

# *Report of the International South Atlantic Buoy Programme (ISABP)*



Presented on behalf of Programme Chairperson  
Ariel Troisi by Shine Lithakazi Mkatshwa

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# STATUS OF THE ACTION GROUP

There is a large operational network of fixed and drifting buoys, profiling floats and fixed stations providing data in real time over our area of interest to the operational, scientific and general communities;

The number of drifters with barometric pressure in our area has increased;

The amount of data and products available in the region have continued to increase;

The capacity-building and training programs are underway;

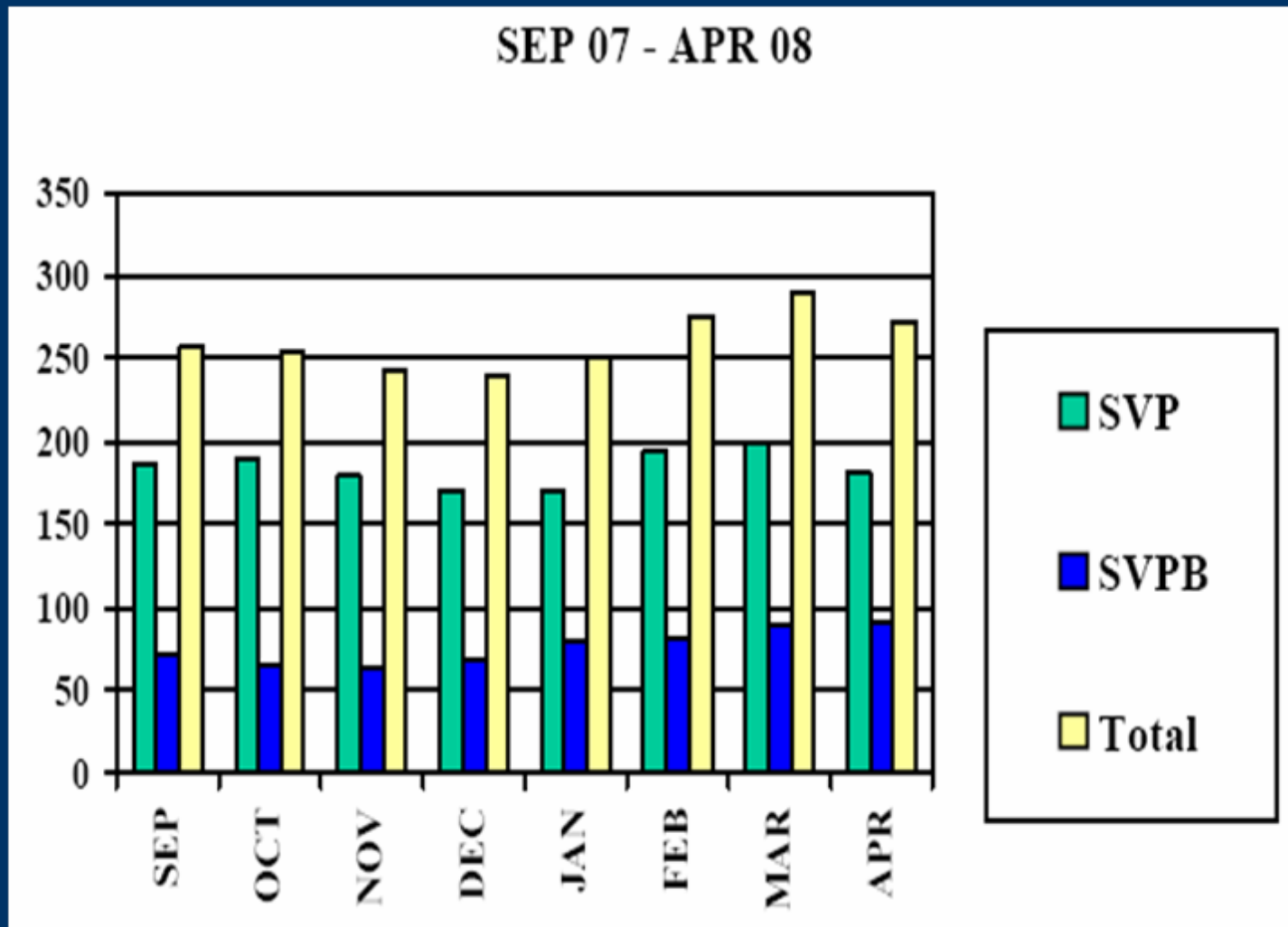
There is a high level of cooperation between participants; and

New partners have joined the program.

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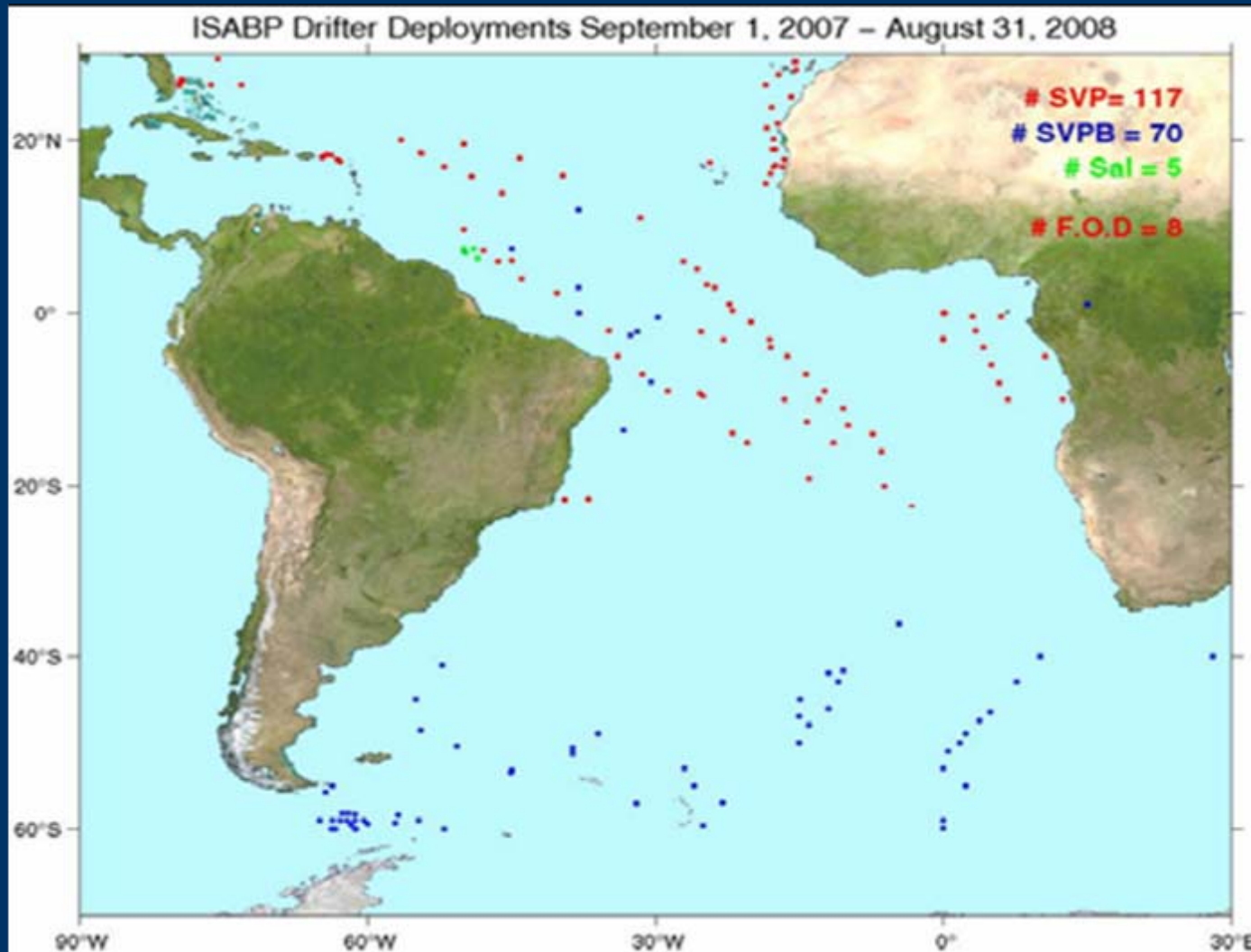
# Active drifters per month



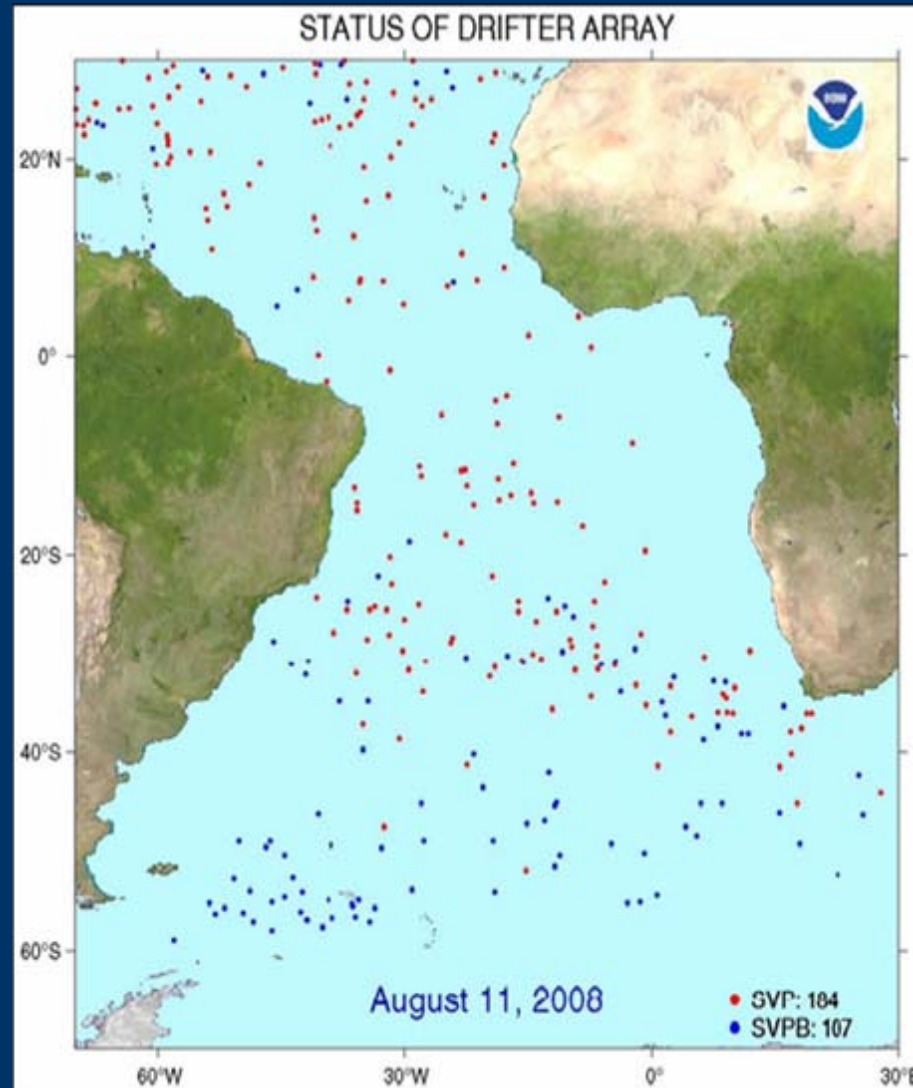
# Deployments in the ISABP region in the last 2 years

- Tropical Atlantic ( $20^{\circ}$  S –  $30^{\circ}$  N)
    - June 2006 - May 2007: SVP=180, SVPB=12, FOD (failed on deployment)=2;
    - June 2007 - April 2008: SVP=110, SVPB=14, FOD=8, SVPBW=4, SVPBS=5
  - Extra Tropical Atlantic ( $40^{\circ}$  S –  $20^{\circ}$  S)
    - June 2006 - May 2007: SVP=18, SVPB=36, FOD=2;
    - June 2007 - April 2008: SVP=5, SVPB=1, FOD=1.
  - Southern Atlantic ( $60^{\circ}$  S -  $40^{\circ}$  S)
    - June 2006 - May 2007: SVP=25 SVPB=32, FOD=5;
    - June 2007 - April 2008: SVP=0, SVPB=56, FOD=2.
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# Deployments in the ISABP region from September 2007 – August 2008



# Status of buoy array in ISABP region



# Plans for next year

- 1 June 2008 - 31 May 2010
    - Tropical Atlantic (30° N - 20° S): 360 drifters (50 SVPBs);
    - Extra Tropical Atlantic (20° S - 40° S): 100 drifters (75 SVPBs); and
    - South Atlantic (40° S - 60° S): 225 drifters (all SVPBs) these include ~100 upgrades by SAWS
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# ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED AND PROPOSED ACTIONS

- Conducting studies with the objective of evaluating the impact of drifter pressure data, and eventually SST, on the skill of numerical weather forecasting models;
  - Holding next ISABP meetings back to back with the Upper Southwest and Tropical Alliance for Oceanography (OCEATLAN) whenever possible. Also recommended to explore the possibility of having joint OCEATLAN-ISABP scientific and technical workshop;
  - The group supported the continuous efforts to cover observational gaps in the area of interest as well as the increase of the number of drifters with atmospheric pressure sensors;
  - The objectives and operating principles of the ISABP were updated;
  - Suggested to create links in the ISABP website to the training CD produced by the Drifter DAC (drifter deployment, how to access data and products from the web as well as links to the sites from where the data can be accessed and downloaded);
  - Contact prospective participants of ISABP during DBCP-XXIV;
  - Encourage the participation of students and junior scientists in the scientific and technical workshop.
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