

GRAAL

GMES for Regions: Awareness and Access Link

A DATE WITH GMES

Linking supply and demand for GMES downstream services is a challenging task. The GRAAL project aims at establishing such connections at the European local and regional levels.

Europe's Global Monitoring system for Environment and Security (GMES) has a lot to offer local and regional authorities across the continent. Whether GMES services take the form of local air quality forecasts and alerts, refined land cover maps, or water quality measurements, GMES helps decision makers and authorities make informed choices in areas concerning the environment, health, safety and security.

However, awareness of the benefits that GMES brings at local level needs to be further enhanced and a balance between the Offer and Demand sides must be reached. GRAAL takes on these challenges.

GRAAL's objective is to help potential regional and local users of GMES downstream services to understand what GMES is and how they can eventually benefit from it i.e. become an end user of GMES. By means of a web portal and by engaging in a targeted awareness campaign, GRAAL will reach out to local and regional authorities that currently have little or no knowledge about the potential of GMES downstream services. A matching function will notably link users with particular needs to GMES service suppliers that are able to offer solutions to such needs. In addition, and among other "tools", a Virtual GMES Academy will serve the interaction between users, service providers and academia.

Through GRAAL, you can indeed get a date with GMES.



STÉPHANE OUREVITCH
IS PROJECT COORDINATOR



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GRAAL will act as matchmaker between European local and regional authorities and Europe's Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES) programme.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

What do you want to achieve with this project?

The essentials of GMES are now understood by decision-makers at Member State level. However, the downstream level is still to be discovered by many European Local and Regional Administrations (LRA). GRAAL wants to make it easier for LRAs to comprehend and use the GMES downstream services while fostering their development.

Why is this project important for Europe?

GMES is at the crossroad of many EU policies. However, the contribution of GMES, and especially that of the downstream sector, will only be optimal when European LRAs become involved as stakeholders. Only then GMES will fully contribute to the various EU policies and strategies.

How does your work benefit European citizens?

GMES is now considered a public good and European LRAs constitute the most important "reservoir" of downstream users. The development of downstream services benefiting the LRAs will eventually contribute to the improvement of EU citizens' day-to-day life.

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LIST OF PARTNERS

- SYSECO, Belgium
- Planetek, Italy
- Starlab, Spain
- France Développement Conseil (FDC), France
- Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt (DLR), Germany
- ISTITUTO SUPERIORE PER LA PROTEZIONE E LA RICERCA AMBIENTALE, ISPRA, Italy
- European Regions Research and Innovation Network, ERRIN, International
- Paris-Lodron-Universität Salzburg, PLUS, Austria
- GISAT, Czech Republic
- Specto Natura, United Kingdom

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PROJECT INFORMATION

GMES for Regions: Awareness and Access Link (GRAAL)

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