

REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL HELIOPHYSICAL YEAR IN AFRICA AND FUTURE PLANS

Akeem Babatunde Rabiou[1]

[1] Dept. of Physics, Federal Univ. of Technology, Akure, Nigeria

This paper reviewed the scientific activities that accompanied global International Heliophysical Year IHY (2004-2009) in Africa. Astronomical Telescopes, Atmospheric Weather Electromagnetic System for Observation Modeling and Education AWESOME, Magnetic Data Acquisition System MAGDAS, Scintillation Network Decision Aid SCINDA, AMMA GPS and IGS GPS research facilities are the IHY intervention facilities installed in African countries. MAGDAS remain the most outstanding contribution of Japan to IHY in developing Africa as 13 units of MAGDAS were deployed and functional in 10 African countries. Three continental IHY workshops and a regional IHY summer school were held in Africa with participants drawn from over 20 African states. Benefits of IHY are discussed and plans for sustenance of the collaborations and future programs are highlighted. Workplan and prospects of International Space Weather Initiative ISWI in Africa are presented. Status of African Geospace Society, a spin off of IHY, is examined.