
Support Activities

The COSMO Backbone

COSMO Working Group 6: Reference Version and Implementation

Working Group Coordinator: Ulrich Schättler

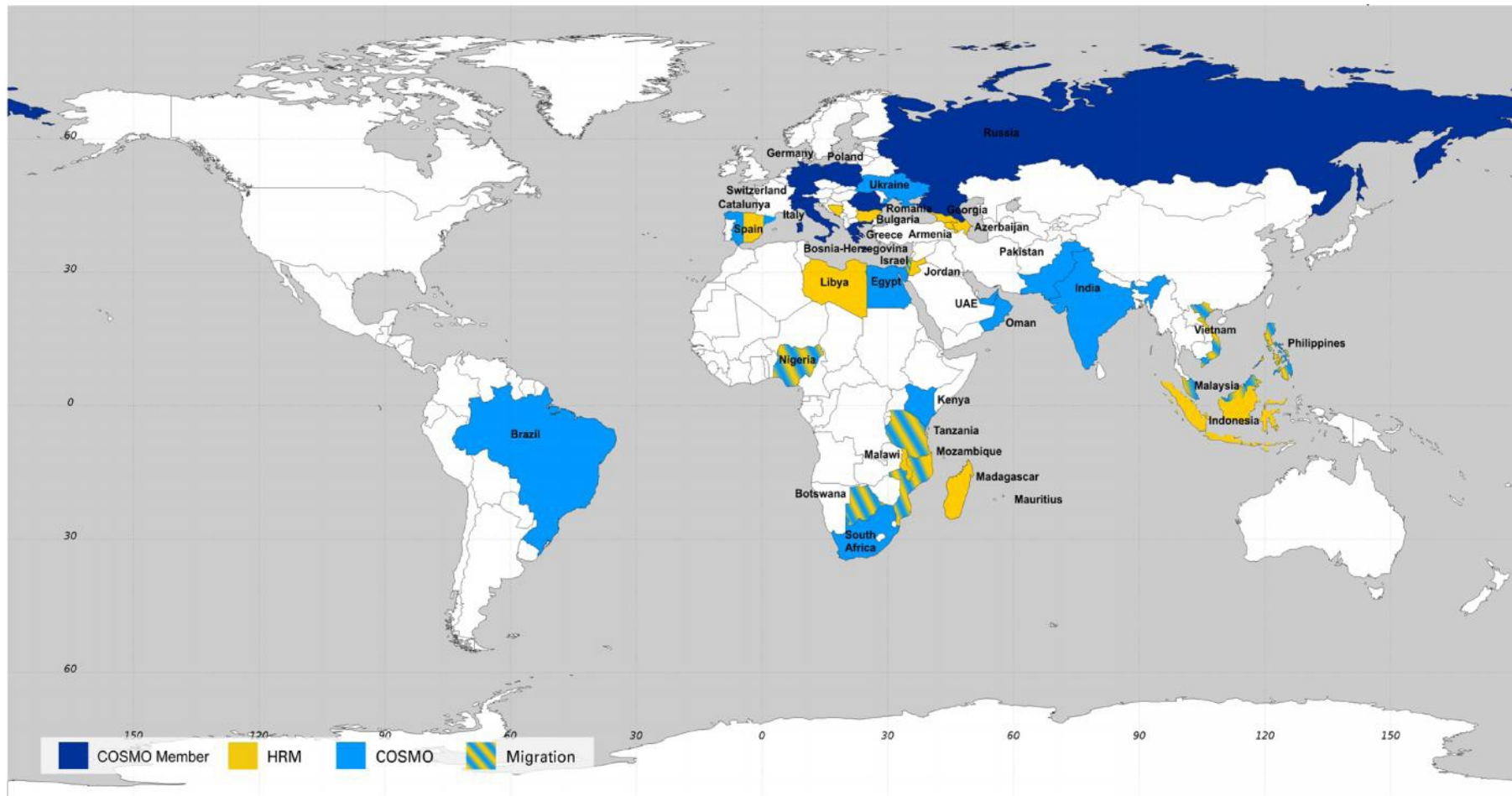
Contents

- The Support Activities in the COSMO year 2011/2012
 - Source Code Management (see next presentation)
 - User Support
 - The COSMO Web Page
 - Documentation, COSMO Newsletter, COSMO Technical Reports
- User Requirements
- Some Proposals (instead of a farewell speech)

User Support

- New Task in the last COSMO year because of HRM countries migrating to the COSMO-Model now (Support for HRM ends this year)
- 1 FTE from Romanian colleagues and 1 additional position (Alexander Smalla) from DWD (2011/2012 only)
- Supporting new COSMO users during the implementation phase through e-mail assistance and by remote access to their computer system;
- Helping the COSMO users to set up their operational COSMO applications;
- Data Assimilation is not supported
- Supporting the COSMO-CLM Training in February

Model Distribution in 2012



Status of the Web

- Updated Pages
 - COSMO-Model and Source Code Management pages (but still not in desired form)
 - Documentation
 - COSMO Tasks (WG, PP, Operational to some extent)
- Pages that need update
 - Organization - Events
 - Organization – Reports / Plans
 - Organization – Cooperations
 - User Support: Restructuring in view of all the new Users / Licencees
- Pretty much the same situation as last year (same situation as every year?)

Documentation

- Model Documentation
 - Dynamics and Physics: Updated September 2011 (for Version 4.20)
 - Assimilation: Updated in February 2012 to the „modular nudging code“
 - Could not start with an „Implementation Documentation“
 - INT2LM: Updated already for Version 1.20, not yet on the Web
 - User Guide: Updated in June for Version 4.24
- Namelist Documentation Tool
 - CLM people instrumented the User Guides in order to extract Namelist description in html
 - Update of Namelist Tool on COSMO Web Site still has to be done
 - CLM proposed some extensions of that tool

COSMO Newsletter and Technical Reports

- COSMO Newsletter No. 12 has been published in April 2012 with 10 (!) contributions
- No new Technical Reports

User Requirements

- Need a common source code repository with read- and write-access
 - Today: Read-access to code repository at ECMWF (for EC members) and sending around tar files
- Need common read-/write accessible management pages with version documentation, bug- and issue-tracking, etc.
 - Today: try to set up COSMO web pages that mimic such a behaviour but with restricted write-access
- Need a web page where everybody can update contents to keep the web page up-to-date
 - Today: WG Coordinators can update the pages for WGs, Priority Projects, Source Code Management; Contents for other pages have to be sent to Cosmin or Theodore

User Requirements: What can we do

- Fact: We do not have a server within our services which could be used for such tasks because of access restrictions
- What can be done:
 - To use a server at another institution (University)?
 - To rent a server will cost money:
 - For „easy“ use (more or less static pages): 5-10 €/ month
 - For more complex use: about 50-70€/ month (our web page is now running a mail server, a database server, etc.)
- But one problem remains: Skilled people have to
 - do the technical administration (ok, this we have)
 - take care of the contents
 - monitor and moderate wikis, formums, FAQs (if you run those)

A Remark on Resources

- WG 6 („Reference Version and Implementation“) took over several new tasks in the last year (Web Page, extensive User Support, etc.)
- Coordination of these tasks (and even do some of the work) is worth 0.5 FTEs (as required last year by STC for all WGs)

→ But:

Task	Planned FTEs	Actual FTEs
WG Coordination	0.50	0.20
Source Code Management	0.30	0.40
POMPA	0.24	0.04
Benchmarks (DWD FTEs)	0.20	0.18
Model Development (DWD FTEs)	0.10	0.10
Rest (DWD FTEs)	0.10	0.08
Sum	1.44	1.0

Consequences and Some Proposals

- Split the work of WG6 coordination and COSMO source code management
- Rename WG 6: „Software Management and Support Activities“
- You should „support the Support Activities“! And management should strongly encourage their staff to do so!
 - By writing documentation (Newsletter contributions, Technical Reports, updates for the web pages, etc.)
- COSMO should consider the position of a „Technical Manager“



Thank you
very much
for your
attention