

Handling Policy of Observation Requests for
the Total Anthropogenic and Natural emissions mapping SpectrOmeter-3 (TANSO-3) onboard
the Global Observing SATellite for Greenhouse gases and Water cycle (GOSAT-GW)

June 6, 2025

Climate Change Observation Research Strategy Office

Ministry of the Environment of Japan

National Institute for Environmental Studies

1. Purpose

This document defines the policy for handling observation requests for the Total Anthropogenic and Natural emissions mapping SpectrOmeter-3 (hereinafter “TANSO-3”) onboard the Global Observing SATellite for Greenhouse gases and Water cycle (hereinafter “GOSAT-GW”).

2. Premise and Principle

- (1) TANSO-3 has two observation modes: Wide Mode and Focus Mode. In Focus Mode, observations are made based on observation requests. During the daytime when the Focus Mode observations are not made, the observation mode is Wide Mode.
- (2) Observational data obtained using Focus Mode will be made publicly available, with the name of the requester withheld, regardless of the requester or purpose of the observation.
- (3) It should be ensured that frequent observations in Focus Mode will not cause the risk of impact on equipment or the occurrence of observation gap areas.
- (4) If the above condition (3) is satisfied and there is no conflict between observation requests, all observation requests will be accepted in principle.
- (5) If the above condition (3) is satisfied but there is a conflict between observation requests, the National Institute for Environmental Studies (hereinafter “NIES”) will make a decision on the acceptance based on the priority order shown in the next section, in consultation with the Ministry of the Environment of Japan (hereinafter “MOE”) as necessary.
- (6) MOE will make the final decision on whether or not to accept each observation request, including cases where the above principles cannot be followed, taking into consideration the fact that GOSAT-GW is a government-funded observation satellite.

3. Priority Order of Observation Requests

If there is a conflict between observation requests, the following priority order will be used for decision-making depending on the purpose and the requester.

- (1) Observation requests for the calibration and validation of TANSO-3 data
- (2) Observation requests from MOE and organizations* with which MOE has concluded MOUs, which are necessary for the implementation of the Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures, the Climate Change Adaptation Plan, or the Basic Plan on Space Policy and Schedule, such as observations of cities, regions, and point sources in Japan and abroad

(3) Observation requests based on the research plan of NIES*

(4) Others

- Observation requests from research institutes for academic research purposes
- Observation requests from foreign governments* for use in climate change policies, such as estimating their own country's emissions
- Observation requests from private companies* which may lead to emission reductions in Japan through emission reduction measures, credit generation, etc.

(5) Other observation requests deemed as necessary upon mutual consultation between MOE and NIES

*: Including contractors and affiliated institutions

4. Submission of Observation Requests

Observation requests should be submitted to the GOSAT 3rd-generation Data Processing/operating System (hereinafter “G3DPS”) operated by NIES. The G3DPS account required for submitting an observation request will be provided after NIES or MOE approval of the application (regardless of the format), which should include the requester's name, affiliation, observation area, observation period, and purpose of data use.

<Submission Address>

(Organizations with previous applications) NIES: g3pa_desk@nies.go.jp

(Others) Climate Change Observation Research Strategy Office, MOE: chikyu-kansoku@env.go.jp

Note: Please specify in your email the requester's name, affiliation, observation area, observation period, and purpose of data use.