CONFERENCE
REMOTE SENSING REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE
POTENTIALS AND OPTIONS TO ADAPT
26–27 May 2011
European Space Policy Institute (ESPI),
Palais Fanto, Vienna, Austria

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European Space Policy Institute (ESPI)
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There is no registration fee. Please register before the deadline 9 May 2011 at:
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The conference is co-funded by the German Aerospace Center (DLR).

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Climate change is often discussed as a process, which should be mitigated on a global scale – so the broad consensus. However, the international debate on climate protection might be characterized as a culture of postponing, while climate change is already happening, thus affecting individuals and societies.

Moreover, consequences of climate change occur in a quite different manner on regional scales, which seem to be more accessible to human action. The regional perspective might thus be the focus for early action on climate change. This action could be directed towards adaptation to climate change as well as towards utilization of any beneficial climate effects.

Nevertheless, timely, efficient and specific action needs for adequate information on corresponding local or regional potentials and risks. Recent developments of remote sensing from space might provide the actors with necessary data. Appropriate geo-information from space stands out due to its actuality, its cost-efficiency and its broad accessibility – also from remote areas with missing primary data. The latter is especially relevant and urgent for many developing countries, which turn out to be especially vulnerable with regard to adverse climate effects.

Detection and monitoring of regional climate relevant features on Earth by sophisticated remote sensing from space might thus provide the basis for rational decisions on prudent land use and help, thereupon. This regional approach should not compete with the global objective of mitigation control and monitoring. It might be rather seen as a complementary element of an overall coherent strategy to handle the climate problem as a whole.