

AfriGEOSS Symposium 2017
Technical Session-08 Description

Session Title	Earth observations, towards Sustainable Urban Development in Africa
When	Day-02 (Wed, 14 June) at 16h00 – 17h45

1) Purpose: background, topic and objectives of the session

a) Background:

Urbanisation is one of the most powerful and visible anthropogenic forces on earth. More than half of the global population live in urban areas. This number is expected to increase to 66% in 2050. About 90% of urbanisation will be taking place in urban areas of Africa and Asia with some Africa cities expected to account up to 85% of the population. Urbanisation is always associated with human capital and economic growth but in contrast, urbanisation in Africa results in rising development of informal settlements, increasing poverty and inequality. Many African cities are failing to cope with the negative effects of urbanisation such as environmental pollution, inadequate or overstretched infrastructure and increased solid waste generation. The use of up-to-date, accurate and reliable data in urban development can reduce the negative impact of urbanisation.

The main purpose the Sustainable Urban Development Working Group is to promote the use of Earth observation data in decision making during urban development processes. The working group aims at assessing available Earth observation data and tools that can support planning and management of urbanization in Africa. This working group will also promote sharing of data and methodologies to for geo-visualizing geographic urban infrastructure, extracting key urban features; and detecting patterns and trends.

b) What is the session mainly about (topic)?

- Formulation of the Sustainable Urban Development working group, its objectives and planned activities
- Discussion on how other countries can contribute to achieve the set objectives
- Showcase available Earth observation data and tools for mapping monitoring urban developments
- Discussions on country, regional and international activities that may benefit Earth observation data including UN SDGs

2) Key questions to be addressed in the session

- What are the key issues associated with urban development in Africa?
- How is urban development captured in AfriGEOSS?
- What are the planned activities of the working group in the next three years? and

how other countries can participate?

- How does EO technology support sustainable urban development in Africa?
- What are available data and tools to support sustainable urban development?
- How available data can be used to monitor progress on national/regional/international initiatives including UN SDGs and Africa Agenda 2063

3) *Expected outcomes from the session*

- Raise awareness on the activities of the AfriGEOSS Sustainable Urban Development thematic area;
- Promote use of Earth observation in support of national and global policies on urban development;
- Provide overview of available EO data and tools on urban mapping and monitoring;

4) *Format of the session*

Panel discussion: Introduction by session Chair followed by opening remarks / presentations by the panel addressing appropriate elements of the outlined session questions.

5) *Speakers*

<i>Name</i>	<i>Organisation</i>
TBD	GHANA
Emmanuel Osei	GSSTI, Ghana
Thilivhali Mutshinya (TBC)	DHS, South Africa
Naledzani Mudau	SANSA, South Africa
Donatien Beguy	UN Habitat
Andreas Brink (behalf of Thomas Kemper)	JRC, European Commission

6) *Moderators and Rapporteurs*

<i>Name</i>	<i>Organisation</i>
André Nonguerma (Moderator)	UNECA
Mofoluso Fagbeja (Rapporteur)	AARCSTEE-E

7) *Schedule (TBC)*

- Introduction of the session and overview of the Sustainable Urban Development Coordination Team, André Nonguerma, UNECA, (10 min)
- Speaker remarks / presentations (8 min each)

- National urban and rural development land policies, data challenges and requirements , TBC, Ghana
- Siting of engineered sanitary landfill in the Greater Accra Region of Ghana, Emmanuel Osei, GSSTI, Ghana
- Department of Human Settlement, South Africa (TBC)
- Towards development of high resolution human settlement data, Nale Mudau, SANSA, South Africa
- Use of EO data to support human settlement development goal, Donatien Beguy, UN Habitat
- Global Human Planet Initiative, Andreas Brink, JRC, European Commission
- 30 minute moderated panel discussion – converge on issues (*see key questions to be addressed in the session*)
- 05 Summary of session by moderator and rapporteur