The biggest picture of all: science, resources, and getting the message across

Wednesday 25 May 2011

EC support to Innovative Earth Observation Systems: “a key element for assessing the status of Planet’s resources”

Manuela Soares
Director
Environment Directorate
Directorate General for Research & Innovation
Content

• Introduction/rationale
• Current situation: EO initiatives and related activities
• FP7 Contribution To GEOSS
• Future

“A resource-efficient Europe – Flagship initiative under the Europe 2020 Strategy”
A resource-efficient Europe – Flagship initiative

Three crucial aspects for the implementation of the Flagship Initiative:

1) Need for monitoring and observation...

2) International dimension...

3) Research & Innovation...
European Earth Observation Initiatives and related activities

(e.g. ocean, land, forest resources...)

(e.g. energy resources and mineral resources...)

Implementation of environmental policy
(e.g. water resources...)

Maritime resources
International Earth Observation Initiatives

United Nations:

Inter-Governmental outside the United Nations - Group on Earth Observation (GEO):
GEOSS serves 9 Societal Benefit Areas, among which five are concerning management of natural resources...
The Group on Earth Observation GEO

GEOSS:

How?
- Voluntary partnership

When?
- 2005 to 2015

Who?
- 86 Governments + EC
- + 61 participating org.
Contribution to Research Component of GEOSS through FP7

FP7 Cooperation Environment Theme contributes to .....
Contribution to Research Component of GEOSS through FP7

Annual calls address GEO Societal Benefit Areas specifically ...
Biological resources: EBONE project

GEO Biodiversity SBA: Understanding, monitoring, and conserving biodiversity;

EBONE (European Biodiversity Observation Network):

A cost-effective system to collect information on the status of the European biological resources....
Mineral resources: Projects IMPACTMin and EOminers

To develop methods and tools for mining impact assessment and monitoring methods for environmentally sustainable mining.
Near Future: GEOSS activities within FP7

Cooperation Environment Theme

Possible topics within 2012 call for proposal - Will take stock of the resource efficiency concept:

- Assessing global biological resources: the European contribution to the Global Earth Observation Biodiversity Observation Network (GEO BON)

- Long-term monitoring experiment in geologically active regions of Europe prone to natural hazards: the Supersite concept

- Developing community-based environmental monitoring and information systems using innovative and novel earth observation applications
Future of GEO (Short-term): Development WP 2012-15
“Completion of the GEO 10 year implementation plan”

Three main objectives for the period 2012-15:

1) Full & open access to data through the GEO information system

2) Development of information products across GEO 9 SBAs

3) Reinforcement of coordination, user engagement & resource mobilization
GEO post-2015: European Context
(Concluding remarks)

- Current GEO 10-year implementation plan ends in 2015
- Future European support to GEO will have to be considered taking into account the current institutional framework:
  - The Innovation Union initiative
  - The future Common Strategic Framework for EU research and innovation funding
  - Future evolution for GMES.