The hybrid land cover dataset of Russia presumably contains the most accurate land cover information, updated for 2009. Details and certainty of the dataset satisfy the requirements of a verified terrestrial ecosystem full greenhouse gas account. Such requirements necessitate a detailed quantification of land classes (e.g., forests - dominant species, age, growing stock, net primary production etc.) with additional information on uncertainties of the major biometric and ecological parameters. The major idea of the approach was the systematic integration of all relevant information to explore synergies, in particular, the merging and harmonization of land and forest inventories, ecological monitoring, remote sensing data and in situ information. The hybrid land cover dataset is considered as a platform for an integrated observing system for the country.

**Methodology**

The approach for generating the hybrid land cover dataset of Russia was developed by integrating the following information:

1. Forest and non-forest land cover products
2. Terrestrial biometric and ecological information products
3. Soil and vegetation information products
4. Forest monitoring and inventories
5. In situ forest carbon stock information
6. Remote sensing data
7. Harmonization of existing Russian land cover datasets

**Subset of Available Products**

- **Carbon Pools and Fluxes**
- **Forest**
- **Sparse forest**
- **Degraded forest**
- **Arable land**
- **Abandoned arable land**
- **Pristine**
- **Wetland**
- **Grassland & Shrubs**
- **Hayfield**
- **Pasture**
- **Fallow**

The hybrid land cover dataset of Russia is comprehensive and captures the detail required for accurate greenhouse gas accounting. It provides a platform for an integrated observing system for the country, facilitating the systematic integration of all relevant information to explore synergies and merge and harmonize existing datasets.