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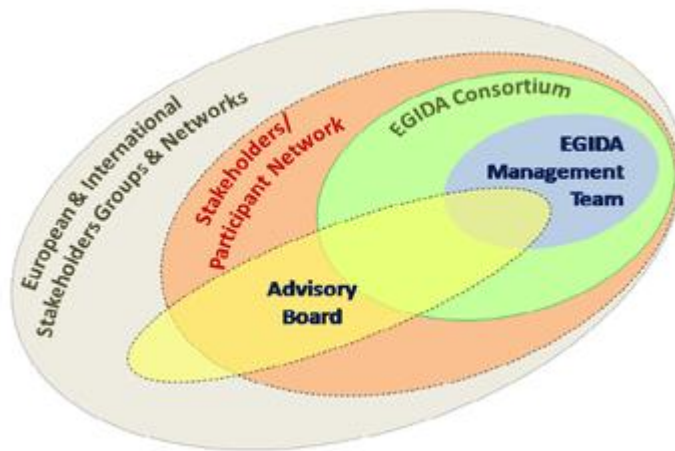
EGIDA NEWSLETTER

JULY 2011

EGIDA/GEOSS-This is the second newsletter on the activities of the EGIDA project. EGIDA is an EC programme initiated to promote the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) to the science and technology community. In particular, EGIDA works with the Group on Earth Observation (GEO) Science and Technology Committee (STC) to carry out the GEI STC Roadmap.

1st JOINT WORKSHOP OF THE EGIDA STAKEHOLDER NETWORK AND ADVISORY BOARD-Connecting GEOSS and its Stakeholders in Science and Technology, Bonn, Germany, May 9-11, 2011. The objective of the workshop was to network representatives of the broad group of stakeholders in Science and Technology (S&T) of GEOSS and to activate contributions from this network to the implementation of the Road Map of the GEO Science and Technology Committee (STC).

The workshop also addressed specific Tasks of the EGIDA project and activities of the STC Road Map with the goal to further elaborate proposals for contributions by the stakeholders. A particular focus of the workshop was on the dialog between GEO and funding agencies for the research and development needed to fully develop GEOSS and to exploit the benefits of GEOSS for S&T. The workshop was jointly organized by EGIDA and GEO. The Agenda and Presentations are available at http://www.geo-tasks.org/egida/meetings/snab_ws2011/ws_full_program_overview.php



RECOMMENDATIONS- The goals should include engaging the GEOSS S&T Stakeholder Network in the implementation of the STC Road Map and linking EGIDA and relevant GEO Work Plan Tasks to a broader group of GEOSS Stakeholders.. In addition, EGIDA should begin to plan for another workshop to be carried out in 2012

A very important topic is to obtain the resources to implement the GEOSS. The workshop addressed four approaches: A description of these models can be found on the web site identified above.

The workshop also noted the importance of linking GEOSS and STC in all the Society Benefit Areas (SBA). The conclusion reach is that there are many projects working on SBA issues. All rely on research/technology and all see links to GEOSS. However the availability of data is an ongoing issue.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ROADMAP-Progress on implementing the activities defined in the S&T roadmap can be found on

http://www.earthobservations.org/documents/committees/stc/201104_16thSTC/stc_roadmap_annex_v2_draft11122010.pdf

The two major thrusts; 1)Actively engaging and incorporating science and technology participants in the development of GEOSS and 2) Creating incentives and promoting GEO in the S&T communities have shown significant progress.



In addition, at its 6th Plenary session, in November 2009, GEO accepted a set of 12 Strategic Targets to provide high-level direction to the implementation of GEOSS by 2015. In September 2010 the GEO STC recognized that these targets provided additional guidance for GEOSS implementation and decided to analyse what adjustments were necessary in the S&T Roadmap. The explanation of how the S&T Roadmap supports the Strategic Targets can be found at

http://www.earthobservations.org/documents/committees/stc/201104_16thSTC/stc_roadmap_annex2_v1_09122010.pdf

This web site also shows how the Roadmap supports the STC objectives.

ST-09-02 (EGIDA WP3)- WP3 prepared for the GEO/EGIDA Workshop a paper titled "Connecting GEOSS and its Stakeholders in Science and Technology" in Bonn 9-11 May 2011. The paper addresses the objectives of the GEO Science and Technology Road Map. The goal is to develop a document that will facilitate the dialog between GEO and the rest of the international research system concerning catalyzing and coordinating resources to GEOSS implementation.

Task 3.4 of the EGIDA Project (Process for the identification of examples showing GEOSS at work) is supporting the work done by the ST-09-02 for the development of the process to identify compelling examples, including solicitation and submission of proposals, evaluation criteria and review steps. This in particular focuses on the identification of candidate examples. EGIDA is proposing a new approach in the identification of examples based on organizing and running workshops on well-defined themes (e.g. national/regional initiatives).

The task also foresees to detail the web-based solution for collection and documentation of further examples. Part of this activity (the web-based solution) is already provided by ST-09-02 (<http://www.geo-tasks.org>). To avoid overlaps, it was decided to address the T3.4 not only to the identification of further examples showcasing GEOSS at work, but also to provide to the European Commission and GEOSS: a) elements to improve the national/regional contribution to GEOSS; b) elements to make the national contribution sustainable (see D4.2 objectives); c) practices, commonalities and needs for further replication processes.



NATIONAL USE CASES (EGIDA WP4)

National Use Cases Workshop-Rome April 18-19, 2011

Within the framework of the EGIDA European Project (<http://www.egida-project.eu/>), which aims to support the implementation of the GEOSS Science and Technology roadmap, a workshop was organized to identify best practices and their commonalities within GEOSS for possible replication, as well as gaps to be filled at national and/or regional level. Since part of the EGIDA project focuses on sustainable contribution to GEOSS from national/regional S&T communities, existing national initiatives are considered of particular importance and they will be the subject of specific analyses in terms of infrastructures, resources and processes which could constitute the baseline for a sustainable contribution from S&T communities.

In the workshop several different national GEO implementations in Europe and collected information about existing, planned or possible initiatives providing (or that might be able to provide) a contribution to the GEOSS S&T objectives.

<http://www.egida-project.eu/images/documents/egidameetingaprilatispra.pdf>

USE CASES

Mediterranean region

This task aims to provide a use-case for the EGIDA methodology replication process, focusing on partnership, infrastructures, products and services involving southern Mediterranean Countries.

To implement capacity building of neighbour EC developing countries, the use-case will provide technology, OS oriented, capable to permit a congruous and continuous data management and data flow, toward interoperability, on the basis of the EIONet model. To implement this vision, this task will use the UNEP-MAP network to promote data and information sharing and to involve northern African actors to achieve interoperability tests.



The resulting model will be applied at Mediterranean scale to provide GEOSS a single point access for metadata.

Hot-spot pollution in the Mediterranean

This task aims to apply the EGIDA methodology to hot-spot pollution in the Mediterranean. The CNR-IIA is coordinating the WP on chemical pollution in the Mediterranean under the KnowSeas project, in which temporal trends for key drivers are being observed through main socio-economic indicators in shipping and land-based industrial sources of pollution. To this end, available data from regional and national monitoring networks are collected and integrated in a database. With the above in mind, the active engagement and incorporation of science and technology community to the development of GEOSS through the implementation of a SDI, and transfer of knowledge to national research systems would be strategic.

Slovenia

This use case is selected in the context of grouping of European neighbouring regions for outreach activities to create replication opportunities for the identified good practices. Within the task, the feasibility of the use case of small country with several hot-spot and dispersed pollution sources will be investigated. IJS will coordinate the research on several sources of chemical pollution of different environmental compartments, taking



benefit from preceding projects (EUROCAT, HYDRONET, EMECAP, MERCYMS etc.), collecting and integrating available data from research projects, regional and national monitoring networks. Recommendations for capacity building at regional level to overcome the inconsistencies in spatial data collection, incompatibilities of datasets, and barriers for sharing and re-use of existing spatial data.

Pan-European "Air Quality for Health

As an example of how the EGIDA methodology may be applied, the current task will work towards promoting awareness and stimulate engagement of the GEO principles in the Air Quality and Health communities. To achieve this, a systematic analysis of legislation, measurement data, models, information resources, monitoring programmes and research projects will be undertaken. Through meetings with the Air Quality and Health communities, the analysis will be discussed and enriched. The meetings will furthermore be used as a tool for transferring of the EGIDA methodologies to enable dissemination of results and data from national and international stakeholders to GEOSS as a whole.

AGU Fall Meeting-San Francisco, California, USA December 5-9, 2011.

EGIDA has had 4 sessions approved for the AGU Fall Meeting

PA04: Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) National Initiatives

<http://sites.agu.org/fallmeeting/scientific-program/session-search/679>

IN02: Advances in Multi-disciplinary Information Systems

<http://sites.agu.org/fallmeeting/scientific-program/session-search/515>

B27: Ecological Models: Coordination, Access, Sharing

<http://sites.agu.org/fallmeeting/scientific-program/session-search/113>

NH04: Characterizing Major Disasters Caused by Geohazards

<http://sites.agu.org/fallmeeting/scientific-program/session-search/585>