

Building Data Sharing Capacity at Regional Level - AfriGEOSS

Data Sharing Working Group (DSWG)
(Side Event)

GEO- X

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Ganiy I. Agbaje

GEO Principal, Nigeria



Africa in Context

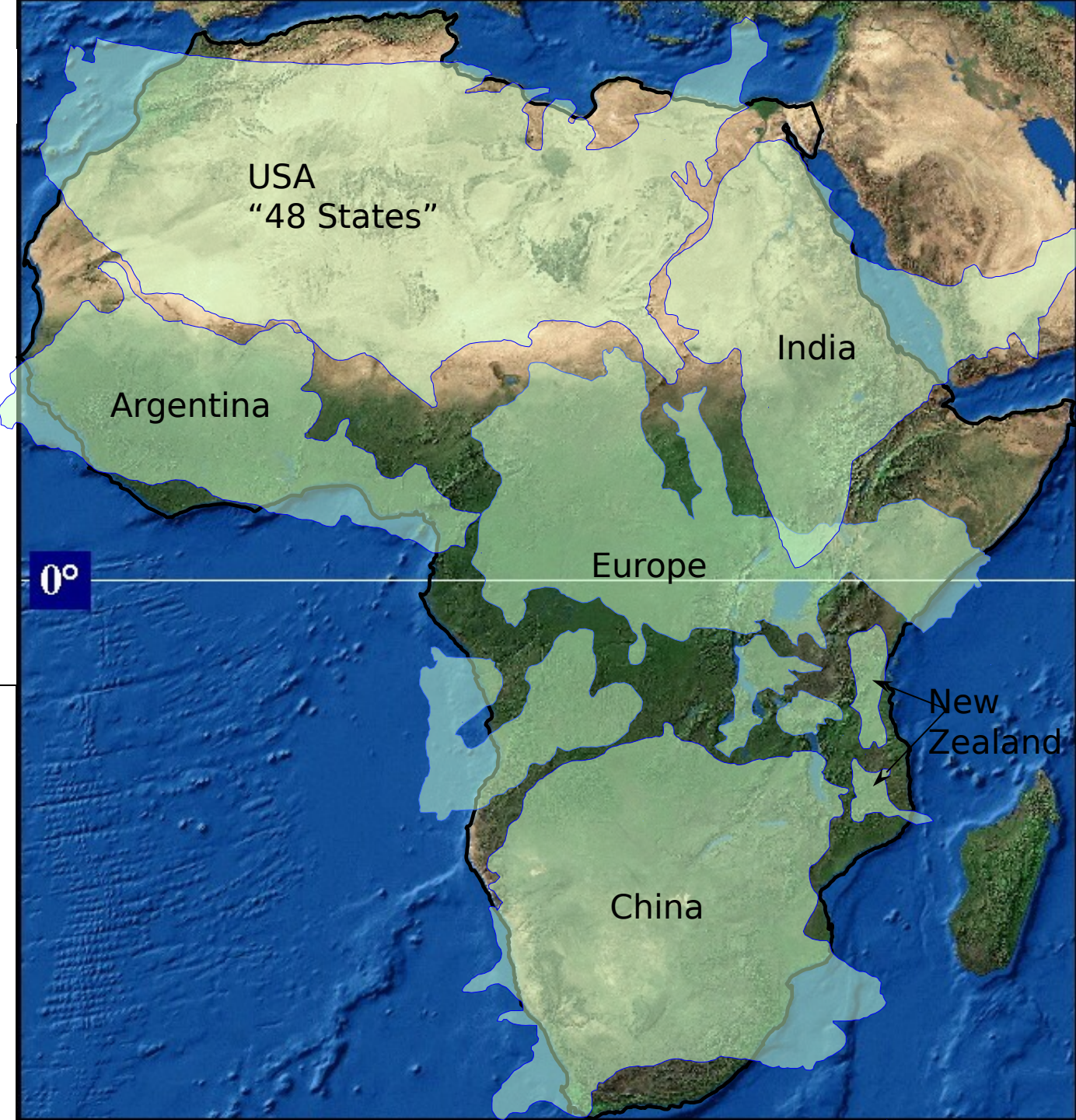
The Size of Africa

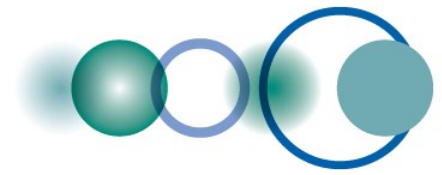
- Africa covers 20% of Earth's land surface
- Accounts for 15% of the world's total human population

China	9,596,960 Km ²
USA	9,363,071 Km ²
India	3,287,590 Km ²
Europe	4,936,973 Km ²
Argentina	2,766,890 Km ²
New Zealand	268,680 Km ²

TOTAL : 30,220,164 km²

Area of Africa: 30,318,830 km²





...Africa in Context

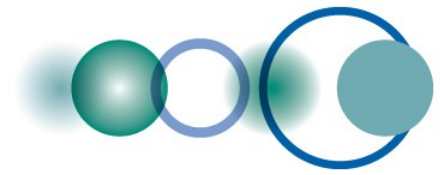
... Issues and challenges

- ❑ food security
- ❑ water scarcity
- ❑ environmental degradation
- ❑ peace and security
- ❑ access to health
- ❑ climate change
- ❑ energy resources

Source: Phil Mjwara, 2013



GEO OBJECTIVES



Source: Phil Mjwara, 2013

- ❑ Improve and Coordinate Observation Systems (avoid duplications)
- ❑ Provide Easier & More Open Data Access
- ❑ Foster Use (Science, Applications)
- ❑ Building Capacity
- ❑ Identify gaps in observations (based on user requirements)

**...Earth Observation Systems
should be
coordinated and shared
internationally**

**... to answer Society's need for
informed
decision making**



African Participation in GEO

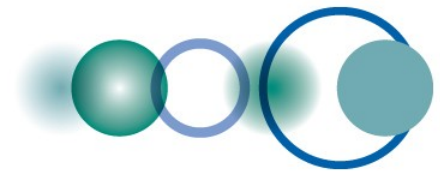
Member States (22):

- Algeria
- Burkina Faso
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Congo, Republic of the
- Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)
- Egypt
- Ethiopia
- Gabon
- Ghana
- Guinea-Bissau
- Guinea, Republic of
- Madagascar
- Mali
- Mauritius
- Morocco
- Niger
- Nigeria
- South Africa
- Sudan
- Tunisia

Participating Organizations (5):

- AARSE
- ACMAD
- EIS-Africa
- RCMRD
- UNECA



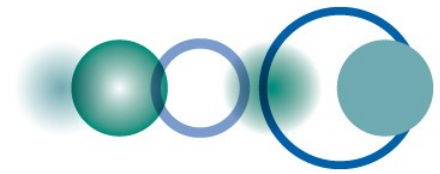


Implementing GEOSS in Africa



Objectives

- ❑ Coordinate and bring together relevant stakeholders, institutions and agencies across Africa that are involved in GEO and other Earth observation activities;
- ❑ Provide a platform for countries to participate in GEO and to contribute to GEOSS;
- ❑ Assist in knowledge sharing and global collaborations;



Implementing GEOSS in Africa

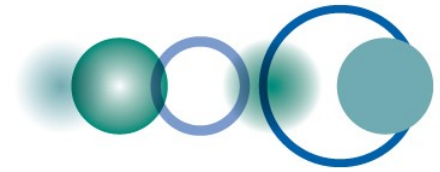


... Objectives

- ❑ Identify challenges, gaps and **opportunities** for African contributions to GEO and GEOSS;
- ❑ Leverage **existing capacities** and planned assets and **resources**; and
- ❑ Develop an appropriate **strategy** and **participatory model** for achieving the above goals.

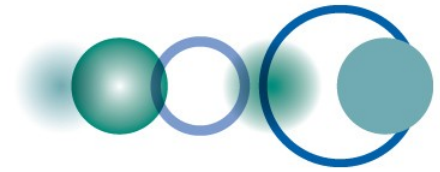


...Learning from the SDI Initiatives



- ❑ Implementation of Technical Components Stalled –
 - Awareness and Expertise in the Principles and Implementation of SDI; and Funding Constraints
- ❑ Paradigm Shift - Development driven SDI as the Solution
- ❑ Many initiatives on the Continent that have and are collecting Geo-information: AfriCover, TIGER initiative, AMESD, MESA, etc;
- ❑ Insufficient Knowledge of What Geo-information is available, at which Scale and Format?
- ❑ Development of appropriate structures and mechanisms to identify user needs, identify relevant datasets and provide knowledge on what is happening in the geoinformation industry

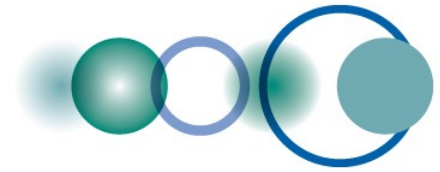
...Learning from the SDI Initiatives



Regional (e.g. UNECA, EIS-AFRICA, AARSE) and sub-regional organisations (e.g. RCMRD, RECTAS, CEDARE, SADC RRSU) have the expertise but require further knowledge, capacity and financial support to ensure the implementation of a needs driven and

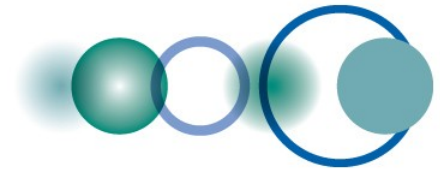
Africa's Fundamental Datasets:

- a. Geodetic Control Network
- b. Imagery
- c. Hypsography
- d. Hydrography
- e. Boundaries
- f. Geographic names
- g. Land management units/areas
- h. Transportation
- i. Utilities and services
- j. Natural environment



...Call to Action

- ❑ AfriGEOSS provides us with opportunities to address the Regional Challenges
- ❑ Build necessary Institutional and Individual Capacity to establish the Infrastructure for data access and distribution;
- ❑ Through AfriGEOSS
 - We need to contribute to this global initiative
 - We need to coordinate within the regions, nationally and the rest of the continent
 - We need to take charge of EO activities in the continent



AfriGEOSS Collaborations

- Support/Collaboration with similar GEO Community to fast track capacity building especially on the lost ground by Africans in the building of GEOSS;
- Support on the best practice in setting up AfriGEOSS;
- Establishment of Secretariat and involvement of bright minds on secondment to support the establishment of AfriGEOSS.

The Journey has begun!

Thank you!

Ganiy Agbaje

GEO Principal, Nigeria

ganiyu.agbaje@nasrda.gov.ng

