

Lead Co-Chair Goals and Objectives for 2018

GOAL 1 – CONTINUE TO ACHIEVE RESULTS ON GEO ENGAGEMENT PRIORITIES

Reference: 40th meeting of the GEO Executive Committee: “Approved the revised Engagement Strategy Implementation Plan 2017–2019”.

- Issue: Good progress has been made toward gaining official policy recognition for GEO on SDGs, climate and disasters. The challenge now is to work with Flagships and Initiatives to develop EO-based solutions to address actions in multilateral agreement;.
- Objectives:
 - Complete the analysis of the GEO Work Programme (WP) activities in support of the Paris Agreement on climate and the Sendai Framework for disaster risk reduction, as was done for SDGs;
 - Continue discussions with potential partners regarding the GEO Carbon and GHG Initiative and on advancing climate adaptation in the GEO WP, and increase recognition of the value of EO within the IPCC and the UNFCCC;
 - On Sendai and disaster resilience, build on the engagement realized at the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Cancun and the relationships with UNISDR, CEOS and the World Bank;
 - Initiate identification of key potential partners and the key policy drivers for GEO engagement on urban resilience and ecosystem accounting.

GOAL 2 – IMPLEMENT THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR (CS) ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

Reference: 40th meeting of the GEO Executive Committee: “Confirmed its commitment to engage with the Commercial Sector...”.

- Issue: Ensure that engagement of the CS in GEO broadens the availability and use of EO data and information and increases the delivery of decision support (end user) products and services;
- Objectives:
 - Increase Member outreach to their national and regional CS sectors to help deliver EO-based solutions;
 - Increase self-funded (i.e., not financed by a GEO Member) CS involvement in WP;
 - Increase GEO engagement in downstream EO industry fora and events.

GOAL 3 – STRENGTHEN THE GEO MEMBERSHIP BASE

Reference: Mexico City Declaration (2015): “Urge governments to promote GEO nationally, and through their representation in international organizations, to realize a more effective collaboration with GEO”.

- Issue: Many GEO Members are not actively involved in the WP, do not share data, and do not reach out beyond a few organizations within their country;
- Objectives:
 - Broaden GEO involvement within existing Member countries to extend EO user base, among other things;
 - Broaden awareness within GEO Member countries of the value of open data;
 - Increase Member involvement in WP activities to obtain national benefits;
 - Increase Member participation in GEO regional events to transfer knowledge and identify opportunities for partnerships.

GOAL 4 – ENGAGE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES AND MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS

Reference: Mexico City Declaration (2015): “Call on GEO to strengthen its focus on users and stakeholders and in particular develop new approaches to effectively engage with: United Nations institutions, Multilateral Environmental Agreements, Multilateral Development Banks, additional Participating Organizations and the private sector”.

- Issue: GEO is not realizing the full potential of partnership with the development sector;
- Objectives:
 - Engage development sector organizations to advocate for open data within recipient countries, including ensuring that EO-data collected as part of development projects is made discoverable and accessible;
 - Leverage greater use of EO by development sector organizations in their program delivery, in part through encouraging identification of organizational focal points who would act as contacts with the GCI;
 - Implement projects to communicate the value of EO to the achievement of development objectives.

GOAL 5 – MOBILIZE RESOURCES FOR THE GEO SECRETARIAT

Reference: 40th meeting of the Executive Committee: “Expressed concern about the long-term financial stability of the GEO Trust Fund” and “Noted that there are many Members who are not contributing to the Trust Fund”.

- Issue: The GEO Secretariat overly dependent on contributions from a relatively small number of Members;
- Objectives:
 - Increase Member and Participating Organization cash contributions to the GEO Trust Fund;
 - Obtain targeted secondments to the Secretariat to provide support to GEO engagement priorities, Flagships and Initiatives;
 - Develop options to mobilize resources from other sources.