

Update of the 2017–2019 GEO Work Programme

This document is submitted to Plenary for decision.

1 Overview of the GEO Work Programme

The multi-annual GEO Work Programme (GWP) constitutes the primary coordination and planning instrument to assist GEO in the selection and prioritization of its activities. The GWP defines the Foundational Tasks and describes the plans of Flagships and Initiatives according to their Implementation Plans. It also describes the plans of the Community Activities according to the best knowledge of the Secretariat.

Each three-year GWP is proposed to the Programme Board based on input from GEO Members, Participating Organizations and the GEO community. Through an iterative process, the Programme Board reviews and develops the GWP to ensure alignment with the priorities of, and identify resource commitments from, GEO Members and Participating Organizations before recommending the GWP to Plenary for acceptance.

The GWP is updated annually to reflect changes that have occurred since the previous version approved by Plenary. These changes may include new Flagships or Initiatives that have been reviewed and approved by the Programme Board, new Community Activities accepted into the GWP by the Secretariat Director, revisions to existing Flagships, Initiatives, Community Activities or Foundational Tasks, or removal of GWP activities that are no longer active.

2 Changes in this Update

Most of the content of the GWP document remains the same as in the version presented at the GEO-XIV Plenary. Key changes in this update are listed below:

- GEO Land Degradation Neutrality Initiative has been added, following the approval of its Implementation Plan by Programme Board at its 9th meeting;
- GEO CRADLE has been moved from a Community Activity to an Initiative, following the approval of its Implementation Plan by Programme Board at its 10th meeting;
- The descriptive text for GEOSS Evolve has been revised, as has its Implementation Plan;
- Three new Community Activities have been added:
 - Arctic GEOSS;
 - Global Marine Ecosystem Monitoring;
 - Global Wheat Pest and Disease Habitat Monitoring and Risk Forecasting;
- Three Community Activities have been removed:
 - African Geochemical Baselines (no longer in EuroGeoSurveys work programme);
 - Earth2Observe (project completed);
 - Harmful Algal Bloom Early Warning System (combined with Earth Observations for Health).

3 Decision Requested

GEO Plenary is asked to review and approve this update of the GEO 2017–2019 Work Programme.

The Secretariat will issue a revision of the GWP after the Plenary meeting, prior to the end of the year, that reflects GEO Principals' inputs and the results of Plenary deliberations.

ANNEX

2017–2019 GEO WORK PROGRAMME

Version 4