Reflection on communicating atmospheric composition and its impacts

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The Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW) Programme
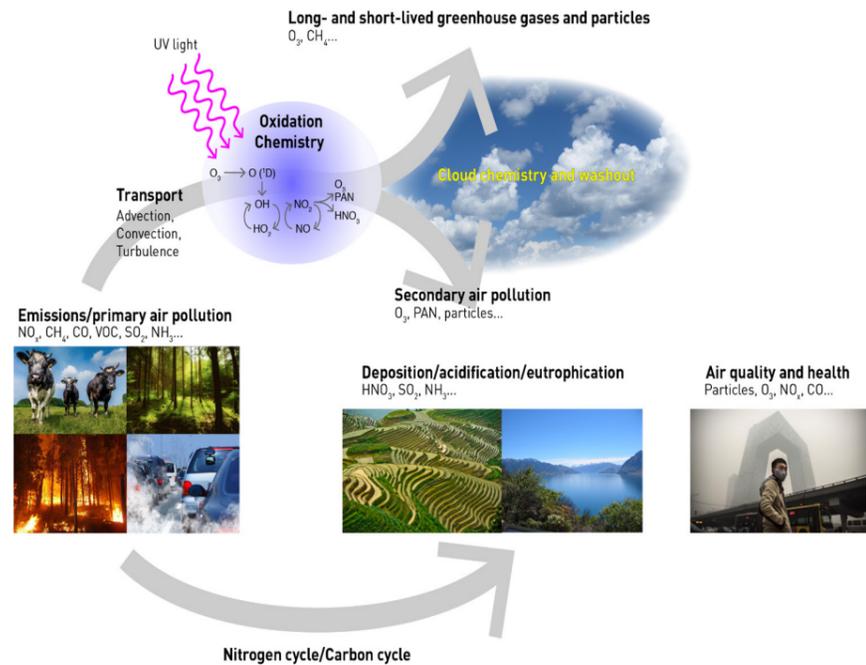
- long-term international research programme
- collaboration of more than 100 countries
- coordination of observations & quality assurance
- analysis of atmospheric composition
- science for services

Reliable information for policymakers

IPCC-WMO Science Pavillion at COP25


Global assessments

WMO GREENHOUSE GAS BULLETIN The State of Greenhouse Gases in the Atmosphere Based on Global Observations through 2018

No. 15 | 25 November 2019

Isotopes confirm the dominant role of fossil fuel combustion in increasing levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide

**SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT OF OZONE DEPLETION: 2018**
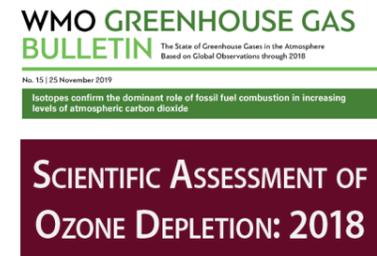
Animations support communication

New animations that explain processes of environmental hazards:

Air pollution processes & impacts
Biomass burning
Sand and dust storms

Among many other occasions animations support communication during acute events when interest in the topic is higher than usual.

Example Biomass burning:
During an acute wildfire episode 2019 on twitter: 48,000 views

GAW 30th anniversary celebration @EGU2019
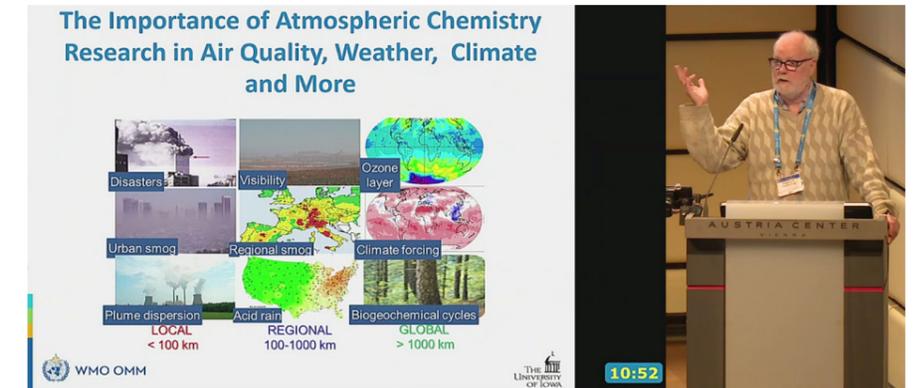
Recording of anniversary: https://client.cntv.at/egu2019/us5

A Union Symposium during the EGU General Assembly 2019 explored the 30 year journey from fundamental Atmospheric Composition Research to Societal Services. It showcased the importance of atmospheric composition research to climate, weather forecasting, human health, agricultural productivity and food security. The session highlighted the progress made in translating research into services, but stressed that much more needs to be done.

Sustainability of Atmospheric Observations in Developing Countries

More than 50 scientists shared their experiences in implementing the GAW strategy around the world at a splinter meeting at EGU 2019 on the Sustainability of Atmospheric Observations in Emerging Economies. A series of recommendations, derived from the presentations and follow-up discussions were published in Laj et al., 2019, WMO Bulletin.

Survey among participants of US5 @EGU2019

What do you personally value the most in GAW?

In which areas do you think GAW can play the most important role?

- 1st — Coordination of global observations
- 2nd — Fostering atmospheric composition research
- 3rd — Building capacity in developing countries
- 4th — Development of forecasting capabilities

Had you ever heard about the GAW programme before this event?

- never: 21
- couple of times: 12
- I've heard about it but never paid attention: 3
- I've heard about it and want to know more: 18
- I am associated with GAW: 30

wmo.int/gaw   wmo.int/environment   GAW Facebook