorations on collaborations/potential partnerships –where do we see the opportunity? What is the intended result/benefit we see? What are the next steps? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Science Collaboration 2. Data Provision and Exchange 3. Technical Training 4. Communications, Outreach, and Uptake 5. Global/S-S Exchanges 6. Local Institutional Engagement/Regional Platforms
11:00 – 11:15	Break
11:15 – 12:15	Breakout Sessions (cont'd)
12:15 – 12:45	Summary Report Out
12:45	Forum Adjournment
12:45 – 1:45	Lunch, One-on-one Conversations TAB table - invite only

Annex C: Graphic Recording from SERVIR Collaboration Forum

MAY 18-19 2015



SERVIR

COLLABORATION FORUM

2015-2020 GOALS

OPPORTUNITIES

- PROVIDE TRANSFERABLE RESEARCH TOOLS
- IMPACTS ON ECOSYSTEMS
- TRAINING GOVERNMENTS TO ASK RIGHT QUESTIONS & PICK THE RIGHT TOOLS
- CONTINUOUS COORDINATION
- TRAINING GOVERNMENTS TO ASK RIGHT QUESTIONS & PICK THE RIGHT TOOLS
- NEED DIVERSE CAPABILITIES OF LOCAL DECISION-MAKERS
- TAKE UP TRAINING TO KEEP GOOD PRACTICES GOING
- BETTER DATA FROM INTEGRABILITY
- HELP GOVERNMENTS TO BUILD TOGETHER AND THEY NEED ROLE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN SERVICE AREA, BUILDING DEMAND & CAPACITY

THEMATIC HIGHLIGHTS & DISCUSSION

- ADAPTATION
- HEALTH
- WATER SANITATION
- WEATHER SEASONAL FORECASTING
- AGRICULTURE
- ECOSYSTEMS BIODIVERSITY
- LAND COVER
- SCIENCE COLLABORATION
- GLOBAL SOUTH SOUTH EXCHANGE
- RIGHT MOMENT TO SHARE GREEN LEVEL
- IDENTIFY POSSIBLE PARTNERSHIPS

PROGRAM OVERVIEWS

- COMMUNITATIONS UP TAKE
- LOCAL INSTITUTIONAL ENGAGEMENT HUBS
- DATA PROVISION
- TECHNICAL TRAINING
- COOPERATION
- GLOBAL SOUTH SOUTH EXCHANGE
- RIGHT MOMENT TO SHARE GREEN LEVEL
- IDENTIFY POSSIBLE PARTNERSHIPS

COLLABORATION TOPICS

- TECHNICAL TRAINING
- COOPERATION
- GLOBAL SOUTH SOUTH EXCHANGE
- RIGHT MOMENT TO SHARE GREEN LEVEL
- IDENTIFY POSSIBLE PARTNERSHIPS

REFLECTIONS & MOVING FORWARD

- BE AWARE PROACTIVE
- BUILD ON DISCUSSIONS, IDEAS, NEW AGREEMENTS
- CONTINUE TO TALK TO COORDINATE EFFECTIVELY
- USE TO INTEGRATE
- EXTEND TO LEARN FROM OTHER PARTNERS
- SHARE PURPOSE & ANALYSIS
- CONNECT TO CONTINUE TO

COLLABORATION TOPICS

- TECHNICAL TRAINING
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COLLABORATION TOPICS

- TECHNICAL TRAINING
- COOPERATION
- GLOBAL SOUTH SOUTH EXCHANGE
- RIGHT MOMENT TO SHARE GREEN LEVEL
- IDENTIFY POSSIBLE PARTNERSHIPS

Annex D: Pre-Forum Survey Findings Presentation



Pre-Forum Survey

SERVIR GLOBAL

- Goals:
 - To learn about participant preferences
 - Collect data about programs to facilitate Forum sessions
- General survey statistics:
 - Sent to 39 participants, 34 responses collected (87% response rate)
 - Information about 17 projects collected



What are people expecting from the Forum

SERVIR GLOBAL

Please rate the importance of the following SERVIR Collaboration Forum topics	Score
Identifying opportunities to collaborate	4.38
Learning more about the work of other programs	4.15
Understanding and mapping out our different roles, geographies, and local level partners	4.06
Improving communications and outreach around data, tools and applications	3.97
Opportunity for one-on-one conversations	3.97
Furthering science and data exchange	3.85
Identifying opportunities to engage local/national/regional institutions in developing countries	3.82



Topics most interested to discuss

SERVIR GLOBAL

Please rank these topics by level interest to your program or institution	Score
Global/South-South Exchanges	4.91
Communications and Outreach	3.89
Technical Training	3.43
Local Institutional Engagement/Regional Platforms	3.37
Science Collaboration	3.06
Data Provision and Exchange	2.34

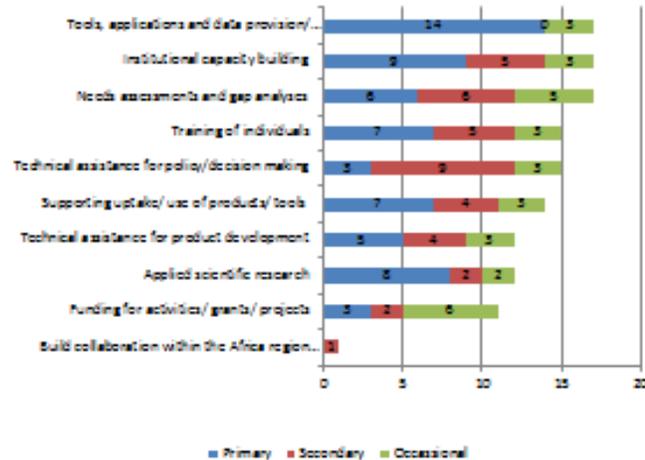


Programs presented at the Forum (from survey) by activity

SERVIR GLOBAL

CASCADE
Enhancing National Climate Services (ENACTS)
FEWSNET
Forecast Satellite Monitoring System
International Research and Applications Project
Land Cover for Climate (LC4Climate)
National GHG Inventory Capacity Building
NEON
PEER
Public-Private Partnership for Climate Data and Information for Resilient Development
SERVIR
Silvacion
US Climate Data Initiative
Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture
ARSET
Climate Science and Applications Program
Environmental Monitoring Program

Program's areas of activity

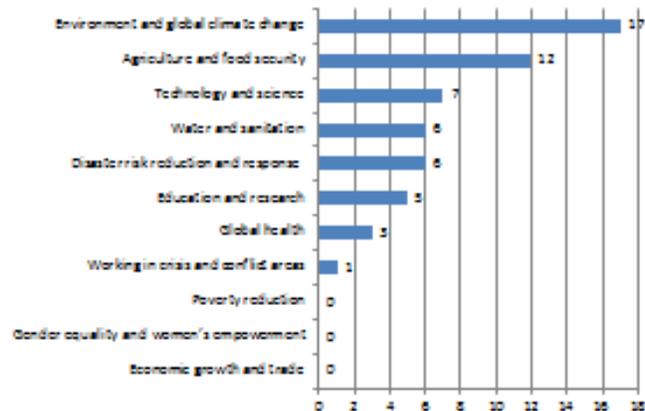


Programs presented at the Forum (from survey) by sector

SERVIR GLOBAL

CASCADE
Enhancing National Climate Services (ENACTS)
FEWSNET
Forecast Satellite Monitoring System
International Research and Applications Project
Land Cover for Climate (LC4Climate)
National GHG Inventory Capacity Building
NEON
PEER
Public-Private Partnership for Climate Data and Information for Resilient Development
SERVIR
Silvacion
US Climate Data Initiative
Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture
ARSET
Climate Science and Applications Program
Environmental Monitoring Program

Programs by sector

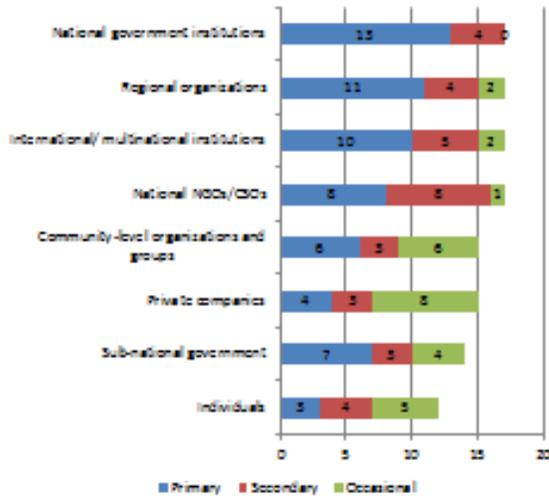


Programs presented at the Forum (from survey) by client

SERVIR GLOBAL

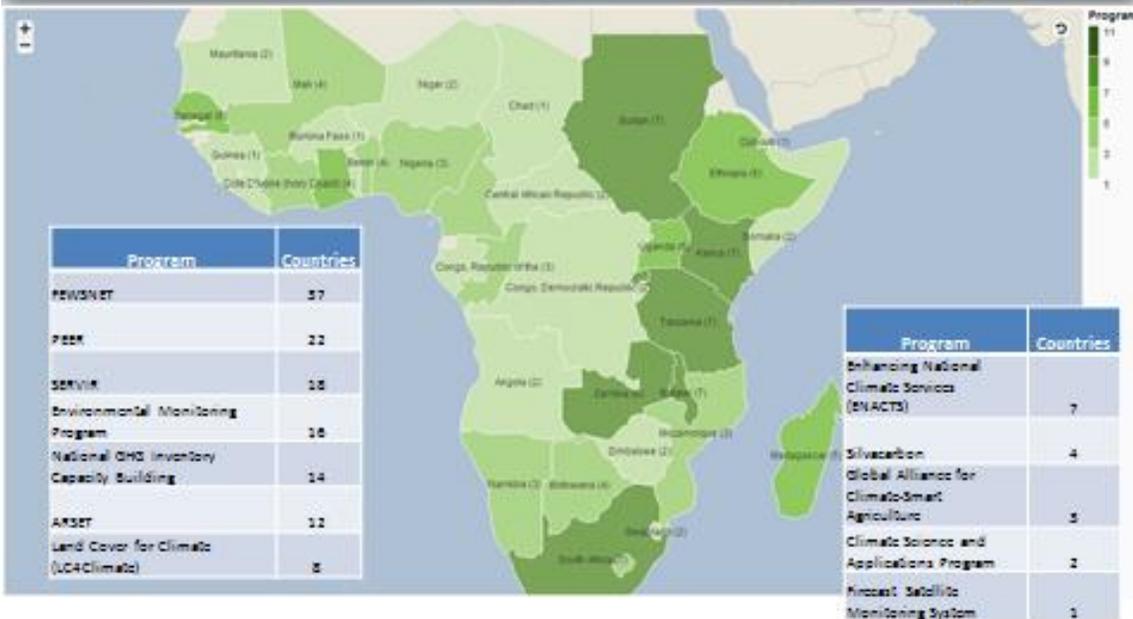
CASCADE
Enhancing National Climate Services (ENACTS)
FEWSNET
Firecast Satellite Monitoring System
International Research and Applications Project
Land Cover for Climate (LC4Climate)
National GHG Inventory Capacity Building
NBDN
PEER
Public Private Partnership for Climate Data and Information for Resilient Development
SERVIR
SilvCarbon
US Climate Data Initiative
Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture
ARSET
Climate Science and Applications Program
Environmental Monitoring Program

Programs by type of client



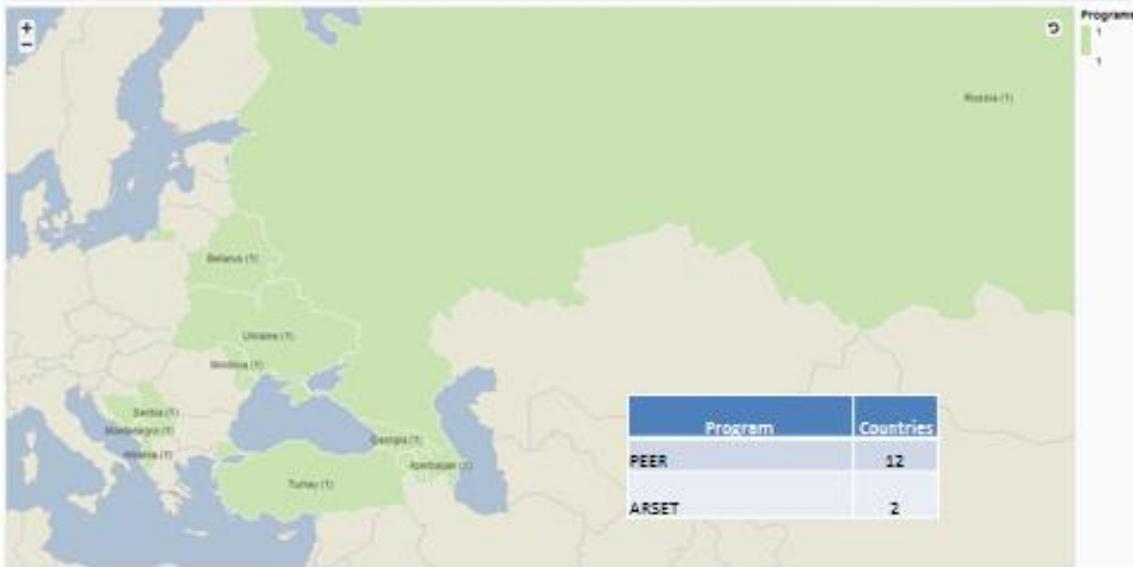
Africa is the most served region

SERVIR GLOBAL



Europe and Eurasia as the least served

SERVIR GLOBAL



Asia is covered by twelve programs

SERVIR GLOBAL



Latin America is also covered by twelve programs

SERVIR GLOBAL



Middle East is covered only by three

SERVIR GLOBAL



Annex F: After Action Review

Participants

- Jenny Frankel-Reed
- Albert Anoubon-Momo
- Nancy Searby
- Dan Irwin
- Ashutosh Limaye
- Tia Ferguson
- Gwen Artis
- Eric Anderson
- Africa Flores
- Noemi Danao-Schroeder
- Shannon Sarbo
- Stacy Whittle
- Carmen Carmen
- Alex Rohozynsky
- Laurie Edwards
- Karishma Patel
- Amanda Trocola

Facilitator: Steve Yank

What Went Well and Why?

- Excellent two days – well-executed
- Robust group of participants
- Good turnout (100% organization/program representation present)
- Good participation – all spoke up!
- Informal venue contributed to high participation level
- Had the right USG reps
- Like the maps
- Coming together on outcomes
- Network analysis
- Sharing survey analysis in the kick-off
- Graphic recording was helpful
- Lookbook is good tool
- Good feedback from breakouts to explore further
- Generated good ideas/connections in breakouts (doing more with others)

What Could We Do Better and How?

- Need more thought on breakout groups, how to allow each program to participate in more groups and not just one per time slot
- Groups by sector may have been easier
- Lack of clarity on SERVIR – overall mission/goals, operating mechanisms (hubs)
- Overestimated participant understanding of SERVIR. Send background info to participants ahead of time
- Distill and tailor SERVIR description for particular audiences and sub-audiences
- Mapping felt like repeat of the survey. Would have been better to prepopulate if we had more time
- Describe the SERVIR “value chain” – SERVIR Global, hubs, etc.
- Use inputs we got from surveys to best use
- Not sure we got what we wanted
- Better define the objective of the SERVIR program, the forum, individual sessions
- Need more planning time
- Need full day of prep for SERVIR team the day prior to the event

- Ground agenda in concrete examples
- Get Look Book out sooner
- Provide participant list first morning

What did We Learn from the Forum?

- Not a lot of people are doing what we do
- There is space for us to be thought leaders
- Liked participants' ideas, but they didn't provide as much in terms of examples/best practices
- Power in diffuseness of SERVIR
 - World is diversified
 - How to better capitalize on our view
 - Need to turn it into a value
- Demand focused
 - Visibility to see the whole
 - Tailored
- Most projects focus on science
 - Ready for tool for industry standards
- Looking for convener
- Positioned to be thought leader
 - Systems as well as products
 - Interest in demand team tools – user engagement, M&E, etc.
 - Product development documents
- Looking for our connections to users and hubs
- Our unique advantage is that we have supply/demand integrated together
- People want our lessons learned
- Participants are ripe for more pro-active outreach from us
- Need different elevator speech for each sector
- How to make partnerships “modular” so it doesn't kill us?! “Easily bolted on partnerships”

Next Steps

- We should see our role as thought leader, convener and broker of the “community of practice” of the organizations that attended the forum. This is not a “heavy lift”.
- Develop a partnership development plan
 - Get clear on the “what”, then the “how”
 - Start with what is manageable
 - Prioritize our top bilateral relationships
 - Decide on appropriate levels of partnership from particular projects to MOUs
- Create communication/outreach mechanism with forum participants, such as a quarterly communication
- Continuously build maps using this network
- Include partnerships in hubs' new cooperative agreements
- Identify who will own/drive each of these actions

- Develop tool so we all know what all of us are doing in communications/relationships with partners
e.g. CRM

Need to figure out how much of our user information we want to make public

Annex E: Evaluation Results

Number of Forum participants

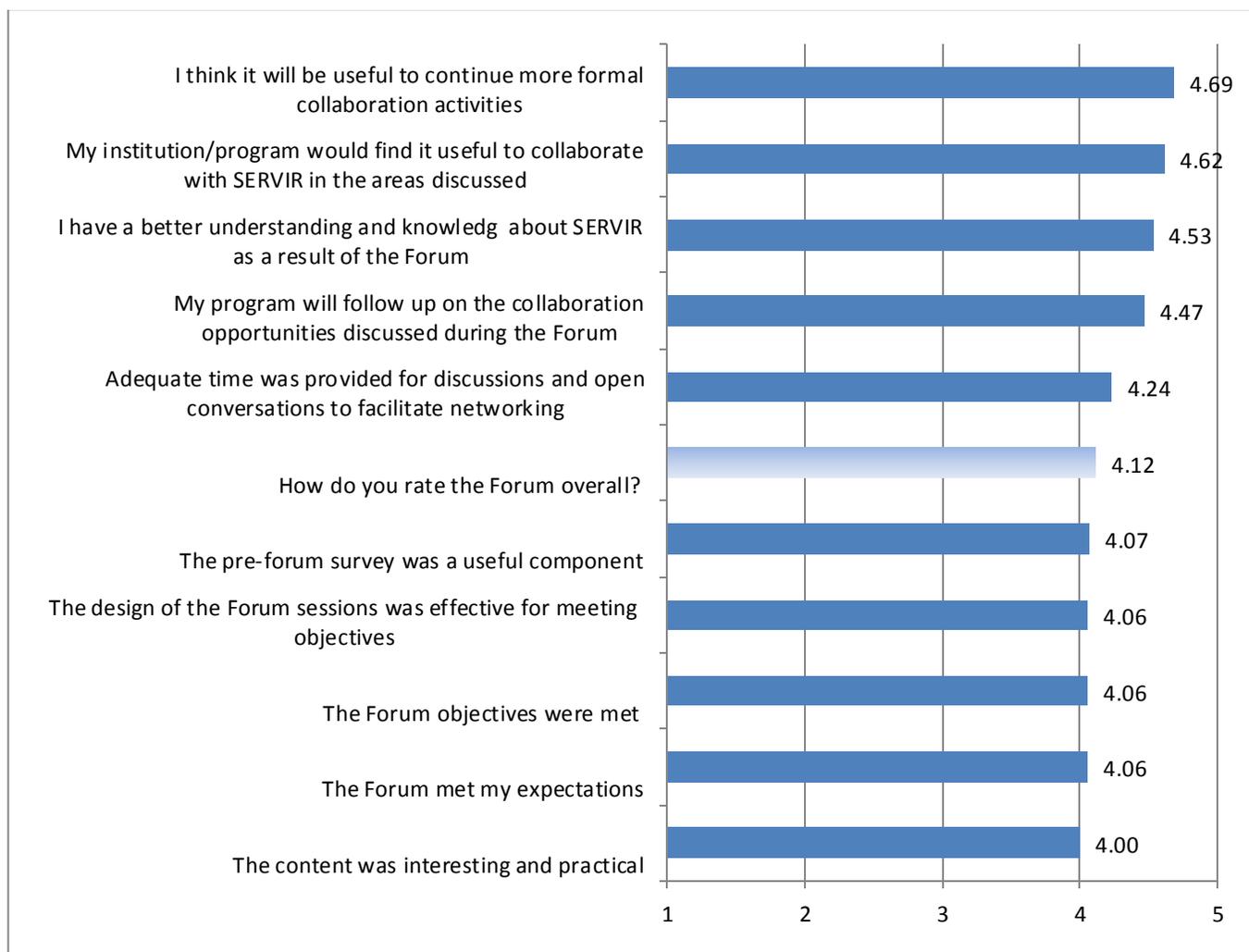
Day 1 (including SERVIR)	54
Day 2 (including SERVIR)	39
SERVIR	19

Number of people who took to the survey: 17

Survey Results

Note: Average score based on 17 forum evaluation survey respondents.

On scale of 1 to 5, please rate the following....



Summary of comments from the survey participants:

- Day 2 was important feature/had important conversation
- Need more information about SERVIR, understanding what Hubs are doing

- More time for discussions is needed
- In the future: convene similar events once a year; quarterly updates; data sharing collaboration/portal; clearer communication on what collaboration SERVIR envisions

All open responses from the participants

Which discussion topics did you find most useful?

- Science collaboration
- Day 2
- Science collaboration, communication
- 2nd day breakout groups were useful
- Opening presentation of survey results geography and network analysis
- Day 2 sessions allowed discussion of substance; too much of day 2 was spent re-doing same of the pre-forum survey
- Round table discussion on data and south-south collaboration
- Science collaboration, local institutions capacity building
- Breakout groups on thematic topics; SERVIR update
- South-South collaboration; improving communication; data sharing; better connecting science to application by end users
- Discussion on "what is SERVIR"? Trying to clarify SERVIR role and mission; this still needs more clarification in where to really engage and gain from partners and end-users
- Day 2 sessions were very interesting had great discussions. I would have liked to participate in more of those conversations and felt that they were more useful than day 1 activities (especially, putting programs on the charts)
- Technical training
- Getting people together and finding synergies

Were there collaboration topics that you would have liked to discuss further? Please specify.

- South-South exchange
- Yes, science collaboration, specifically finding ways to publicize science accomplishments are publicized
- I think more specific information about how SERVIR would like to collaborate and then asking for feedback on this into would have helped focus conversation
- Specific science topics
- Engaging private sector
- Specific focus on collaboration with each hub
- More specific next steps for working together
- There should have been a discussion on capacity building; also a focused discussion on partnering with NGOs that have decades of experience engaging national/regional gov. and communities and understanding their needs
- Great to hear that 3 themes that SERVIR moving towards. Diving deeper in those is important to know about opportunities for collaboration
- Joint effort to execute workshops or trainings
- Technical training collaboration

What follow-up activities do you think would be useful to facilitate further collaboration between our programs?

- Data portal collaboration/sharing

- Similar meeting in one year or more
- Specific research or training/ be useful activity
- Report of mapping activity, updated lookboook
- Update on hub priorities
- Webinar to talk more about some subjects
- Annual forum on a thematic focus area of one of hubs
- Sharing through quarterly updates about new SERVIR products/opportunities, strategies; facilitate USG communication and collaboration with SERVIR Hubs
- Regular communications; clearer guidance and procedures on how to collaborate in specific theme and geography
- Funded collaboration; joint capacity building workshops for technical skills and data use
- Combine two inter-organizational coordination and info sharing of work areas/themes to allow that to inspire collaborations
- Be aware of what everyone else is doing. Find a good way to do that
- Better communication among project groups
- Clear docs

Anything else?

- Keep in touch
- I still think that SERVIR is not providing a clear picture of what it is and how this set of current collaborators expected to achieve clear objective
- This was a great gathering. Thank you for convening! One note: Like with many of these forums, the actual local experts who know the real issues on the ground were missing from the discussion. I understand it's not practical to invite them to DC, but for future discussion I think including the perspectives of the local community of practice would ground the discussions a little more
- Share project development and priorities for each hub
- Getting clarity on what exactly SERVIR is trying to do, where it fits similar initiatives, specific value added by SERVIR
- The working groups were too big to really engage everyone in discussion; also there should have been more time for discussion. Next time try better engage the participants
- The pre-survey was interesting but the data collection method was not robust so NO conclusions shall be drawn from that effort (no decision should be made using those data)
- Great job by DAI