

### **Formal Statement of Germany at GEO-XI Plenary**

- Germany has seconded a Climate Expert to the GEO Secretariat through its Junior Professional Officer Programme for 2 years. This expert has started his duty some weeks ago, and we are convinced he will contribute to the further development of GEO's role in Climate Observations, also in collaboration with GCOS and WMO's GFCS initiative.
- We are also working on another 2-years secondment for the GEOGLAM Programme Office at the GEO Secretariat, with which we intend to specifically support the further development of GEOGLAM. GEOGLAM will also be presented at a dedicated expert panel at the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) on 15 January 2015 in Berlin. This conference is a major political event on Global Food Security with the attendance of numerous agricultural ministers, organizations and industry world wide. We hope to achieve considerable attention for GEOGLAM globally and also at the national level through this initiative. You are all invited to communicate the event within your national governments and organisations, or attend yourself.
- Since beginning of 2014, Germany is funding GEO-BON Coordination with approx.. 160.000 € per year. The GEO-BON office is now hosted by the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv). We would like to encourage other GEO members and participating organizations to join the GEO-BON efforts to help making this important GEO global initiative a true success story.
- Last but not least, we would like to report that the German Aerospace Center DLR has successfully completed all TanDEM-X satellite data acquisitions for the production of the TanDEM-X global Digital Elevation Model, a dataset of unprecedented coverage and quality, and very useful more many applications across almost all societal benefit areas. While about one third of the dataset is already available, the full global dataset will be available by end 2015. In parallel to the processing and quality checking of the DEM data, we have now started the TanDEM-X Science Phase, where scientists world wide can propose experiments with new observing modes for InSAR and other techniques.