

PanGeo

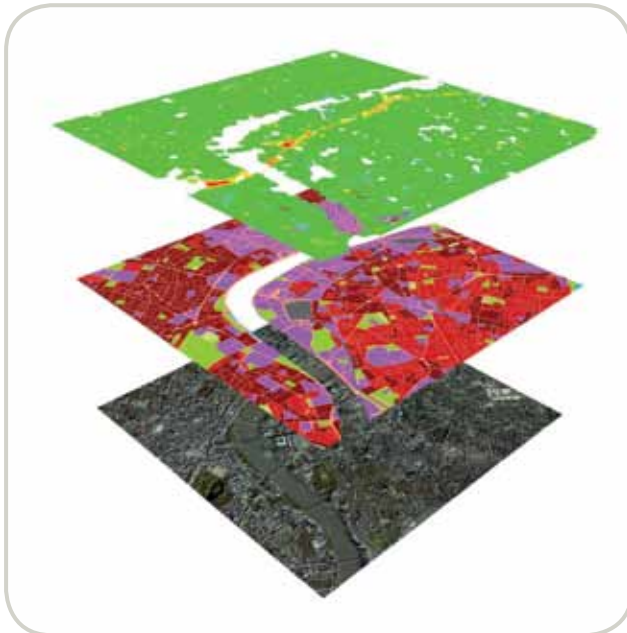
Enabling access to geological information in support of GMES

ENABLING IMPROVED ACCESS TO INFORMATION ABOUT URBAN GEOHAZARDS

Urban geohazards – subsidence, landslides, earthquakes, - can kill and injure people and cause substantial financial and environmental losses. However, the extent of these losses can be limited significantly given improved information on the nature and location of such geohazards. The PanGeo project aims to provide that improvement.

Across Europe, the GMES Urban Atlas provides detailed information about the composition of hundreds of cities. Such data are not only useful for urban planning, enabling better comparisons between cities, and subsequent detection of best practices for sustainable development, they may also be used as an effective tool for implementing better mitigation against geohazards.

In this respect, the PanGeo project is set to provide free and open access to geohazard information through a validated geohazard data layer for the 52 largest towns, encompassing some 13% of the EU's total urban population, thereby adding further value to the GMES Urban Atlas maps.



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PanGeo intends to enable free and open access to geological hazard information for the 52 largest towns in Europe.

Over the past decades, economic losses due to geohazards have increased, mainly due to urban expansion. To implement effective mitigation means improving knowledge about such hazards and making such information more accessible.

PanGeo responds to the demand within the EU for good quality geodata which can be used by people and organisations across the continent for better planning control and mitigation strategies subject to state-of-the-art service design, evaluation and validation.

The project will improve the Urban Atlas in the cities it covers, enhancing the availability of preliminary geohazard information as a means to progress towards the effective implementation of the INSPIRE directive. Also, PanGeo will support existing and ongoing work by the GMES service projects SAFER and Geoland2, adding value to their services.

Local authorities concerned with managing development risk, geological surveys who are obliged to collect geohazard data for public benefit, as well as policy makers concerned with assessing and comparing European geological risk are foreseen to become the primary users of PanGeo data.



REN CAPES
IS PROJECT COORDINATOR

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

What do you want to achieve with this project?

We want to bring about an overall improvement in general knowledge about, and access to, information on geohazards. Also, there are GMES services for the sea, the air and land surfaces, but not for what's beneath the land – the geology. PanGeo helps to bring geology into GMES.

Why is this project important for Europe?

Geohazards cost the EU billions of Euros per year. PanGeo is not a panacea but can certainly help to alleviate some of these huge losses by facilitating better-informed decisions. PanGeo also exploits specific EU expertise in Earth observation InSAR technology.

How does your work benefit European citizens?

PanGeo can allow improved planning and development control by better-informing decision-makers and regulators who until now have little access to any information concerning geohazards. Also, individuals will be able to freely access information on geohazards within their locale.



LIST OF PARTNERS

- Fugro NPA Ltd, United Kingdom
- Natural Environment Research Council (British Geological Survey), United Kingdom
- Landmark Information Group, United Kingdom
- Nederlandse Organisatie Voor Toegepast Natuurwetenschappelijk Onderzoek (TNO), The Netherlands
- Systèmes d'Information à Référence Spatiale (SIRS), France
- Consorci Institut de Geomatica (Institute of Geomatics), Spain
- Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières (BRGM), France
- EuroGeoSurveys, Pan-European
- Federation Europeenne des Geologues, EU
- AB Consulting, United Kingdom
- Tele-Rilevamento Europa, Italy
- Gamma Remote Sensing, Switzerland
- Altamira Information, Spain
- Geologische Bundesanstalt, Austria
- Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Belgium
- Ministry of Environment and Water, Bulgaria
- Ministry Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment of Cyprus
- Ceska Geologicka Sluzba, Czech Republic
- Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland, Denmark
- Eesti Geoloogiakeskus OÜ, Estonia
- Geologian tutkimuskeskus, Finland
- Bundesanstalt für Geowissenschaften und Rohstoffe, Germany
- Instituto Geologikon Kai Metalleytikon Ereynon, Greece.
- Magyar Állami Földtani Intézet, Hungary
- Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, Ireland
- Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale, Italy
- Latvijas Universitate, Latvia
- Lietuvos geologijos tarnyba prie Aplinkos ministerijos, Lithuania
- Administration des Ponts et Chaussées Direction, Luxembourg
- Malta Resources Authority, Malta
- Panstwowy Instytut Geologiczny, Poland
- Laboratório Nacional de Energia e Geologia, Portugal
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- Geološkega zavoda Slovenije, Slovenia
- Instituto Geológico y Minero de España, Spain
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PROJECT INFORMATION

Enabling access to geological information in support of GMES (PanGeo)

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