

Coordination Group of the EuroGEOSS Initiative

Terms of Reference

Context

The EuroGEOSS initiative was launched during the GEO Plenary week in Washington (23 – 27 October 2017). The aim of the initiative is to strengthen the European contribution to GEO (Group on Earth Observations) and to harvest benefits for Europe from GEOSS (the Global Earth Observation System of Systems).

The EuroGEOSS initiative shall boost EO innovation in Europe based on existing GEO initiatives and flagships, Horizon 2020 activities, the Copernicus programme and other initiatives at national or sub-national levels, including those coming from the private sector. It shall be implemented in close cooperation with the Copernicus Programme.

To guide the implementation of the EuroGEOSS initiative, a Coordination Group shall be established within the GEO High Level Working Group.

Tasks

The tasks of the Coordination Group relate to aspects of strategic guidance, user uptake, identification of synergies and gaps, promotion of pilot applications, as well as monitoring and reporting. More specifically, the Coordination Group shall perform the following tasks:

- ✓ To oversee and assess on a three-year basis the implementation of the EuroGEOSS strategic objectives;
- ✓ To liaise with relevant services of the Commission to ensure alignment with EU policy needs and support for the implementation of policy priorities (e.g. SDGs);
- ✓ To facilitate EuroGEOSS user uptake and engagement across the Commission, member countries, participating organisations and the commercial sector;
- ✓ To ensure synergies and identify gaps between GEO actions, Copernicus and Horizon 2020 activities, and the activities conducted by the countries and organisations represented in the GEO High Level Working Group;
- ✓ To identify, review and propose possible EuroGEOSS pilot applications according to the set of criteria given in annex;
- ✓ To provide strategic guidance to parties tasked with implementing EuroGEOSS pilot applications;
- ✓ To plan for EuroGEOSS communication and branding and to provide recommendations for the evolution and sustainability of the EuroGEOSS framework;
- ✓ To regularly report to the GEO HLWG and Copernicus programme governance.

If required, these tasks can be facilitated by the establishment of relevant ad hoc working groups.

Membership and participation

Representatives of the Coordination Group (and its ad hoc working groups) shall be nominated by members of the GEO High Level Working Group on behalf of their respective countries or participating organizations.

Any costs related to the participations in the activities of the EuroGEOSS Coordination Group (and its ad hoc working groups) shall be borne by the respective countries and participating organisations.

The Coordination Group shall be co-chaired by the Commission (DG RTD and DG GROW).

These terms apply to the initial phase (2017) and consolidation phase (2018) of the EuroGEOSS initiative. They might be revised as appropriate for the period post-2018 depending on the evolution of commitments and expectations of the members of the group.

Annex

Annex: Criteria for the selection of EuroGEOSS pilot applications

- *Policy priorities*

Applications that supplement the Copernicus service portfolio:

- for supporting the implementation of EU policies;
- for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other GEO engagement priorities within a European context.

- *Scaling up / Consolidation / Incubation of existing applications*

Applications already demonstrated in another environment (e.g. FP7/H2020, ESA, national or sub-national programmes) which show, alone or combined together, highest potential to respond to consolidated end-user needs in Europe.

Applications with established market uptake potential, wide applicability and strong socio-economic benefit that would clearly benefit from:

- Scaling up in real life environment at trans-national / European scales;
- Combination of different applications addressing similar end-user needs;
- Support for operationalisation / first-of-a-kind market deployment;
- Provision of new GEOSS data (e.g. in-situ data);
- User-driven partnership with ongoing GEO activities;
- Partnering with the European commercial sector for service commercialisation and sustainability.

- *Leveraging Copernicus data/services/products*

Applications addressing the full value chain and leveraging Copernicus Data, Core Services and related infrastructure (e.g. DIAS) for the scaling-up of EuroGEOSS applications.