ISABP REPORT

Presented by:

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Objectives

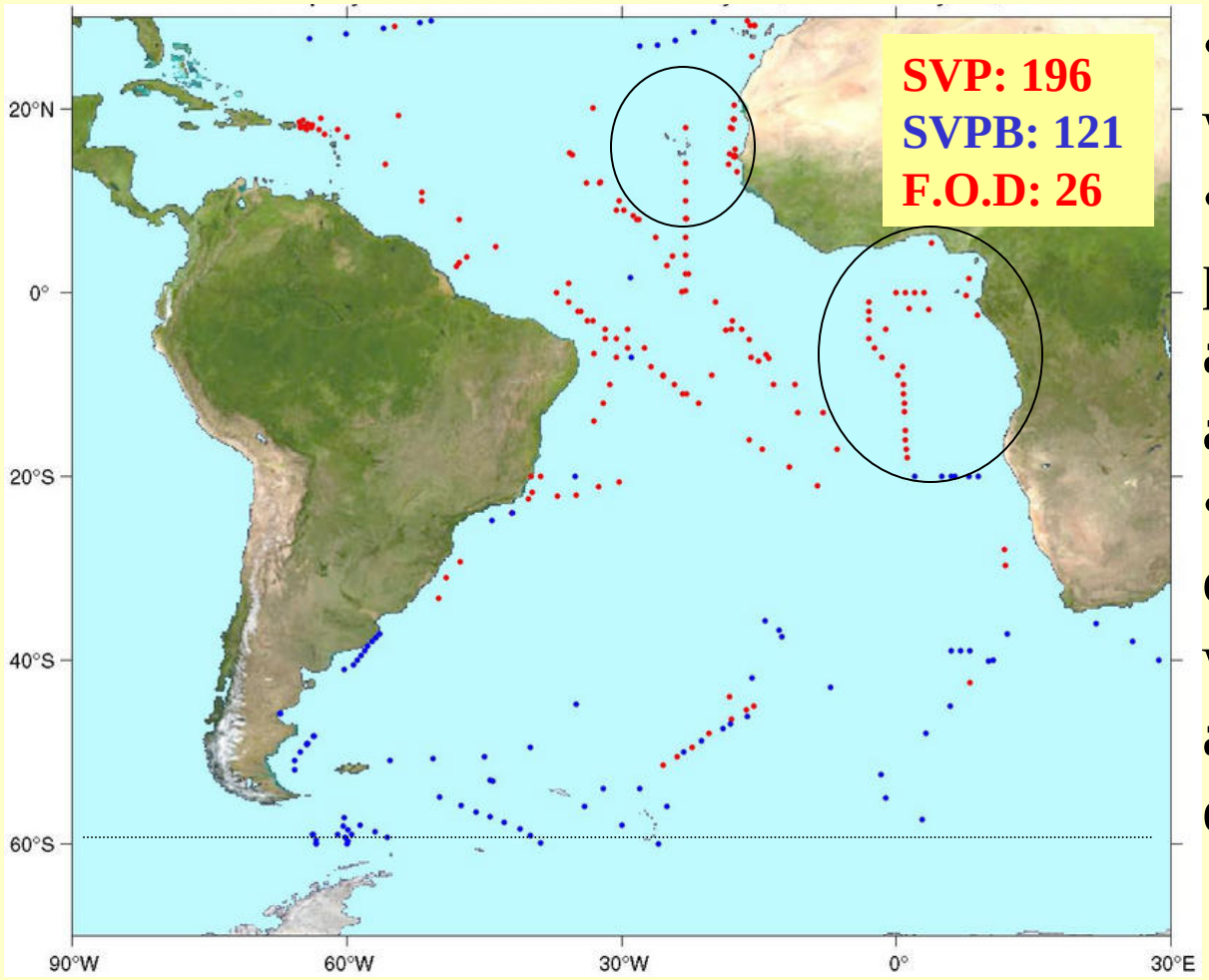
The main objective of ISABP is to establish and maintain a network of platforms in the Tropical and South Atlantic Ocean in order to provide meteorological and oceanographic data for both real-time and research purposes.

The task includes support to the World Weather Watch Programme (WWW), the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS), the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP), and the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), as well as to the research activities of participating institutions.

ISABP meetings are held every other year, normally in May-July. Last meeting, ISABP- 13, took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on April 19, 2010.

Participants from Brazil, Argentina and the US were present

Drifters Deployed in the South Atlantic July 19, 2009 – July 19, 2010



- A total of 317 drifters were deployed in the area
- Efforts continued to populate hard to reach areas, (Gulf of Guinea and Angola Basin)
- Drifters deployed South of 60S in cooperation with NOAA fisheries and Texas A & M will enter the ISABP area

More Deployment Details

- Brazil will deploy a total of 95 drifters in 2010 (75 SVP provided by GDP and 20 SVPB upgraded by Brazil).

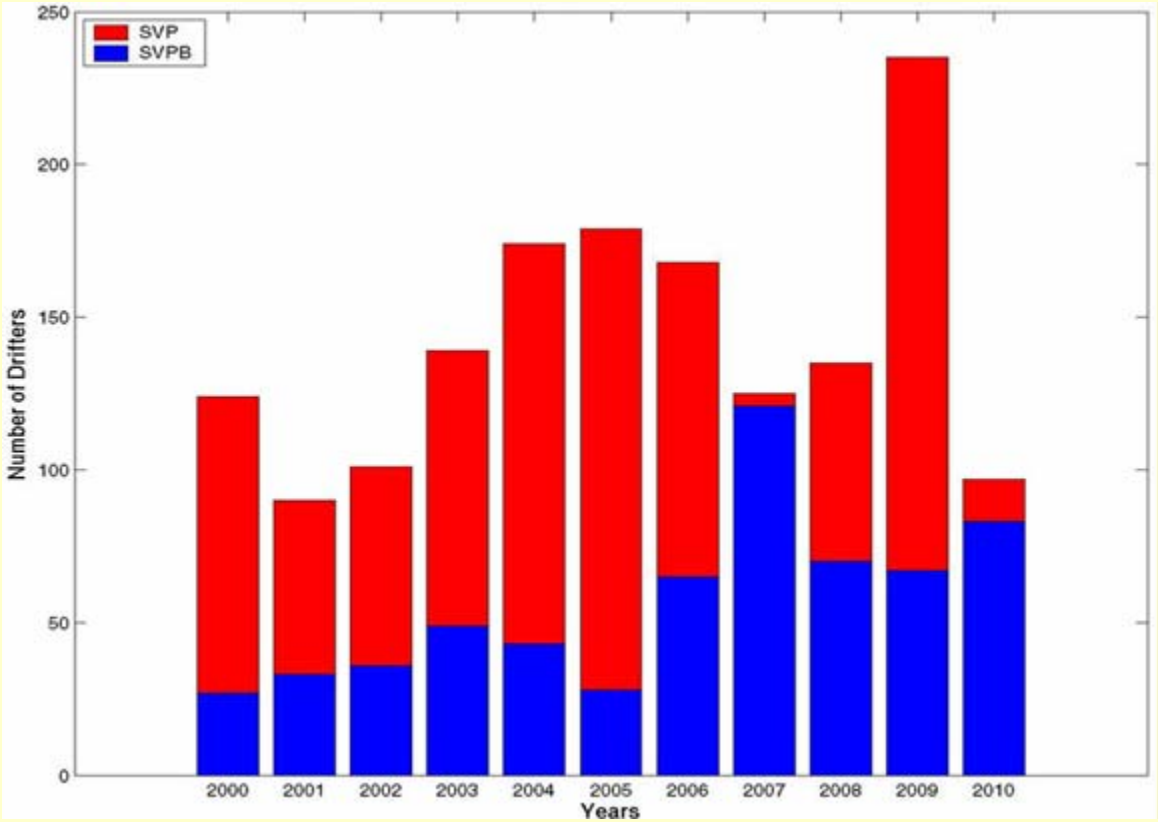
- South Africa Weather Service acquired 5 Iridium drifters to be deployed as part of the Iridium PP, 4 in the South Atlantic, 1 in the Indian Ocean.

- Deployments were carried out by :
  - Navy vessels from Argentina, Brazil and the U.S
  - South Africa polar research vessel: SA Agulhas and ice breaker LM Gould
  - Tristan Da Cunha and the Falklands/Malvinas Islands fisheries vessels.

- Brazil expects to finish repairs to one moored buoy and have it deployed between July – December 2010.

- A large number of drifters deployed by the Brazilian Navy failed on deployment. The manufacturer was contacted and it was determined that particular batch of drifters was manufactured more than 2 years prior to deployment and were kept in storage for a long period of time and that may have caused the early failures.

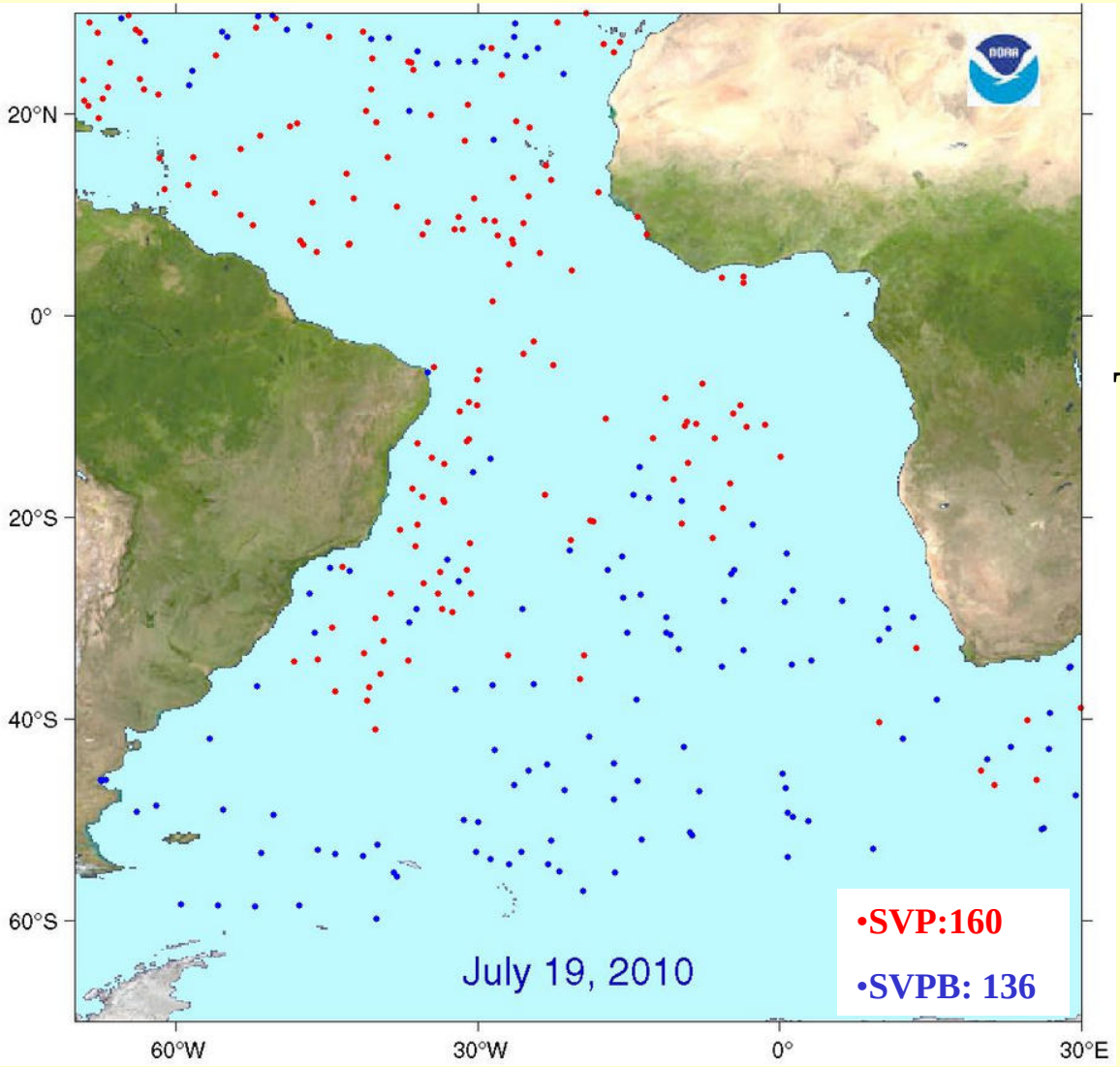
Number of Deployments by Year



The number of SVPB deployments have slowly increased through the years. Sharp increase is noticeable in 2007 due to 40 iridium SVPB drifters from Brazil were deployed in the region and processed at DAC.

Moderate increase in the total number of deployed drifters is also noticeable except in 2007-2008 when deployment opportunities were scarce due to some ships breaking down, but well averaged out by the deployment increase in 2009

Status of the ISABP Drifter Array as of July 19, 2010



The goal of 100 SVPB was surpassed

The number of barometer drifters include those upgraded by participating countries

Distribution of the Data

Real Time:

All data from drifters are disseminated via GTS as soon as drifters are deployed. These data are monitored and taken off GTS when sensors stop giving good quality data.

As of July 19 there were 296 surface drifters in the South Atlantic region transmitting data on the GTS.

Delayed Mode:

Data are assembled and quality controlled at the GDP Drifter Data Assembly Center (DAC) at AOML, Miami, Forida, USA, then sent to ISDM for archival. Data are made available through the DAC and ISDM web pages.

www.aoml.noaa.gov/phod/dac/dacdata.php

www.meds-sdmm.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/isdm-gdsi/drib-bder/index-eng.htm

Local User Terminal

Because of the less than ideal satellite coverage of the parts of the region, the South African Weather Service wanted to re-install the LUT at its island bases (Marion and Gough Island) in order to support the timely delivery of buoy data in the vast contiguous ocean areas. Unfortunately, recent global economic downturn put paid to the SAWS' plan to reinstall and upgrade LUTs. Since then service argos has revealed their plan to upgrade their IS antenna network to achieve greater coverage over the oceans. This network will extend to the Southern Hemisphere to ensure the timely delivery of buoy messages for inclusion in the synoptic analyses.

Deployment Plans

- The GDP deployment plans from June 1, 2010 – May 31, 2012 are as follows:

Tropical Atlantic (20^0S – 30^0N):

SVP=335 SVPB=25 (upgraded by Brazilian Navy)

Extra Tropical Atlantic (40^0S – 20^0S):

SVP=25 SVPB=75

Southern Atlantic (60^0S – 40^0S):

SVP=0 SVPB=225

- The US Navy will continue its African Partnership Program and will carry out more deployments in the area.

- Argentina can now receive donations of instruments without paying any taxes, and will continue to deploy drifters in the area. There is also a center in Puerto Madryn that is very interested in participating in the program by deploying instruments.

- Servicio de Oceanografia, Hidrografia y Meteorologia de la Armada, Uruguay, who recently joined ISABP agreed to provide deployment opportunities in 2011.

- SAWS is actively finding deployment opportunities as well as increasing the VOS fleet, therefore they expect to be able to arrange more deployments. It is expected that the Polar Stern will be returning to Atlantic sector in the 2010/2011 austral summer season

Future Plans

- Continue to address observational gap areas, specially in the Gulf of Guinea and Angola Basin.

- Pursue recommendation of conducting studies and evaluate the impact of drifter pressure data and SST on the skills of numerical weather forecasting models for the region.

- Increase the number of SVPB in the region


Thank You!