EU Framework Program for Research and Innovation (SC5-18a-2014 - H2020)

Project Nr: 641538

Coordinating an Observation Network of Networks EnCompassing saTellite and IN-situ to fill the Gaps in European Observations

Deliverable D7.6
Media presence compendium

Version 1

Due date of deliverable: 31/01/2017
Actual submission date: 31/01/2017

Document control page				
Title	D7.6 Media presence compendium			
Creator	IS_CREAF			
Editor	IS_CREAF and JM_CREAF			
Description	Report describing the media presence achieved during the project.			
Publisher	ConnectinGEO Consortium			
Contributors	ConnectinGEO Partners			
Type	Text			
Format	MS-Word			
Language	EN-GB			
Creation date	30/12/2016			
Version number	1			
Version date	31/01/2017			
Last modified by				
Rights	Copyright © 2017, ConnectinGEO Consortium			
Dissemination level		CO (confidential, only for members of the consortium)		
	X	PU (public)		
		PP (restricted to other programme participants)		
		RE (restricted to a group specified by the consortium)		
	When restricted, access granted to:			
Nature		R (report)		
		P (prototype)		
		D (demonstrator)		
	X	O (other)		
Review status		Draft	*Where applicable:*	
	X	WP leader accepted	X	Accepted by the PTB
	X	PMB quality controlled	X	Accepted by the PTB as public document
		Coordinator accepted		
Action requested		to be revised by all ConnectinGEO partners		
		for approval of the WP leader		
		for approval of the PMB		
		for approval of the Project Coordinator		
		for approval of the PTB		
Requested deadline				

Revision history			
Version	Date	Modified by	Comments
0.1	30-12-2016	IS_CREAF	Created the basic content of the deliverable
0.2	26/01/2017	MML_EARSC	Content on the EARSC dissemination (EOmag, tweets)
1	31-01-2017	IS_CREAF	Final version of the document

Table of Contents

1. Executive summary

This deliverable presents the most relevant ConnectinGEO media compendium from the whole period of the project (2015 and 2016).

2. Most relevant media presence compendium

CREAF, ConnectinGEO press release

http://www.connectingeo.net/Docs/ConnectinGEOPressRelease.pdf

CREAF will coordinate the creation of ENEON, a European network of earth observation

- *This week saw the first meeting of the ConnectinGEO project, a new European Horizon2020 project coordinated by CREAF that has the objective of coordinating and promoting the use of Earth observation data in Europe.*

- *Earth observation data are used for determining the health of the planet from space, using remote sensing technology such as sensors and cameras on planes, satellites, and other airships.*

Bellaterra, February 20th, 2015. To what degree can Earth cope with human activities before suffering irreversible or catastrophic changes? To respond to this question, scientists need to monitor and thoroughly study the state of the Earth, using data that provide us information about its condition and evolution of change. Most of these data are currently found in the global system of systems for Earth observation data called GEOSS (Global Earth Observation System of Systems). This initiative gathers data and information from many different Earth observation networks worldwide which freely share information about climate, natural resources, raw materials, biodiversity, pollution, etc.

Improving the GEOSS system of systems at the European level is a priority for the European Union, and for this reason the European research program Horizon2020 has granted 1 million euros to a consortium of research centers and businesses helmed by CREAF to develop a research project called ConnectinGEO.

ConnectinGEO began the 18th-19th of February with the first meeting of the international group of partners. The goal of the GEOSS is to procure the best data, and that scientists, managers, and politicians can use them to track the environmental health of European territory. "Only if we have enough data on Europe and if these are of good enough quality will we be able to know if we are achieving the Goals of Sustainable Development being proposed by the United Nations, or if we are about to overshoot planetary boundaries", says Joan Masó, CREAF researcher coordinating the project. To meet this goal, the project needs to assure that Earth observation data in GEOSS cover European territory in a coordinated manner. It will also propose data improvement where necessary, record data quality, and make data available according to a clear and transparent policy.

The project will create a larger network of networks of European Earth observations to be called ENEON. "If we are able to define well the benefits of being included in ENEON, the initiative will be successful," says Joan Masó.

Studying the health of the planet from space is valuable knowledge

The project ConnectinGEO aims to clearly show the value and utility of Earth observation data. The project team hopes that this information is used and drawn on when making projections and planning sustainable use of the territory and the environment. To achieve this, ENEON will coordinate the detection of priority deficiencies in in-situ or satellite observations undertaken in Europe, and will prioritize the resolution of critical information gaps existing in current Earth observation networks within the European Union. This documentation will be later submitted to the European Commission and other financing agencies. Additionally, models and methods allowing the 'translation' of gathered information to a format useful for science, politics, and industry will be proposed. Prioritization will include research activities necessary for gap-filling: for example, during discussions at the initial project meeting was revealed the issue of the fragility and difficulties of maintaining a fleet of operative sea buoys. Also highlighted was the fact that it is very difficult to obtain socioeconomic data in third-world countries, and that remote observation could be a partial solution.

ConnectinGEO will go forward thanks to a consortium led by CREAF and made up of research centers from the Italian National Council of Research (CNR), the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Austria, the Euro-Mediterranean Centro on Climate Change (CMCC), Italy, the Norwegian Institute for Air Research (NILU), the Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomy (BIRA), the Spanish Council for Scientific Research (CSIC), the University of Exeter, UK, the Association pour la recherche et le développement des méthodes et processus industriels (ARMINES), France, the Institut Mines-Telecom/Telecom Bretagne (IMT), France, the companies S&T Corporation, the Netherlands, 52° North GmbH, Germany, Tiwah UG, Germany, and the European Association of Remote Sensing Companies (EARSC), UK, and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers France Section (IEEE).

Copernicus, ConnectinGEO press release

http://www.copernicus.eu/projects/connectingeo

Project Database

ConnectinGEO

Fullname	Coordinating an Observation Network of Networks EnCompassing saTellite and IN-situ to fill the Gaps in European Observations
Funding Source	EC
Programme	H2020
Total Cost	1 000K€
Start Date	18/02/2015
Duration	24 months
Status	Ongoing
Coordinator	CREAF
Contact Person	Dr. Joan Masó
Telephone Number	+34 935811771
Website	http://www.connectingeo.net/

PROJECT ABSTRACT

ConnectinGEO aims to clearly show the value and utility of Earth observation data. The project team hopes that this information is used and drawn on when making projections and planning sustainable use of the territory and the environment.

To achieve this, ENEON (European Network of Earth Observation Networks) will coordinate the detection of priority deficiencies in in-situ or satellite observations undertaken in Europe, and will prioritize the resolution of critical information gaps existing in current Earth observation networks within the European Union. This documentation will be later submitted to the European Commission and other financing agencies. Additionally, models and methods allowing the 'translation' of gathered information to a format useful for science, politics, and industry will be proposed. Prioritization will include research activities necessary for gap-filling: for example, during discussions at the initial project meeting was revealed the issue of the fragility and difficulties of maintaining a fleet of operative sea buoys.
Also highlighted was the fact that it is very difficult to obtain socioeconomic data in third-world countries, and that remote observation could be a partial solution.

LIST OF PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

Tiwah (Germany)
Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR) (Italy)
IIASA: International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (Austria)
CMCC: Centro Euro-Mediterraneo sui Cambiamenti Climatici (Italy)
52° North GmbH (Germany)
S[&]t Corporation (The Netherlands)
Instituto de Ciencias del Mar (Spain)
Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomy BIRA-IASB (Belgium)
ARMINES (France)
NILU: Norsk institutt for luftforskning (Norway)
University of Exeter (UK)
IEEE: Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (France)
Institut Mines-Télécom (France)
EARSC: European Association of Remote Sensing Companies (European)

La Vanguardia newspaper (digital edition), El CREAF coordinará la unión de las redes europeas de observación de la Tierra, 20/02/2015

https://www.google.es/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=3&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwiv3aus0dDRAhVB7BQKHV8yD1sQFggoMAI&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.lavanguardia.com%2Flocal%2Fbarcelona%2F20150220%2F54426363655%2Fel-creaf-coordinara-la-union-de-las-redes-europeas-de-observacion-de-la-tierra.html&usg=AFQjCNE02E1wFq1jj4LJV4smr5VuL8F2CA&sig2=03IuYQ0z13EvOj1IrkcVfw&bvm=bv.144224172,d.d24

LA VANGUARDIA | Barcelona

MEDIO AMBIENTE

El Creaf coordinará la unión de las redes europeas de observación de la Tierra

20/02/2015 14:28

BARCELONA, 20 (EUROPA PRESS)

El Centro de Investigación Ecológica y **Aplicaciones Forestales** (Creaf) de la Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB) coordinará el nacimiento de Enon, una unión que integrará a los responsables de las **redes europeas** de **observación** de la **Tierra**, ha anunciado este viernes el centro en un comunicado.

El objetivo de ENEON es asegurar que los datos de observación de la Tierra que hay en el Global Earth Observation System of Systems (Geoss) cubren homogéneamente el territorio europeo, además de pretender mejorarlos, documentar su calidad y ponerlos a disposición de científicos, gestores y políticos con una política de datos clara y abierta.

El Geoss es una red mundial que aglutina datos e información de muchas otras redes de observación de la Tierra que comparten de forma gratuita su información sobre el clima, los recursos naturales, las materias primas y la biodiversidad, entre otros.

ENEON forma parte del proyecto de investigación ConnectinGeo, que arrancó el pasado miércoles y jueves con la primera reunión de socios internacionales, y que está financiado con un millón de euros por el programa de la Unión Europea Horizon2020.

El investigador del Creaf Joan Masó ha explicado que "sólo si hay suficientes datos sobre el territorio europeo y si estos son de calidad", se podrá controlar el estado de salud ambiental de Europa y se podrá saber si se están cumpliendo los Grandes Retos de Desarrollo Sostenible que marcan las Naciones Unidas.

i-ambiente, portal del medioambiente, CREAF coordinará una red de redes europea para la observación de la Tierra, 23/02/2015

http://www.i-ambiente.es/?q=noticias/creafecologia-coordinara-una-red-de-redes-europea-para-la-observacion-de-la-tierra

PUBLICADO POR REDACCIÓN I-AMBIENTE EL LUN, 23/02/2015 - 09:11

.@CREAF_Ecologia coordinará una red de redes europea para la observación de la tierra

‹ Anterior Siguiente ›

Fotografia de los socios del proyecto ConnectinGEO en la Casa de la Convalescència

Esta semana se ha celebrado el primer encuentro del proyecto ConnectinGEO, un nuevo proyecto europeo del Horizon2020 coordinado por el CREAF que quiere homogeneizar y potenciar el uso de datos de observación de la tierra en Europa

Los datos de observación de la tierra sirven para analizar la salud del planeta desde el cielo, utilizando la teledetección con sensores o cámaras instalados en aviones, satélites o aeronaves

¿Hasta qué punto la Tierra puede soportar la actividad humana antes de sufrir cambios irreversibles y catastróficos? Para poder contestar esta pregunta, los científicos deben monitorizar y estudiar profundamente el estado de la Tierra analizando datos que nos informan sobre su estado y su evolución. La mayoría de estos datos actualmente se encuentran en una **red mundial de datos de observación de la Tierra** llamada GEOSS (Global Earth Observation System of Systems). Esta red aglutina datos e información de muchas otras redes mundiales de observaciones de la Tierra que comparten de forma gratuita información sobre el clima, los recursos naturales, las materias primas, la biodiversidad, la contaminación, etc.

Mejorar la red GEOSS a nivel europeo es una prioridad para la Unión Europea, por lo que este año, el programa europeo de investigación Horizon2020 ha concedido 1 millón de euros a un consorcio de centros de investigación y empresas lideradas por el CREAF para desarrollar un proyecto de investigación llamado ConnectinGEO.

ConnectinGEO ha arrancado este 18 y 19 de febrero con la **primera reunión de socios internacionales**. El proyecto pretende que GEOSS tenga mejores datos sobre Europa y que los científicos, gestores y políticos puedan utilizarlos para controlar el estado de salud ambiental del territorio europeo. "Sólo si tenemos suficientes datos sobre el territorio europeo y si éstos son de calidad, **podremos saber si estamos o no cumpliendo los** Grandes Retos de Desarrollo Sostenible que marcan las Naciones Unidas, o si estamos a punto o no superar los Límites Planetarios, comenta Joan Masó, investigador del CREAF que coordina el proyecto". Por ello, el proyecto quiere asegurar que los datos de observación de la tierra que hay en GEOSS cubren homogéneamente el territorio europeo. Igualmente pretende mejorar estos datos, documentar su calidad y ponerlas a disposición con una **política de datos clara y abierta**. Con este proyecto se creará una red con los responsables de las redes de observaciones europeas que se llamará ENEON. "Si somos capaces de definir bien los beneficios de pertenecer a ENEON la iniciativa será un éxito" comenta Joan Masó.

Estudiar la salud del planeta desde el cielo es muy útil

El proyecto ConnectinGEO quiere explicar con claridad y poner en valor la utilidad de los datos de observación de la tierra. El equipo del proyecto quiere que cada vez se tengan más en cuenta a la hora de hacer previsiones y planificar la **gestión sostenible del territorio y del medio natural**. Para conseguirlo, ENEON coordinará y detectará carencias prioritarias en las observaciones in-situ o por satélite que se llevan a cabo en Europa y se hará una lista priorizada con las lagunas de información y deficiencias críticas que tienen las actuales redes de observación de la Tierra dentro de la Unión Europea y que será entregada a la Commissión y otras entidades financiadoras. Además, se propondrán modelos y metodologías que permitan traducir las observaciones en conocimiento útil para la ciencia, por la política o por la industria. La lista priorizada incluirá las actividades de investigación necesarias para solucionar estas lagunas. Por ejemplo, durante las charlas de la reunión inicial de proyecto se reveló la fragilidad y las dificultades para mantener una buena red de boyas de observación en alta mar. También se destacó que era muy difícil **obtener datos socioeconómicos en los países del tercer mundo** donde la observación remota por satélite puede ser una alternativa parcial.

ConnectinGEO saldrá adelante con gracias a un consorcio liderado por el CREAF y formado por los centros de investigación Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR), Italia, el International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Austria, el Euro-Mediterranean Centro on Climate Change , Italia, la World Meteorologial Organization (WMO), Suiza, el Norwegian Institute for Air Research, Noruega, Belgisch Instituut voor Ruimte Aeronomie, Bélgica, el Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Ciebntíficas (CSIC), España, y las empresas S & T Corporation, Holanda , 52 ° North GmbH, Alemania, Armin, Francia y Tiwah UG, Alemania.

Eomag, EARSC, European Product Award, Oct 17, 2015

EARSC
European Association of Remote Sensing Companies

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Library
User Communities
EOinformation
Resources
Certification Scheme

Oct 17, 2015

EARSC, European Product Award

EVENTS

award earsc geoss open data product

The EARSC competition "European EO product of the year" will encourage the use of open data from GEOSS (Global Earth Observation System of Systems)

Rules & Guidelines

The EARSC competiton, run under the umbrella of the ConnectinGEO project, will reward a company which has developed the most innovative product integrating an element of open data ideally discoverable through the GEOSS broker services (Note: Copernicus data is eligible).

The competition will run over a 6 month period (December 2015-May 2016) during which time they may adapt an existing product, develop a new product or simply promote one they have already in their catalogue. Companies will be asked to provide a short summary of the results which will be used as statement for the jury.

Evaluation criteria and more information are available here: http://earsc.org/news/earsc-european-eo-product-award

European Earth observation companies understand how important it is to be creative, innovative, and inventive in order to react to the rapid evolution in the sector. The exponential increase in data available from all sources promises radical change and the EARSC industry competition will recognize this. For the first year, under the umbrella of the EU Framework Program for Research and Innovation ConnectinGEO project, it will reward a company which has developed the most innovative product integrating an element of open data ideally discoverable through the GEOSS broker services.

Companies are invited to show their interest before *27th November 2015* to secretariat@earsc.org. During the 1st week of December a first WEBEX will be organized where companies may be briefed on which types of data are available through the GEOSS – GCI Factsheet (Recipe) and making use of the GEOSS Discover Access Broker (Search & Discovery API). Partners in the ConnectinGEO H2020 project will inform via WEBEX to potential entrants on the possibilities which are presented.

The competition will run over a 6 month period (December 2015-May 2016) during which time they may adapt an existing product, develop a new product or simply promote one they have already in their catalogue. Companies will be asked to provide a short summary of the results (Report should not exceed 2 pages) which will be used as statement for the jury.

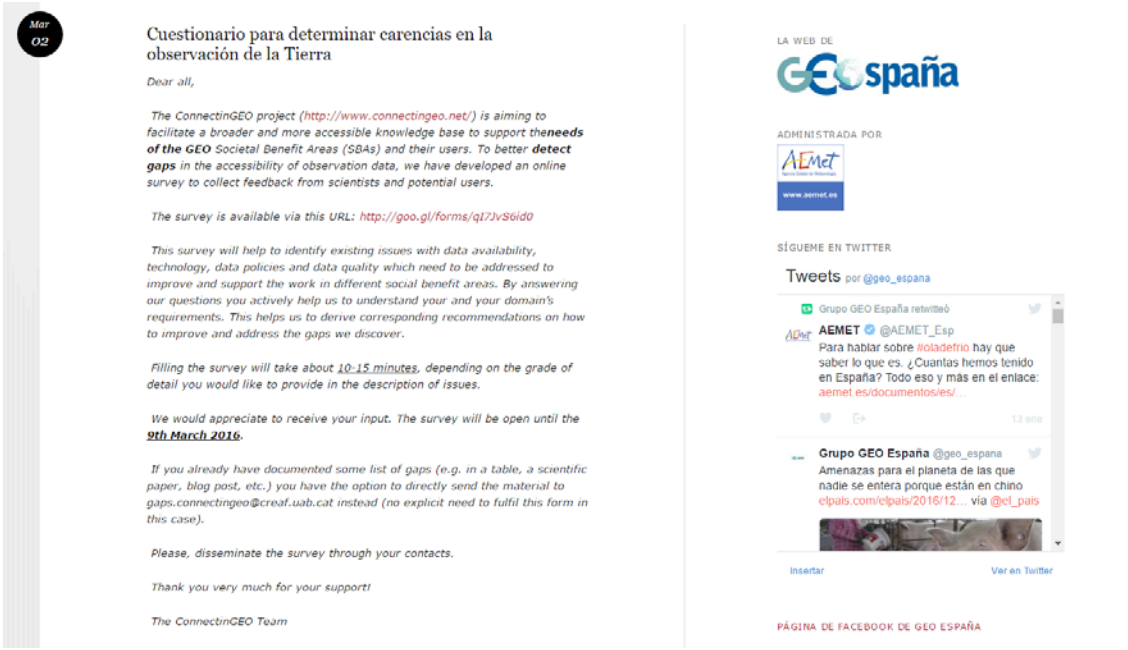
This year's award will be announced during the EARSC annual cocktail where the winner of the EARSC *"European Earth Observation company of the year"* is also revealed.

Criteria: eligibility requirements & metrics

› Any commercial product integrating an element of open data resources (ideally data discoverable by GEOSS Discover Access Broker). Note: Copernicus data is eligible.
Report on the findings (not exceed 2 pages)
› Explain what type of innovation product the company offers using open data and the degree to which the product depends on the open data
› Describe the challenge: What problem this product will solve/what solution will this provide? Companies should explain the circumstances surrounding the development of this new product
› Expected impact and clients to address

GEO Spain website, 2/3/2016

https://betagrupogeo.wordpress.com/2016/03/02/cuestionario-para-determinar-carencias-en-la-observacion-de-la-tierra/



Mar 02

Cuestionario para determinar carencias en la observación de la Tierra

Dear all,

*The ConnectinGEO project (http://www.connectingeo.net/) is aiming to facilitate a broader and more accessible knowledge base to support the **needs of the GEO** Societal Benefit Areas (SBAs) and their users. To better **detect gaps** in the accessibility of observation data, we have developed an online survey to collect feedback from scientists and potential users.*

The survey is available via this URL: http://goo.gl/forms/q17JvS6id0

This survey will help to identify existing issues with data availability, technology, data policies and data quality which need to be addressed to improve and support the work in different social benefit areas. By answering our questions you actively help us to understand your and your domain's requirements. This helps us to derive corresponding recommendations on how to improve and address the gaps we discover.

Filling the survey will take about 10-15 minutes, depending on the grade of detail you would like to provide in the description of issues.

*We would appreciate to receive your input. The survey will be open until the **9th March 2016**.*

If you already have documented some list of gaps (e.g. in a table, a scientific paper, blog post, etc.) you have the option to directly send the material to gaps.connectingeo@creaf.uab.cat instead (no explicit need to fulfil this form in this case).

Please, disseminate the survey through your contacts.

Thank you very much for your support!

The ConnectinGEO Team

LA WEB DE GEOespaña

ADMINISTRADA POR AEMet

SÍGUEME EN TWITTER

Tweets por @geo_espana

Grupo GEO España retwitteó

AEMET @AEMET_Esp
Para hablar sobre #oladefrio hay que saber lo que es. ¿Cuantas hemos tenido en España? Todo eso y más en el enlace: aemet.es/documentos/es/...

Grupo GEO España @geo_espana
Amenazas para el planeta de las que nadie se entera porque están en chino elpais.com/elpais/2016/12... vía @el_pais

Insertar Ver en Twitter

PÁGINA DE FACEBOOK DE GEO ESPAÑA

Eomag, "Rocket: the Earth in your pocket" selected by EARSC as the European Earth Observation Product of the Year, Jun 27, 2016

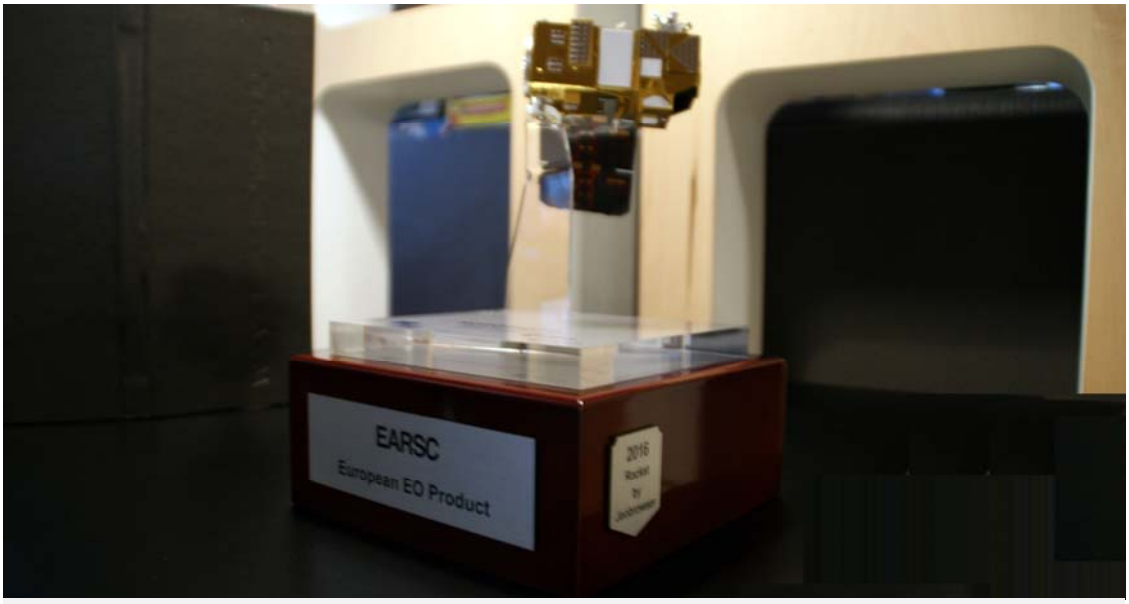
http://earsc.org/news/rocket-in-your-pocket-selected-by-earsc-as-the-european-earth-observation-product-of-the-year

"Rocket: the Earth in your pocket" selected by EARSC as the European Earth Observation Product of the Year

PRODUCTS

award connectingeo earsc jeobrowser product rocket

For the first year, under the umbrella of the EU Framework Program for Research and Innovation ConnectinGEO project, the EARSC competition "European EO product of the year" rewarded a company which has developed the most innovative product integrating an element of open data.



During the whole process about 16 companies got interested in the award and the finalists were: AnsuR Technologies (NO): GEO-ASIGN: the solutions for communication of operational EO data, Jeobrowser (FR): Rocket: the Earth in your pocket, Noveltis (FR): TIPS- Tidal Prediction Services: current and water elevation now only a click away and Planetek Italia (IT): Rheticus displacement: monitoring of terrain surface movements.

EARSC thereby recognised "Rocket: The Earth in your pocket" by Jeobrowser as the product which has best followed the jury criteria:
- commercial product integrating an element of open data resources
- type of innovation of the product
- challenge: problem to be solved and solution this product will solve
- expected impact and clients to address

Rocket: The Earth in your pocket The rocket application provides a unique entry point to search, visualize and download Earth Observation products from various catalogs. collections are available : for search : Sentinel-1, Sentinel-2, Landsat 8, SPOT 6-7 and Pleiades images for download : Sentinel-1, Sentinel-2 and Landsat 8 data. The database is updated daily from the CNES PEPS platform (Sentinels) and from the USGS platform (Landsat). One of the coolest feature is the density result map. Basically, each result of a search request is represented as a density layer : the red part indicates a high density of results and the blue part a low density of results.

EARSC represents the Earth Observation geo-information services companies in Europe. Today EARSC has 80 members coming from more than 22 countries in Europe. Our members include both commercial operators of EO satellites, IT, downstream and value-adding companies. The sector plays a key role in providing value-added geo-spatial information to its customers in Europe and the world. In 2014, the revenue of the European EO services sector is estimated to be around €900m for approximatively 450 companies and giving work to over 6500 highly skilled employees.

CREAF blog, CREAF is co-organizer of the ConnectinGEO and ENEON workshops in Austria, 5/8/2016

http://blog.creaf.cat/en/noticies-en/creaf-is-co-organizer-of-the-connectingeo-and-eneon-workshops-in-austria/

LANDSCAPE

CREAF is co-organizer of the ConnectinGEO and ENEON workshops in Austria

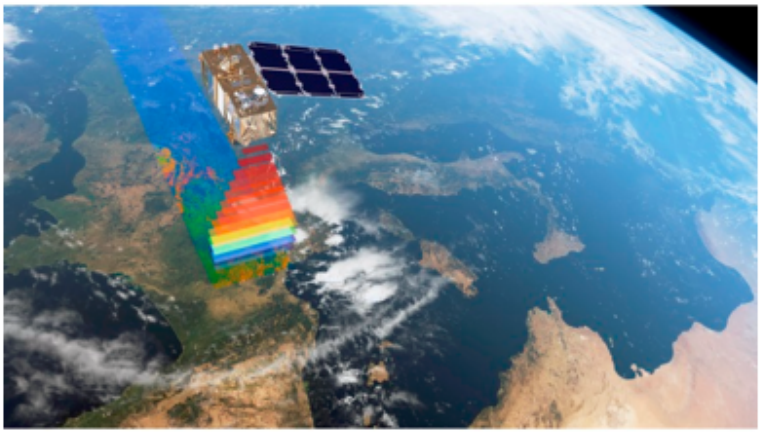
5 de August 2016

*During the week of October 10-14, the city of Laxenburg (Austria) will host the Earth Observation workshop meeting **ConnectinGEO and ENEON Workshop Week**. In the first of two workshops, initial results of the ConnectinGeo project will be presented, while the second will cover ENEON's completed work and upcoming activities. Both projects are led by CREAF.*

Together with Joan Masó, CREAF researcher Ivette Serral coordinates the ConnectinGEO and ENEON projects. Author: CREAF

CREAF coordinates the European project ConnectinGEO, led by Joan Masó and Ivette Serral. The project, begun in February 2015 and with a total duration of two years, aims to put European Earth Observation (EO) institutions and actors into closer contact and coordination. During the 10th and 11th of October 2016, the headquarters of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) in Laxenburg will host the first of two workshops, the *Earth Observation gaps and prioritization actions' Workshop*. "The European Commission wanted to know which areas of EO are receiving to many resources and which are left on the sidelines. The detection of these gaps or deficiencies in the system, known as gap analysis, was a primary objective of ConnectinGEO," explains Ivette Serral. Along these lines, this first workshop will be dedicated to presenting the results of the gap analysis carried out in the project. She adds, "we will also present the order of priority with which we think these gaps should be addressed and tackled."

As a strategy for undertaking the gap analysis, the creation of a European Network of Earth Observation Networks (ENEON) was proposed with the idea that this new network would facilitate its execution. Originating from ConnectinGEO, this network helps visualize and understand the relationships among different European Earth Observation institutions. ENEON will therefore be the focus of the second workshop at IIASA in the same week, on the 12th and 13th of October, titled *ENEON Workshop and Plenary*. Project partners would like ENEON to continue after the end of ConnectinGEO in February 2017. Towards this goal, Serral explains that in the workshop "we want to put on the table the question of how ENEON should be structured from here forward, what can be done in the future, what economic support will be necessary and where to ask for it, and what work groups it should have.".



Representation of how the Copernicus satellite captures images from the Earth. In Earth Observation, data are obtained both from satellite images and *in situ* measurements taken directly on the ground. Author: European Space Agency

A workshop is a seminar where participants other than the organizers can also engage actively in the debate. Serral says, "our intention is to have an exchange of ideas between the different EO representatives and actors and that this serves for improving and enriching the results of ConnectinGEO and facilitates the solitary start of ENEON [after ConnectinGEO has finished]." For this reason, attendance to the meetings is open to anyone, and with previous notification to the organizers it is possible to participate as a speaker.

The Objectives of Sustainable Development and Essential Variables

In order to carry out the gap analysis the researchers first had to define the most important topics within the field of Earth Observation. The ConnectinGEO team did this by basing their analysis on two factors. Firstly, the UN has established Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) for the year 2030. The SDG are transversal objectives, covering all human activities, which according to Ivette "people working in Earth Observation (be it via satellite images or field measurements) can help achieve." Secondly, in certain branches of the science such as climatology or studies of biodiversity, there exist what are known as *essential variables*: basic components of a system which are crucial for understanding its functioning. For instance, temperature, rainfall, and wind are essential variables in climatology.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals proposed by the UN for 2030. Source: United Nations

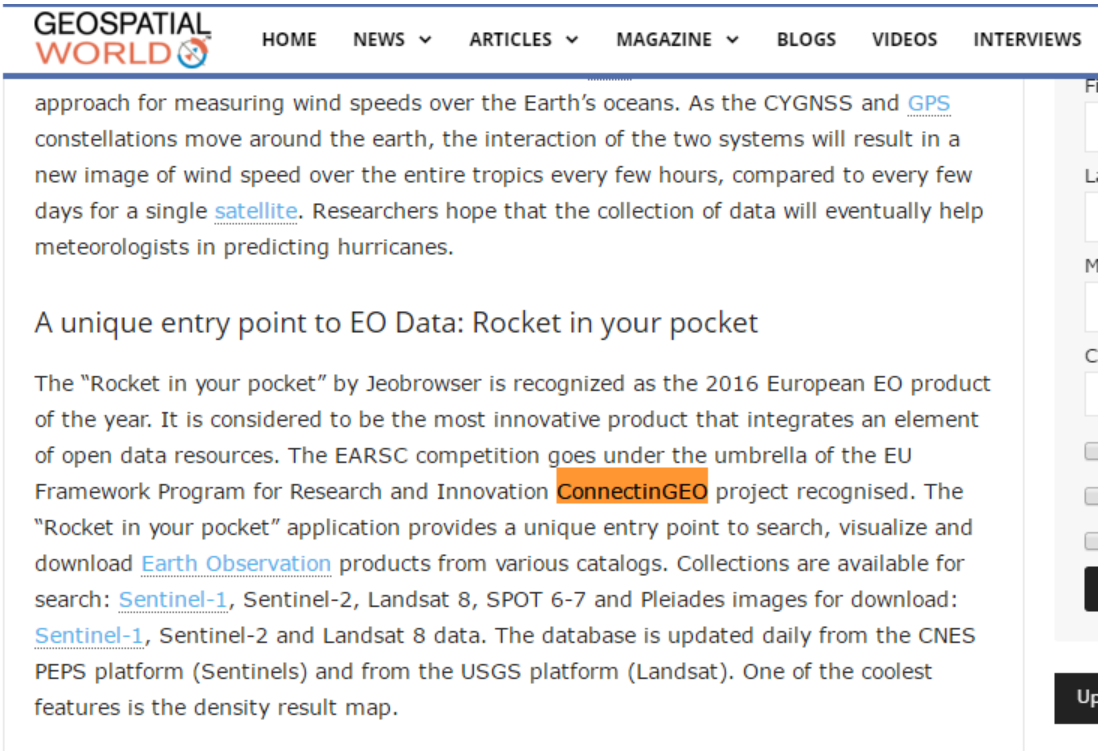
Beginning with these SDG and essential variables, the participating partners of ConnectinGEO were able to identify gaps in the EO networks. "Redundancies will begin to appear when many resources are allocated to the same kind of study or indicator. There will also be undervalued areas which go unstudied if not enough resources are dedicated, and in such a situation we can only cover a part of the SDG and essential variables," says Serral.

ConnectinGEO, Earth Observation, ENEON, gap analysis, IIASA, Ivette Serral, Joan Masó, plenary, workshop

Albert Naya i Díaz

Geospatial World, Top geospatial technology trends 2016, December 21, 2016

https://www.geospatialworld.net/article/top-geospatial-technology-trends-2016/



GEOSPATIAL WORLD

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approach for measuring wind speeds over the Earth's oceans. As the CYGNSS and GPS constellations move around the earth, the interaction of the two systems will result in a new image of wind speed over the entire tropics every few hours, compared to every few days for a single satellite. Researchers hope that the collection of data will eventually help meteorologists in predicting hurricanes.

A unique entry point to EO Data: Rocket in your pocket

The "Rocket in your pocket" by Jeobrowser is recognized as the 2016 European EO product of the year. It is considered to be the most innovative product that integrates an element of open data resources. The EARSC competition goes under the umbrella of the EU Framework Program for Research and Innovation ConnectinGEO project recognised. The "Rocket in your pocket" application provides a unique entry point to search, visualize and download Earth Observation products from various catalogs. Collections are available for search: Sentinel-1, Sentinel-2, Landsat 8, SPOT 6-7 and Pleiades images for download: Sentinel-1, Sentinel-2 and Landsat 8 data. The database is updated daily from the CNES PEPS platform (Sentinels) and from the USGS platform (Landsat). One of the coolest features is the density result map.

Eomag, EARSC is part of ENEON

http://eomag.eu/articles/3283/european-network-of-earth-observation-networks

eomag

EARSC
The European Association of Remote Sensing Companies (EARSC) Newsletter

EARSC is part of ENEON

European Network of Earth Observation Networks: Connecting Earth Observation in Europe

ENEON

ENEON is a common network of Earth observation networks to provide integrated and harmonized perspective of observations, forecasting and projecting, helping to reduce redundancies and detect gaps in the European EO arena.

What is ENEON?

ENEON is the European Network of Earth Observation Networks funded by the European Union under the H2020 ConnectinGEO project, including space-based, airborne and in-situ observations networks. ENEON intends to increase the connection between the existing European EO networks and the S&T communities involved in defining the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as S&T communities engaged in assessments, forecasting, and projecting future developments. ENEON contributes to the development of GEOSS and Copernicus by extending them to all relevant European EO networks, keeping connection to other global initiatives.

Purposes

- incorporate to ENEON all EO networks members currently active in Europe
- consider in ENEON as much thematic areas as possible
- spatial harmonization of EO in-situ data
- connect ENEON with gap analysis studies, in particular ConnectinGEO methodology
- harmonization among EVs
- spatio-temporal continuity of the observations
- harmonization among standards (sensorML, etc)

Open to

- the GEOSS S&T Stakeholder Network and GEOSS CoPs
- Copernicus services, Sentinel missions and in-situ support data representatives
- European networks representatives for space-based, airborne and in-situ observations
- representatives of the SMEs and industry sector
- European and national funding agencies and in particular the ones participating in the ERA-NET GEO

Outputs

- ENEON stimulate a more harmonized and coherent coverage of the European EO networks
- ENEON reemphasizing the political strategic targets
- ENEON create opportunities for SMEs to develop products based on the current networks
- ENEON open avenue for industry to participate in investments to address the identified high-priority gaps
- ENEON feed a consultation process complemented by a systematic analysis of the available data and metadata

Become a member

Eomag, EARSC will participate at the ConnectinGEO and ENEON Workshops

http://eomag.eu/articles/3591/connectingeo-and-eneon-workshop

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EARSC
The European Association of Remote Sensing Companies (EARSC) Newsletter

EARSC will participate at the ConnectinGEO and ENEON Workshops

(October 10-14, 2016, Laxenburg, Austria). The ConnectinGEO workshop on gap analysis and prioritization and the ENEON workshop will take place in the week of October 10, 2016 in Laxenburg, Austria. These workshops are co-located with a ConnectinGEO project meeting.

The workshops will address key issues associated with the societal benefits of Earth observations and the exploitation of Earth observation for societal policy and decision making.

SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE GAP ANALYSIS WORKSHOP

Providing Earth Observation Support to the Monitoring and Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals: Gaps and Priorities: Solving complex societal issues increasingly depends on information and knowledge derived from Earth observations and in Europe a rich landscape of Earth observation networks and actors aims to collect and process the necessary observations to satisfy these information and knowledge needs. Nevertheless, there are many gaps and the goal is to identify and assess these gaps in support of decisions on which gaps to address with high priority.

The Gap Analysis workshop will discuss the outcomes of the gap analysis and prioritization performed in the ConnectinGEO project. This gap analysis was guided by the information and knowledge needs resulting from humanity's "Road to Dignity" detailed in the Agenda 2030 and specified in the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agreed upon by the United Nations. Both the monitoring and implementation of actions to achieve these goals require extensive support from Earth observation and science communities. Several directives and crosscuting issues in Europe provided further guidance for the gap analysis.

The workshop will provide a forum to review the methodology for gap analysis and prioritization, discuss the relevant gaps and priorities in the European Earth observation networks and develop a strategy to address those gaps that have a high priority assigned.

The objectives of the gap analysis and prioritization workshop are to:

- Assess the ConnectinGEO methodology for gap analysis and prioritization;
- Review the list of gaps identified and the prioritization achieved;
- Produce a final list of gaps with high priority;
- Discuss a strategy to address these gaps and provide recommendations for the European Network of Earth Observation Networks (ENEON) and the European Commission concerning high-priority gaps.

OctoberEOGaps_WS

SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ENEON WORKSHOP

Building a collaborative ENEON to inform policies and actions to address complex societal issues: Many in situ networks in Europe collect valuable Earth observations, and European institutions are involved in numerous global networks. A lack of cross-domain collaboration and coordination the interaction between Earth observation communities and policy and decision makers hinders a full exploitation of the integrated observations for societal applications. ENEON aims to develop coordination and collaboration between networks, the processing, and the generation and dissemination of products to better serve the growing societal needs for environmental intelligence.

ConnectinGEO is engaged in exploring the benefits and options of constituting a European Network of Earth Observation Networks (ENEON) that encompasses current networks in Europe in a single entity. The ENEON is designed as a forum for discussing gaps in the Earth observation networks and proposing concrete solutions to the European Commission in terms of completeness but also for ensuring continuity of critical infrastructures both in-situ and space based. It also serves as a coordination point for the European contribution to GEOSS with a focus on in-situ networks and encouraging the alignment of a transversal set of Essential Variables that is currently advocated by GEO.

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The Objectives of the ENEON workshop are to:

- Bring together the main current Earth Observation networks in Europe, including those that are umbrella initiatives;
- Continue the development of an ENEON strategy from organizational and subject points of view;
- Assess the extent to which ENEON is embedded in the European Earth observation landscape;
- Discuss the status of work in the ENEON components and the work for the next year;
- Explore options for ENEON contributions to the GEO Work Programme.

OctoberENEON_WS

Source

Eomag, ConnectinGEO (Coordinating an Observation Network of Networks EnCompassing satellite and IN-situ to fill the Gaps in European Observations)

http://eomag.eu/articles/3822/connectingeo-coordinating-an-observation-network-of-networks-encompassing-satellite-and-in-situ-to-fill-the-gaps-in-european-observations

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EARSC
The European Association of Remote Sensing Companies (EARSC) Newsletter

ConnectinGEO (Coordinating an Observation Network of Networks EnCompassing satellite and IN-situ to fill the Gaps in European Observations)

After 2 years of intense work, the H2020 CSA ConnectinGEO is finalizing to provide the main outcomes of the project. ConnectinGEO wants to continue some of these activities after the end of the project.

ConnectinGEO (Coordinating an Observation Network of Networks EnCompassing satellite and IN-situ to fill the Gaps in European Observations, H2020 Project Nr: 641538) started on 2015 with the aim to provide to link existing Earth Observation networks with science, private sector and with GEOSS and Copernicus stakeholders. Following this objective, other major achievements have been reached, mainly, the enablement of the European Network of Earth Observation Networks (ENEON), and the provision of a gap analysis among existing EO networks prioritizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and the Essential Variables (EV).

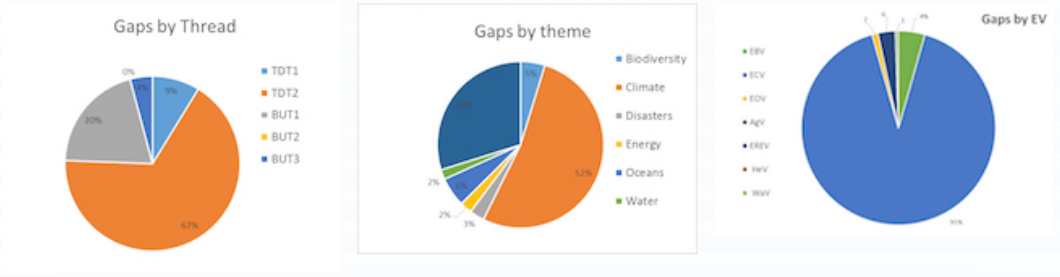
The gap analysis has been performed by applying the ConnectinGEO Gap Analysis Methodology, structured in five threads:

- *Top-down 1 (TDT1). Derivation of sustainability indicators needed to monitor progress towards GEOSS Strategic Targets and SDGs and infer the EV.*
- *Top-down 2 (TDT2). Incorporation of international programs such as the Future Earth, the Belmont Forum, and the Research Data Alliance.*
- *Bottom-up 1 (BUT1). Direct dialog with members of ENEON.*
- *Bottom-up 2 (BUT2). Through an observation inventory populated from the GEOSS GEODAB and the SEE IN (Socio-Economic and Environmental Information Needs) Knowledge Base.*
- *Bottom-up 3 (BUT3). SMEs participation in pilots to transfer experiences and generate new products based on open access GEOSS EO data.*

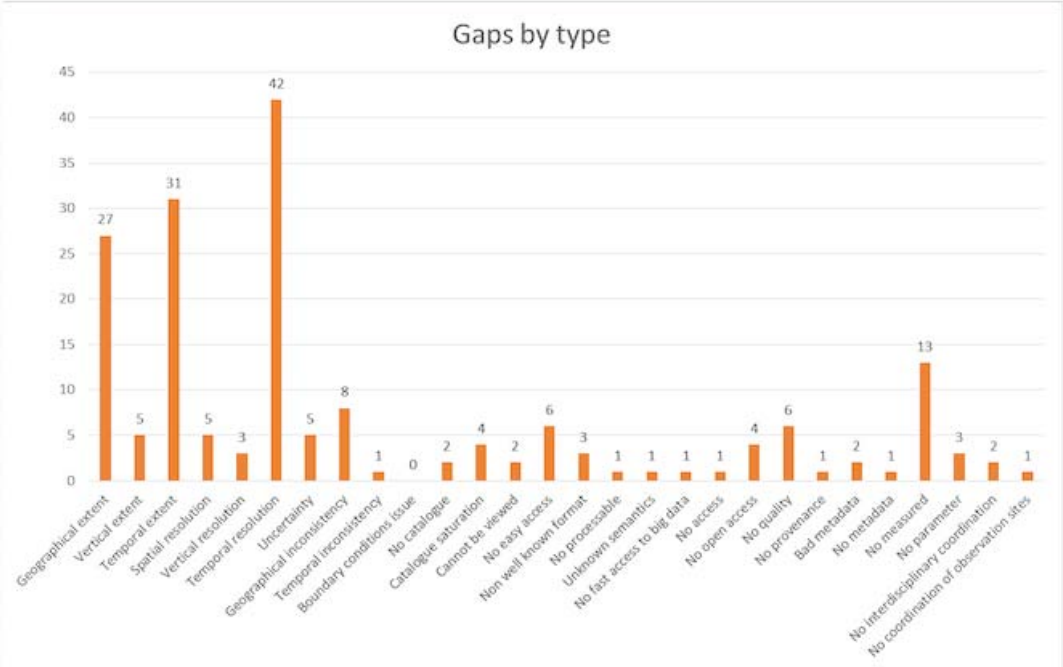
The preliminary results of the gap analysis carried out in the context of the project have been collected in the ConnectinGEO Gaps Table (CGT), which is an on-line table in the ConnectinGEO wiki available at this page.

Main conclusions on this analysis are:

- *The distribution of the gaps over themes is dominated the Climate theme with 52% of the gaps associated with this theme followed by the Ocean theme with 30% of the gaps (Fig. 30). This uneven distribution is mainly due to the climate and ocean communities being the most active one in contributions to the CGT.*
- *Most of the gaps currently in the CGT resulted from TDT2 i.e., the review of published literature from international programs such as Future Earth, Belmont Forum, the Research Data Alliance and community assessments of socio-economic benefits of Earth observations.*
- *BUT1 provided 20% of the gaps. These gaps come from the consultation process in the current EO networks, consisting of collaboration platforms, surveys and discussions at workshops and the involvement of citizen science.*
- *BUT3, i.e., gaps coming from the realization of a series of real industry-driven challenges to assess the problems and gaps emerging during the creation of business opportunities (see Section 4.5) contributed 4% of the currently published gaps.*
- *Concerning the gap type, most gaps are found with respect to required temporal resolution followed by temporal extent and geographical coverage.*
- *The distribution of the gaps over groups of EVs is heavily biased towards the Essential Climate Variables (ECVs) with 91% of all gaps being associated with this group of EVs. However, many of the ECVs are also Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs) and/or Essential Biodiversity Variables (EBVs).*



Agriculture Essential Variable (AgV), Essential Biodiversity Variable (EBV), Essential Climate Variable (ECV), Essential Ocean Variable (EOV), Essential Renewable Energy Variable (EREV), Health Essential Variable (HeV), Water Essential Variable (WaV)



Additionally, ConnectinGEO also analysed the level of maturity of the concept of EV in all GEOSS SBA Coming from a Workshop in Bari, in June 2015, and reported in the public D2.3 Proposal of EVs for selected themes In particular, 147 EVs were reviewed and analysed, leading to the following main conclusions:

- The community that has defined the highest number of EVs is currently the Climate one, led by the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS).
- Other communities already working on a mature set of EVs are Weather (led by WMO/GAW) and Ocean, led by the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS).
- EV discussion and related work is growing fast in Biodiversity and Water. Energy community follows. Agriculture, Disasters, Ecosystems, Health, and Urban Development, are still in the initial stage.
- Most of the ECVs can be relevant and useful to the other GEO SBAs or themes, and so many SBA could rely on a number of EVs already available in other areas.

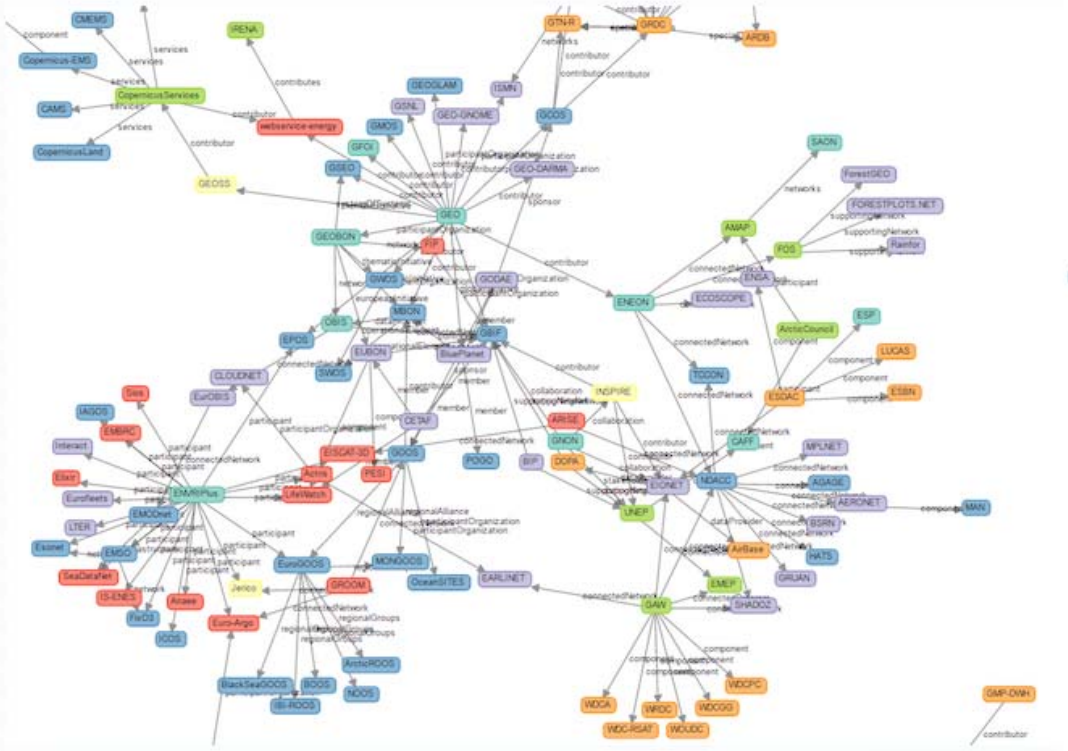
- **Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development**
  - Target 14.1: By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from landbased activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution
    - *Indicator 14.1.1 Index of Coastal Eutrophication (ICEP) and Floating Plastic debris Density*
      - *Related proposed EV: Ocean colour | Ocean acidity | Species populations (Species distribution, Population abundance, Population structure by age/size class) | Community composition (Taxonomic diversity, Species interactions) | Ecosystem structure (Habitat structure, Ecosys. extent and fragmentation, Ecosys. composition by functional type)*
  - Target 14.3: Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels
    - *Indicator 14.3.1 Average marine acidity (pH) measured at agreed suite of representative sampling stations*
      - *Related proposed EV: Ocean acidity*
  - Target 14.4: By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at l
    - *Indicator 14.4.1 Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels*
      - *Related proposed EV: Species populations (Species distribution, Population abundance, Population structure by age/size class)*

Moreover, analysing the SDG, only 30 indicators from 240 can be extracted with the combination of socio-economic data and Earth observation (in-situ, airborne or remote sensing), and only 9 by Earth observation information alone. For these 9, a link with EVs was proposed (results available in the deliverable D2.3 Proposal of EVs for selected themes).

ENEON , particularly focused on the in-situ segment, is created to increase the connection between the existing European EO networks and the relevant communities engaged in the assessments, forecasting, and projecting of future developments: policy makers, EC, GEO/GEOSS, Copernicus, etc.

ENEON is also a platform to promote emerging European networks and sensor development projects to provide future provisions, which may not yet be part of GEOSS or Copernicus Services. By this, ENEON ensures that all networks are contributing valuable resources to GEOSS and in the contribution to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and the Essential Variables (EV).

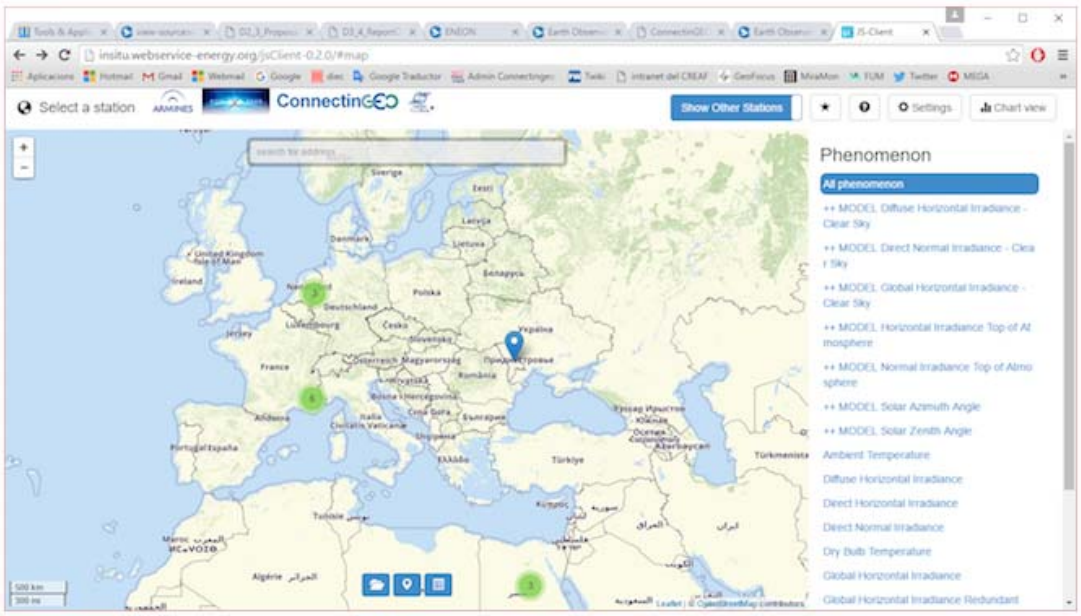
Through ENEON, a lively, dynamic graph on existing European EO networks has been created based on JSON-LD & JavaScript. EOnetworks. The graph also incorporates the possibility of provide feedback.



ENEON wants to play a major role in developing, validating, populating, and using the Socio-Economic and Environmental Information Needs Knowledge Base (SEE-IN KB) for virtual collaboration between providers, scientific and societal users, and, in particular, decision and policy makers. For this reason, an ENEON Virtual Marketplace/Commons is created to support the sharing and reuse of digital objects in a web space.

ENEON is taking an active role in pushing in-situ observations in GEOSS through the GD-06 Foundational Task on *"GEOSS non-space based Earth Observation Resources"*.

Other activities have been done during the project. On one hand, interoperability experiments on providing access to in-situ measurements through a WebGIS Client based on the 52N SWE (Sensor Web Enablement) solution following OGC SOS (Sensor Observation Service) standard and GEOSS recommendation on interoperability.



On the other hand, a stimulation of the industry sector to the use of GEOSS data was promoted by means of the EO product award competition within ConnectinGEO together with EARSC.

More information on these activities at ConnectinGEO and ENEON

EARSC annual report 2015

https://issuu.com/earsc/docs/annual_report_2015_vf__web

Policy development

EARSC is recognised as a leading voice to represent the EO Services industries and working with both ESA and the European Commission to establish a constructive approach. Over the past few months, EARSC has expressed its view in several position papers (see the list below).

List of EARSC Position papers since 2015:
- Creating a European marketplace for EO services
- Creating a European Alliance for Earth Observation (EO) Services Responding to GEOSS
- EARSC views on European Geospatial services: Developing the Private Sector Capability
- EARSC input to ESA EO Strategy

ESA

EARSC has met ESA DG, Jan Woerner, twice in the last few months. The first meeting took place on October 5th 2015, Geoff and representatives of the Board presented EARSC and the EO services industry as well as ideas around the evolution of the ground segment and establishing a European Marketplace.
On 14th January 2016 directors presented more detailed industry views for the response to the ESA DG's question: How can ESA help the EO business to develop. The response was very positive and discussion is developing further on the creation of a Marketplace Alliance.

EU institutions

Copernicus

EARSC has been strongly engaged with the EC and other stakeholders over the industrial role in the Copernicus programme (see our various position papers). Our concern is that there is an unclear definition of what the private sector companies and the public sector bodies respectively can and should do.
The workshop organized alongside EARSC AGM in June 2015 is a first step towards a formal exchange. EARSC will work together with the EEE's to produce a roadmap for the Exploitation of Copernicus.
Three main lines of action are:
- Growing the Market: there is a mutual interest to see growing use of Copernicus products and services. EEE's and industry can work together to promote the uptake of services into the public sector as well as other potential customers in new markets.
- Introducing new products into Copernicus Services: a co-ordinated approach is needed to bring new products into the scope of Copernicus Services which may be those developed by industry or a public body. Means should be found to ensure that prior investments are respected but that new opportunities are developed.
- Setting R&D priorities: co-operation will enable a better approach to the use of R&D funds (H2020 and other) for development of new processes and products as well as ensuring capacity is available to meet both public and private sector needs.

European Parliament

On 1 July 2015, the European Commission decided to withdraw the proposed Directive on Dissemination of Earth Observation Satellite due to strong diverging point of views within the Council and within the Parliament.

In 2016, two initiatives caught our attention. As the European Commission is elaborating a communication document "A Space Strategy for Europe", the European Parliament is working to prepare their views in advance and to respond to the EC proposals once they are publiched later this year (around October 2016). EARSC will be in contact with the MEPs drafting the resolution on space strategy in which the emphasis will be put on market uptake of space data. Another initiative is the Space capabilities for European security and defence. The possibility of having a European Hires satellite was raised.

Research and Development

EARSC has been asked to provide views on the H2020 space priorities for the 2018/2019/2020 work programme. We have also been working with Eurospace to organise an industry meeting on March 13th 2015 where EARSC vice-chairman Chetan Pradhan presented on our views on priorities for the EO part of the work-programme and moderated a panel discussion on industry perspectives on H2020.

EARSC has been accepted as a GEO Participating Organisation in March 2016. This is a critical step forward in GEO's efforts to collaborate with the private sector in mutually beneficial way. As a Participating Organization EARSC will share opinion on industry views at EU level, exchange on documents of common interest and co-operate on projects or promotional activities where relevant.

In addition, EARSC is participating as partner at the ConnectinGEO project which aims to link a number of European networks with science communities and GEOSS and Copernicus stakeholders with the objective to facilitate a broader knowledge base, exploitation and support to the Societal Benefit Areas addressed by GEOSS. As part of this project, EARSC launched the competition "European EO product of the year" rewarding a company which has developed the most innovative product integrating an element of open data ideally discoverable through the GEOSS broker services. In this context, a webex session on Access to GEOSS data was held last 30th of November where companies had the opportunity to be briefed on which types of data are available through the GEOSS – GCI Factsheet (Recipe) and making use of the GEOSS Discover Access Broker (Search & Discovery API).

EARSC is also participating to the H2020 GEO-Cradle project. The project will looks into EO Activities in the regions of North Africa, Middle East and Balkans and Developing Links with GEO.

European Economic and Social Committee

EARSC has been a partner of the EESC project "Space & Society: bridging the missing links". The project aims at raising awareness, generating support from civil society and policy makers in space programs and defining new and concrete actions to be implemented in this context. The final conference hold on June 29th, 2015 reported on the local events and recommendations and explored future actions. The platform will continue in the following year.


Geoff Sawyer at the Space & Society final event debate

ASAS

In October 2015, EARSC signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Italian Association for Space-based Application and Services, ASAS with the purpose to share opinion on policy issues at both at EU institutions level and Italian national policies, exchange on documents of common interest and co-operate on projects or promotional activities where relevant.

EARSC and its members

EARSC represents the Earth Observation geo-information services companies in Europe.
Our members include both commercial operators of EO satellites and downstream, value-adding companies. The sector plays a key role in providing value-added geo-spatial information to its customers in Europe and the world. Our survey in 2015 showed that the sector employs about 7000 highly skilled persons and is generating revenues of over €910 per annum.

EARSC annual cocktail

We repeated our pre AGM cocktail, a tradition started in 2014 for our 25th anniversary. The event was enjoyed by all the 70 participants and we were delighted to welcome Mme Iskra Mihaylova as our distinguished guest. Mme Mihaylova is a MEP from Bulgaria and Chair of the Regional Committee (REGIO) in the European Parliament. The cocktail was sponsored by Geoville the winner of the 1st EARSC Company of the year award.

The name of the EARSC company of the year award-winning company was also announced at this occasion. The second winner of this now prestigious award is GAF. GAF is one of the longest-lived companies in the sector and this achievement was recognised by EARSC members in delivering the award to them this year.


Mme Mihaylova opening the cocktail



Stefan Saradeth and Markus Probeck receiving the EARSC achievement award


View of the cocktail at Science 14, Brussels

EARSC statutes

At the AGM, members were asked to vote on changes to the EARSC statutes. However, the vote did not reach a quorum of 2/3rd of members voting (51). Therefore, EARSC called an extraordinary general meeting last 06 October 2015 in Brussels to vote on the new statutes. There were 32 votes in favour to change the statutes (participants and proxy votes) with none against. Since a simple majority was needed, the amended EARSC Statutes have now been approved. Statutes are now under EARSC website.

EARSC Awards

Company Achievement Award

First introduced for the Association 25th anniversary, the EARSC Company Award recognises significant achievement by a company in the field of EO services. The scheme has now run for two years and will be repeated in 2016. The qualification criteria are broad and include the introduction of new products or services, entry into new markets or generally the approach to doing business. Members are asked to nominate two companies then all companies nominated then go into a vote by all EARSC members. The final selection of the winner is made by an independent jury comprised of recognised experts.

European EO product of the year

Building on the success of the Company Achievement Award, we have launched a new competition "European EO product of the year" which will encourage the use of open data from GEOSS (Global Earth Observation System of Systems). It is developed under the H2020 project ConnectinGEO and will be supported by our partners in that project. This year's award will be announced during the EARSC annual cocktail where the winner of the EARSC "European Earth Observation company of the year" is also revealed.

Flyer of the product award

Working groups

Several working groups have been active this year:
- The Industrial Best Practice group
- The Copernicus Services Working group
- The High-Resolution Regulation group
- The Preparation for ESA CMin 2016 group

New members since June 2015:

- Deimos Imaging
- earth-i
- GEO4i
- Kapitech
- Noveltis
- PlanetObserver
- Spacetec Partners
- TerraSIGNA