



# ***Southern African Fire Network (SAFNet)***

## ***SAFNet Steering committee***

***Navashni Govender – South Africa***

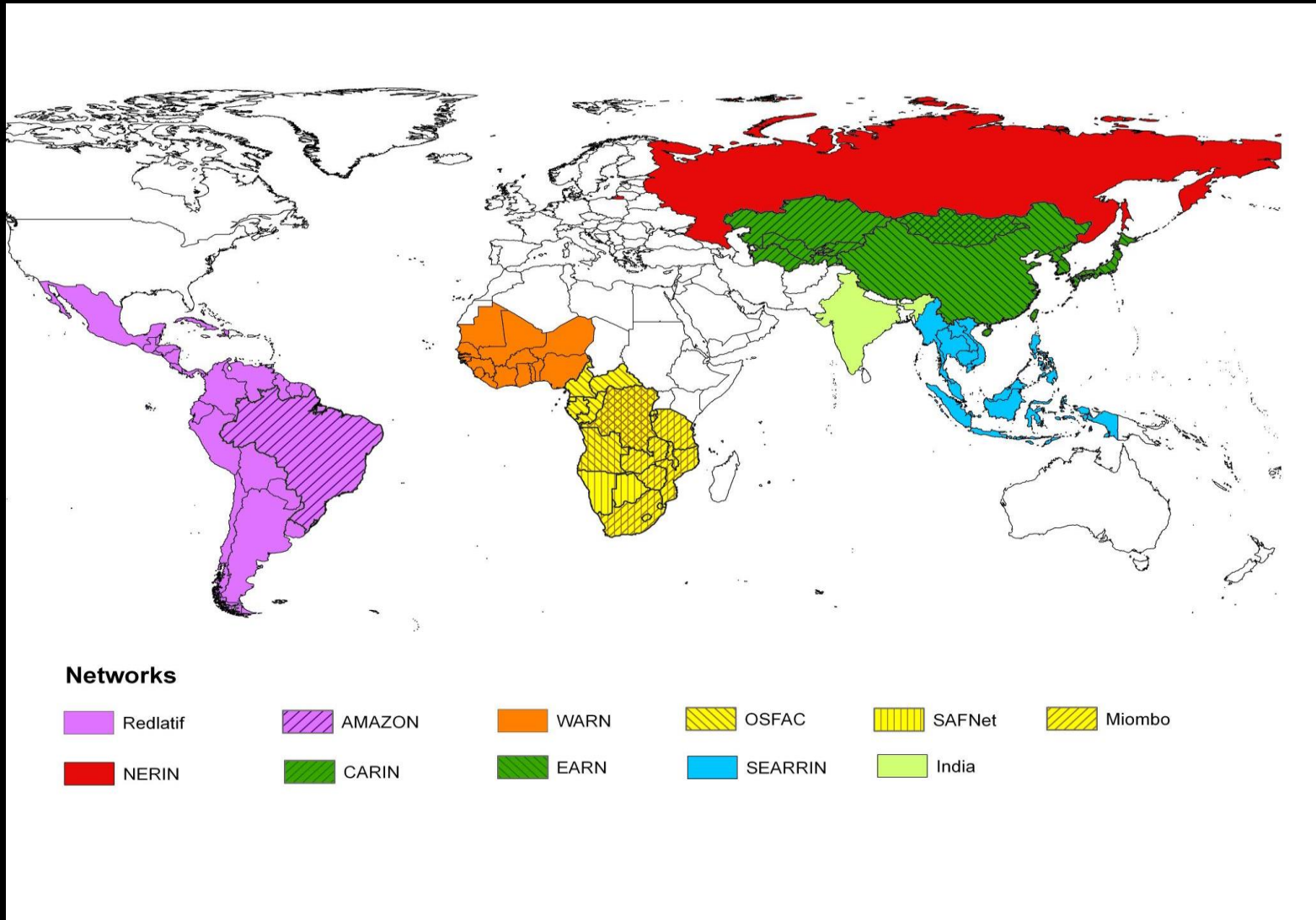
***Philip Frost – South Africa***

***Wisdom Dlamini – Swaziland***

***Gift Sikaundi - Zambia***



SAFNet is one of several GOFC-GOLD regional networks and contributes to meeting the goals of the GOFC-GOLD program





# SAFNet - Overview

Is a regional network that fosters collaborative efforts in fire monitoring and management in southern Africa.

**NB** - has no secure funding; no salaries and membership is voluntary

Membership “topology” is like a flower

i.e., members are like petals - some come & go & some regrow

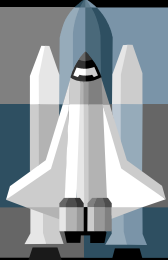
**PURPOSE:** To enhance the use of information from field observations and remote sensing of fires for natural resource management in southern Africa

**GOAL:** To achieve more effective and appropriate fire management policies and practices in southern Africa through the use of **remote sensing** and other **geospatial** technology





# SAFNet Stakeholders



Scientists (Remote sensing specialist, Fire Ecologists etc.)

End Users (Fire managers, implementors etc.)

Governments (Policy and decision Makers, etc)



Active Members



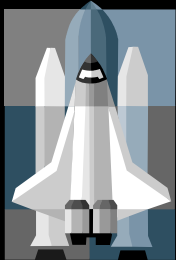
In-and-Out SAFNet members





# *Institutional Setup – Gov based*

Researchers



**SAFNet Role:**  
Create, validate and disseminate fire information

# SADC

Regional Institution



National Institution



Local Level

## Community and End Users





# Brief History of SAFNet

- was initiated using small seed funding grants from NASA, USAID and START
- a meeting, funded predominantly by START, is held every 2 years

*1st Meeting* IGBP/START/LCLUC Miombo Network Workshop on Ecology and Management of Fire in Miombo, Matopo, Zimbabwe, 19-23 April 1999

*2nd Meeting* Zimbabwe-Zambia Traveling Meeting, 11-19th July 2000

*3rd Meeting* University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana, 29 July – 1 August, 2002

*4th Meeting* Kruger National Park, South Africa, 17-23 August 2003

*5th Meeting* Mangochi, Malawi, 9-13 August 2004

*6th Meeting* Maputo, Mozambique, 5-6 October 2006

*7th Meeting* Katima Mulilo, Namibia, 22-26 September 2008

**Coordinated by Prof. Pauline Dube – Botswana**

## **Formed the 4 member steering committee**

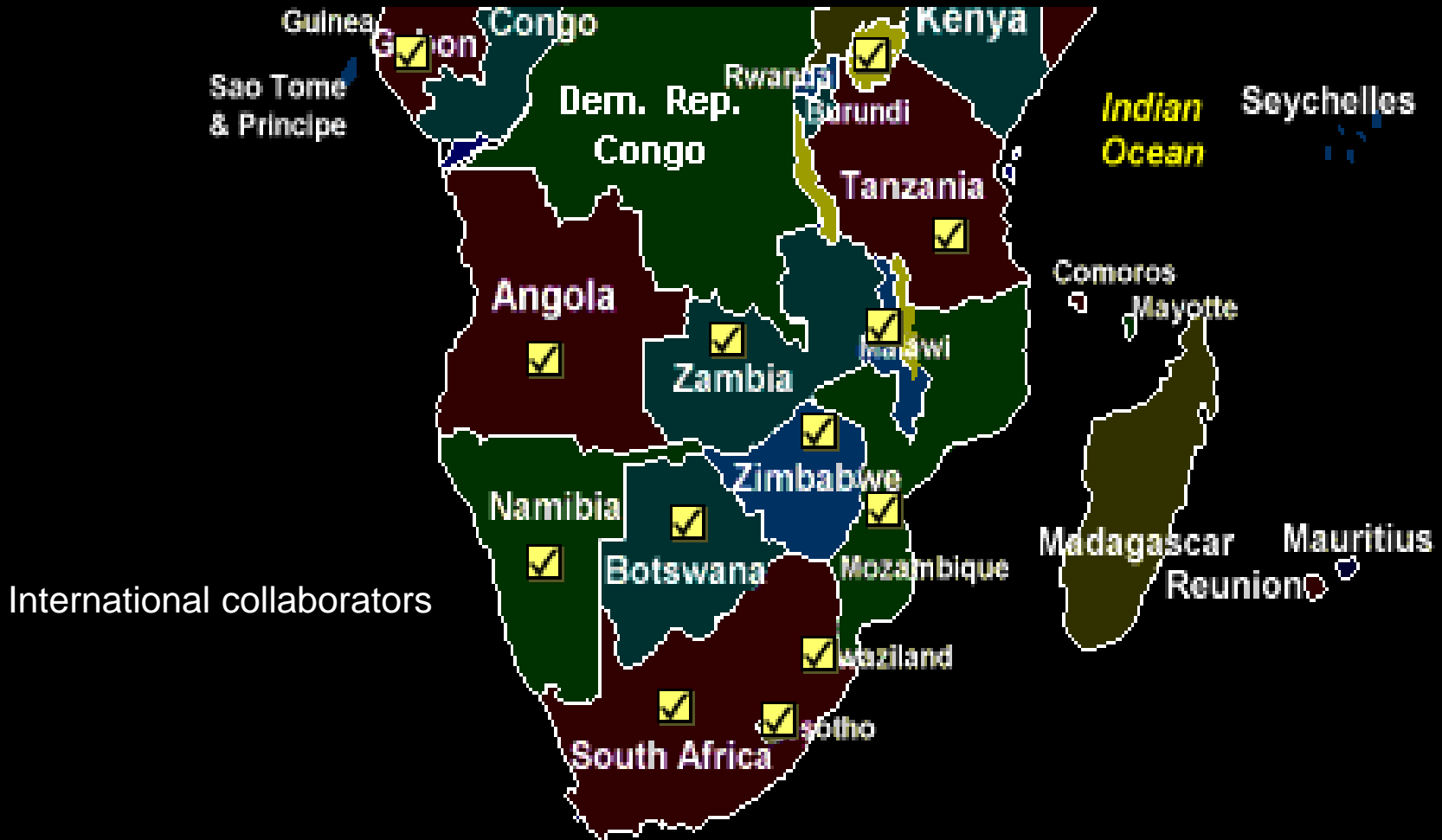
*8th Meeting* Golden Gate, South Africa, 6–8 May 2011

*9th Meeting* Morogoro, Tanzania, 2-5 February 2013





# SAFNet Country Membership







# SAFNet Focus Areas

Provide satellite based fire products

Remote sensing based capacity building and training

Validation of new satellite fire products

Across spatial scales (regional, national and local)

- \* Support fire policy development, monitoring and management
- \* With accurate fire information, resources and training






# SAFNet Objectives

- To enhance the use of validated remote sensing information in southern Africa.
- To increase information on fire issues through research and public awareness
- To promote a forum for informed communication on fire related issues within the region.
- To communicate regional fire needs at international level
- To collate and disseminate regional fire information, data and best practices for field observations.
- To develop and maintain links to existing fire and other appropriate networks

SAFNet Web Page - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://www.safnet.co.za/




# SAFNET

## Southern African Fire Network



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## Welcome!

The **Southern African Fire Network** is a regional network that fosters collaborative efforts in fire monitoring and management in southern Africa. SAFNet is a **Global Observation for Forest and Land Cover Dynamics (GOFC/GOLD)** regional fire network and contributes to meeting the goals of the GOFC/GOLD program. SAFNet was initiated using small seed funding grants from NASA, USAID (EMIS and GISD) and START. Future collaboration with partners and funding agents is being sought.



## The SAFNet Mission

SAFNet's **goal** is to achieve more effective and appropriate fire management policies and practices in southern Africa through the use of remote sensing and other geospatial information technology.

SAFNet's **purpose** is to enhance the use of information from field observations and remote sensing of fires for natural resource management in southern Africa.

## Announcements

### 8th SAFNET meeting at Golden Gate National Park 2010-09-28

The 8th Southern Africa Fire Network meeting will be held at Golden Gate National Park, South Africa from 5 -8 May 2011. The meeting will take place a few days before the Wildfire 2011 conference (that will be held at Sun City) to allow SAFNET participants to also attend the Wildfire event. More detail will be posted soon!

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### Announcements

1. An International Week on Earth Observation Dynamics: Technical Applications and Issues being organized to be held in Ghana-Accra meeting which is being organized by GOFC Regional Network and other interest group strategies for the GOFC GOLD Africa Region Fire Early Warning System. It is expected to be invited to this meeting.
2. Preparations for the 7th SAFNet meeting ongoing. The exact dates and title of the course.

The **Southern African Fire Network** is a regional network that fosters collaborative efforts in fire monitoring and management in southern Africa through the use of remote sensing and other geospatial information technology. SAFNet is a **Global Observation for Forest and Land Cover Dynamics (GOFC/GOLD)** regional fire network and contributes to meeting the goals of the GOFC/GOLD program. SAFNet was initiated using small seed funding grants from NASA, USAID (EMIS and GISD) and START. Future collaboration with partners and funding agents is being sought.

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SAFNet is a contributor to the [GOFC/GOLD](#) Initiative. Maintained by [Webmaster](#) at [CSIR, Meraka Institute](#).





# Current Initiatives

1.



***AFRICA MONITORING OF THE ENVIRONMENT  
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT***

2. GIZ Trilateral Fire Management Cooperation Project

Tanzania - South Africa – German  
Fire Management Coordination Project

3. ***MESA – BUILD ON THE SUCCESS OF AMESD***



# SAFNet

Outcomes from the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting - Tanzania

Opportunity to discuss successes, challenges and improvements with products - AMESD

## SUCCESSSES

Products used to strengthen policies due to better information

Allows for improved access to fire data and statistics

Project allowed for good capacity building

Help desk support

Networking opportunities



# SAFNet

Outcomes from the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting - Tanzania

## CONCERNS

Unclear use of the FDI

Not enough capacity building and training (all levels)

Burnt area does not cover all countries

Community involvement not included

Few people have adopted the technology



# SAFNet

Outcomes from the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting - Tanzania

## IMPROVEMENTS

A workshop and training on the FDI concept, use and communication

Algorithm development of active fire aggregation

Text file for accumulated daily, monthly data etc.

Find ways to improve communication and dissemination of products to all levels (product makers, grass roots and policy makers)

The network allows the end users to comment and improve products in the region



# SAFNet & Miombo Links

There is considerable overlap with countries in SAFNet and the Miombo Network

Fire is both an important ecological & social driver

Therefore collaborative work between the two networks is crucial

Collaboration will:

- reduce duplication of already scarce resources within the region
- increase validation sites and cover larger areas and different biomes in the region
- encourage and improve information sharing





# SAFNet & Miombo Links

## Project 1

Fire management strategies in the GLTP: KNP and LNP

Aims: Reconstructing the fire history (from 2000 onwards) for LNP and contrasting it with KNP as a basis to establish a FM system in the area.

### Objectives

1. To determine the fire regime characteristics (KNP & LNP)
2. To determine the consequences on biodiversity
3. Provide an operational FM strategy & support tool for LNP
4. What are the implications for KNP and LNP



# SAFNet & Miombo Links

## Project 2

Fire Danger Index

Objectives

1. Understanding of the concept, uses of the information and dissemination of the FDI's



# SAFNet & Miombo Links

## Project 3

Validation of VIIRS

## Project 4

Increasing proposal and fire management writing skills in the region



# *Function of a network*

A network:

1. to support regional activities (research - implementation)
2. to provide accurate information for policy development and decision making
3. develop standardize concepts, measures and sampling technique – for comparison

Definition of Forests in these 3 days ranged from >10%, 30%, 40% and 80% cover



# *Function of a network cont...*

A network:

4. forum for sharing of ideas, expertise and building networks in the region
5. articulate the needs and requirements from the region to larger global institutions and/or remote sensing product development



# Thank you!

# Obrigada!

