Update on EuroGEO activities

Annual Meeting, Day 1, 5\textsuperscript{th} of December 2023

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Establishing the EuroGEO Secretariat to support the EuroGEO initiative

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EuroGEO Secretariat missions are to

✓ strengthen GEO-related coordination mechanisms at European and national levels,

✓ support increased innovation, space application development and reinforcement of the European space data ecosystem concept;

✓ foster international cooperation to help stimulate the market and promote European technology and services;

✓ contribute to the European Green Deal objectives and the European strategy for data (EU Data Spaces) by further deploying and exploiting the use of EO towards a strengthened Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS).
This year’s EuroGEO workshop provided the opportunity to position European activities in the light of the new GEO strategy and supported the coordination and interlinking of actions at national and European level and across sectors and domains to create relevant and impactful contributions to GEO.

The main **objectives** were to:

- Position EuroGEO with view to the new GEO strategy.

- Identify and exploit synergies across national and EU projects and initiatives.

- Support a nexus approach to address the triple pollution-climate-biodiversity crises.

- Create a dialogue among scientists, policy makers and end-users to support the co-design of EO based tools, knowledge, and policies.
One of the sessions dealt with health-related issues, titled “Addressing climate induced disasters and health challenges: The contribution of EuroGEO and GEO-CRADLE initiatives and the way forward”.

The session aimed at supporting sustainable development through the integration of Earth Observations in user-oriented and co-designed services for addressing climate induced disasters and health issues.

- **Showcasing success stories** supported by EuroGEO (e-shape, as well as the Disasters and Health Action Groups) and GEO-CRADLE initiatives.
- **Reporting** on the scientific/service progress of relevant Actions Groups and relevant communities.
- **Defining** concrete roadmaps towards long-term sustainability of the on-going actions and services.
- **Promoting full and open access to EO data and science**
- **Designing future joint actions**
- **Creating synergies** for long-term impact on GEO post 2025 strategy to address global climate-induced disasters and health crises.
Presentations – session layout:

- FRIEND: Flood risk & impact assessment through automatic change detection of S-1+S-2 images
- MountaiNow: A live map of mountain hazards for the Alps
- SOL: real-time flood forecast and early-warning system
- EYWA: Early Warning System for Mosquito-Borne Diseases
- E4Warning: Eco-epidemiological intelligence for early warning and response to mosquito-borne disease risk in endemic and emergence settings
- OneAquaHealth: the potential of earth observations to monitor changes in urban aquatic ecosystems relevant for human health
- GEO-CRADLE: GEO Capacity Building in North Africa, Middle East, Balkans and Black Sea Region
- Copernicus Health Hub: a way to connect environmental data and health community

Most presentations and all videos are available in the workshop's webpage https://egw2023.eurac.edu/
Some of the outcomes of the session:

- **EuroGEO** and its **action groups** were recognized as **key forums** for enhancing **exchange** across value added communities, **reducing ecosystem fragmentation**, and **minimizing over-lapping efforts**.
- **Sustainable funding** for well-designed and systematic **capacity building actions**, is important.
- It is necessary to continue **coordination and communication through events** etc. to showcase progress and success stories.
- The **private sector** has an important **role** in addressing the **practical need of users**. It is important to move towards the **demand side** and satisfy the **stakeholders requirements**.
- **Products and services**, should result from a systematic and essential **co-design** and **co-development** process, with **user engagement** and continuous **co-creation**, which is also essential for **sustainability**.
- Collaboration and integration of **synergies with Copernicus Thematic Hubs** is crucial for establishing domain knowledge and stakeholder expertise.
- It is necessary to **combine different data sources** and **improve data accuracy**, in order to increase the **reliability and impact of services**.
Some additional points highlighted at the discussions among the members of the EuroGEO Disaster & Health Action Groups, were the following:

1. It is necessary to enhance knowledge transfer to less developed countries. Establish cooperation and networking with countries with limited data availability, scarce collections of in-situ observations and health data, and restricted access or complete absence of EO based warning systems.

2. It is important to establish knowledge and innovation exchange schemes towards networking by engaging stakeholders and initiatives, support know-how transfer and open the road for operationalization and establishment of synergies with EuroGEO actors (SMEs, researchers, institutions and entrusted entities).
Copernicus Thematic Hubs FORMAL LAUNCH 7 November 2023 during the EU Space Week

Website: https://health.hub.copernicus.eu/

The Copernicus Health Hub brings together all the Copernicus environmental data and products pertinent to Health, including that related to physical health, mental health and well-being. The Hub supports users to better exploit and use this information by providing access to catalogues, supporting documentation and inspirational use case stories. More information is available on the About page.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Physical Health
- Mental Health & Well-being
- In Focus

Heat stress and the European heatwave of 2023, a blog made by C. Di Napoli
**EU Missions** are a new way to bring concrete solutions to some of our greatest challenges. They have ambitious goals and will deliver concrete results by 2030.

The 5 EU Missions are:
- **Adaptation to Climate Change**
- **Beating Cancer**
- **Restore our Ocean and Waters**
- **Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities**
- **A Soil Deal for Europe**

The Mission Implementation Platform (MIP4Adapt) supports European regional and local authorities to prepare and plan their adaptation pathways to climate resilience. More than 300 regional and local authorities signed the mission’s charter, committing to strive towards climate resilience by 2030 by boosting regional and local adaptation efforts to reach their adaptation goals.
Thank you

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