
GEO PROGRAMME BOARD - URBAN RESILIENCE SUBGROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE

(Approved at the 16th Programme Board Meeting in February 2020)

1 PURPOSE

The subgroup interacts with and provides coordination for GEO urban teams to support the ongoing implementation of the GEO WP in line with GEO engagement priorities, as well as responding to the UN-Habitat invitation to collaborate.

Specifically, the subgroup:

- Works to promote coordination between urban activities of the WP and ensures alignment with GEO engagement priorities, to the extent possible;
- Enriches the urban resilience focus of the WP through aligning with existing urban efforts, potentially via seeding of new activities for the WP from an urban resilience perspective;
- Identifies collaboration opportunities between GEO Flagships and Initiatives (incl. Community Activities when relevant) and outside efforts to achieve the common target of realizing the GEO engagement priorities, in the frame of enhancing urban resilience.

2 DUTIES

- Together with relevant urban GEO Initiatives, identify areas and opportunities for coordination and collaboration focusing on potential overlaps or gaps, as well as fostering interaction with indirectly relevant GEO Flagships or Initiatives (i.e. EO4Health), including Regional GEOs Initiatives;
- Trigger discussions, or physical meetings where possible, between the subgroup, EO4SDG, the Human Planet Initiative (HPI) and the Global Urban Observation & Information Initiative (GUOI) or others;
- Liaise with internal and external experts/organizations of interest, to support and enable cross-cutting collaboration (e.g. the GEO Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group) and facilitate awareness and amplification of urban GEO activities (e.g. resilience focused city networks and non-governmental organizations);
- Together with EO4SDG, foster the identification of use cases and examples of EO in service of SDG 11 indicators, along with other pertinent SDG indicators, such as those within SDG 3, SDG 12, etc.;
- Support an inventory of EO tools for urban SDG indicators, and aid in the knowledge transfer, implementation and propagation of best practices;
- Initiate discussion with Regional GEOs to maximize support of urban resilience and related SDG indicator reporting at the national level, in a harmonized manner;
- Support UN-Habitat and their overarching policy relating to the New Urban Agenda;
- Consult with the GEO Secretariat on their formal response to the UN-Habitat request by providing recommendations and additional assistance.

3 EXPECTED OUTPUTS / DELIVERABLES

- Identify areas and opportunities for coordination and collaboration with relevant parties, internal and external to GEO, to pave the way for the preparation of a GEO roadmap on urban resilience;
- Coordinate the successful convening's between the subgroup and relevant urban GEO Initiatives;
- Interface with EO4SDG and others to bring successful EO use cases for SDGs to the attention of the PB, as well as, raise awareness on non-GEO related activities;
- Raise the issue of urban resilience to the Regional GEOs, and identify synergies within their existing agendas;
- Identify areas of contribution for GEO to play a strong role in the New Urban Agenda, in collaboration with the GEO Secretariat;
- Contribute concretely to the GEO Secretariat's strategy for responding to the UN-Habitat request and to the establishment of long-term collaboration.

4 MEMBERSHIP

Participation in the Urban Resilience SG is open to all Programme Board member representatives, as well as to other individuals nominated by GEO Members or Participating Organizations.