

GEO Programme Board Urban Resilience Subgroup (UR-SG)

Subgroup Report to Programme Board

18th PB Meeting - 1-3 September 2020

Co-Chairs: Evangelos Gerasopoulos (GR) & Ivan Petiteville (ESA)

SG Coordination support: Jennifer Bailey - Greek GEO Office/GR

Contents

1. Subgroup Members

2. Progress towards outputs/deliverables of Subgroup, including:
 - External engagement
 - Urban Resilience as the 4th GEO Engagement Priority

3. Updates related to urban initiatives & activities, including:
 - SDG 11 Toolkit (EO4SDG)
 - CCI-WHC, Climate Change Impacts on World Heritage Cities, GEO CA

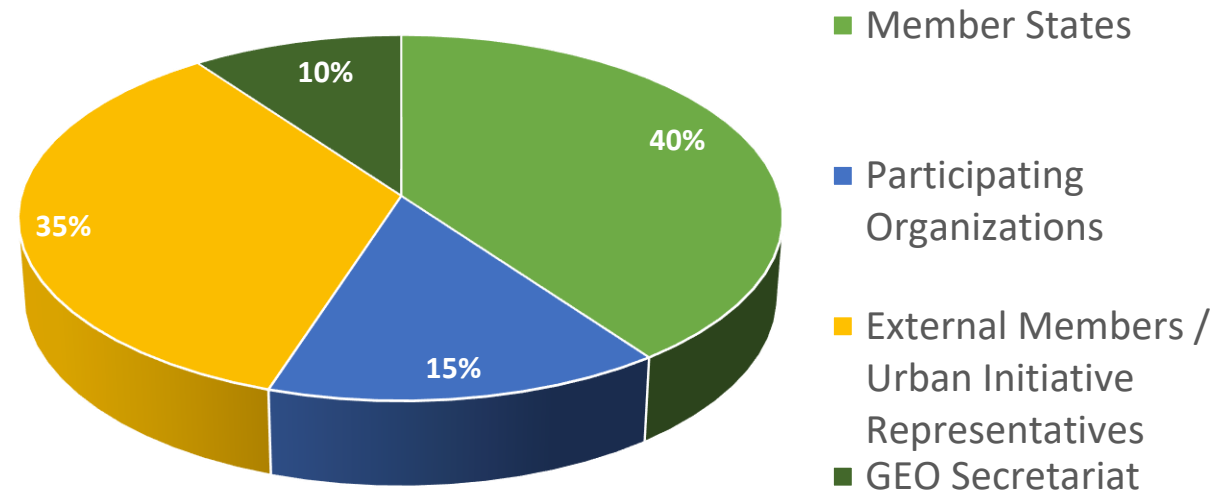
Membership

- Co-Chair: Evangelos Gerasopoulos – Greece
- Co-Chair: Ivan Petiteville – ESA

- Paul Briand – Canada
- Xiang Zhou – China
- Thomas Kemper – EC, HPI
- Anita Antiwiwaa – Ghana
- Andrew Nyawade – Kenya
- Muhammad Irfan Tariq – Pakistan
- Ivan DeLoatch – United States
- Marc Paganini – ESA

- Suchith Anand – GODAN, PO
- Siri Jodha Khalsa – IEEE, PO
- Jennifer Bailey – Greece, SG support
- Craig Larlee – GEO Secretariat
- Steven Ramage – GEO Secretariat

- Graham Colclough – EIP-SCC, Urban DNA
- Nektarios Chrysoulakis – FORTH
- Alex Ryan – Global Resilient Cities Network
- Dennis Mwaniki – UN-Habitat
- Argyro Kavvada – EO4SDG
- Qihao Weng & Iphigenia Keramitsoglou - GUOI



Immediate Focus of SG (from ToR): Outputs, Timeline & Prioritization



1. Inventory of urban GEO activities
 - Bring together of initiatives/foster collaboration – HPI, GUOI, EO4SDGs
 - Co-chairs inviting representatives to discuss a common roadmap (**July 2020**)
2. Initiating engagement with external players
 - Already engaging with EIP/GRCN, further identification ongoing
 - Full list of key partners and interaction (**September 2020**)
3. EO use cases
 - Incorporate ongoing GEO WP activities & external examples relevant to city stakeholders
 - To be presented at the September Meeting of the PB (**September 2020**)
 - Messages: i. more EO driven solutions, ii. EO is already out there, iii. costs can be reduced.
4. Engagement with Regional GEOs
 - Co-chairs to contact (**ASAP**)
5. Identifying synergies with the New Urban Agenda
 - Engage UN-Habitat for material to determine SG engagement areas (expecting reply end of **June 2020**)
6. Consolidation of case for urban resilience as 4th GEO priority engagement
 - For presentation at the first ExCom meeting after September PB meeting (**TBD 2020**)

Progress:

Outputs, Timeline & Prioritization



1. Inventory of urban GEO activities

- Bring together of initiatives/foster collaboration – HPI, GUOI, EO4SDGs
- Co-chairs inviting representatives to discuss a common roadmap (July 2020)

Actions Executed:

- Brought together initiative representatives as members of the UR-SG
- Requested key objectives from each initiative to improve synergies between them
- Requested existing collaboration areas between the initiatives

Future Action Items:

- Combined meetings and discussions between initiatives – begin building common roadmap (October/November 2020)

Progress:

Outputs, Timeline & Prioritization

2. Initiating engagement with external partners

- Already engaging with EIP/GRCN, further identification ongoing
- Full list of key partners and interaction **(September 2020)**



Actions Executed – European Innovation Partnership (EIP-SCC):

- Blog on “Open EOs for Sustainable Urban Development” soon to be published on EIP-SCC Website
- Discussed with Rotterdam, making initial connection on EO for urban resilience
- Participation in EIP-SCC Integrated Infrastructure Action Cluster Leadership Workshop within the frame of the “Geospatial Cities” EIP Initiative

Progress:

Outputs, Timeline & Prioritization



2. Initiating engagement with external partners

- Already engaging with EIP/GCRN, further identification ongoing
- Full [list of key partners](#) and interaction (**September 2020**)



Actions Executed – Global Resilient Cities Network (GRCN):

- Initial discussions with GRCN representatives and presented GEO/urban initiatives
- EIP currently interacting with GRCN, and cities have been highlighted/noted to contact (i.e. Milan, Thessaloniki)

Progress:

Outputs, Timeline & Prioritization



2. Initiating engagement with external partners

- Already engaging with EIP/GCRN, further identification ongoing
- Full list of key partners and interaction **(September 2020)**



Actions Executed – UN-Habitat:

- Representation as a member of the Subgroup

Future Action Items:

- Specify items to support UR-SG progress towards addressing UN-Habitat requests and meaningfully engaging with the implementation of the NUA

Progress:

Outputs, Timeline & Prioritization



2. Initiating engagement with external partners

- Already engaging with EIP/GCRN, further identification ongoing
- Full [list of key partners](#) and interaction (**September 2020**)

Actions Executed:

- Establishment of a subset of UR-SG members & external partners (enforcing GEO - cities interfacing)

Future Action Items:

- Coordinate a meeting to focus efforts and help pull a group of cities together around EO-based priority use cases
- Begin writing storyline linking what GEO is doing and an external inventory of EO for urban resilience

Progress:

Outputs, Timeline & Prioritization



3. EO use cases

- Incorporate ongoing GEO WP activities & external examples relevant to city stakeholders
- To be presented at the September Meeting of the PB (**September 2020**)
- Messages: i. more EO driven solutions, ii. EO is already out there, iii. costs can be reduced.

Future Action Items:

- Subset of UR-SG members & external players – coordinating a meeting to focus efforts and help pull a group of cities together around EO-based priority use cases

Progress:

Outputs, Timeline & Prioritization

4. Engagement with Regional GEOs
 - Co-chairs to contact (**ASAP**)

Future Action Items:

- Pending, co-chairs planning action related to this point

Progress:

Outputs, Timeline & Prioritization



5. Identifying of opportunities for EO use within the New Urban Agenda

- Engage UN-Habitat for material to determine SG engagement areas (expecting reply end of **June 2020**)

Actions Executed:

- Initial contact made to begin matching EO with NUA needs, goal to identify opportunities and push integration

Future Action Items:

- Response to multi-faceted UN-Habitat request from GEO, including enhanced coordination of GEO urban related activities in support of UN-Habitat, engagement in urbanization activities beyond existing SDG indicators monitoring framework, etc.

Progress:

Outputs, Timeline & Prioritization



6. Consolidation of case for urban resilience as 4th GEO priority engagement
 - For [presentation](#) at the first ExCom meeting after September PB meeting (**TBD 2020**)

Actions Executed:

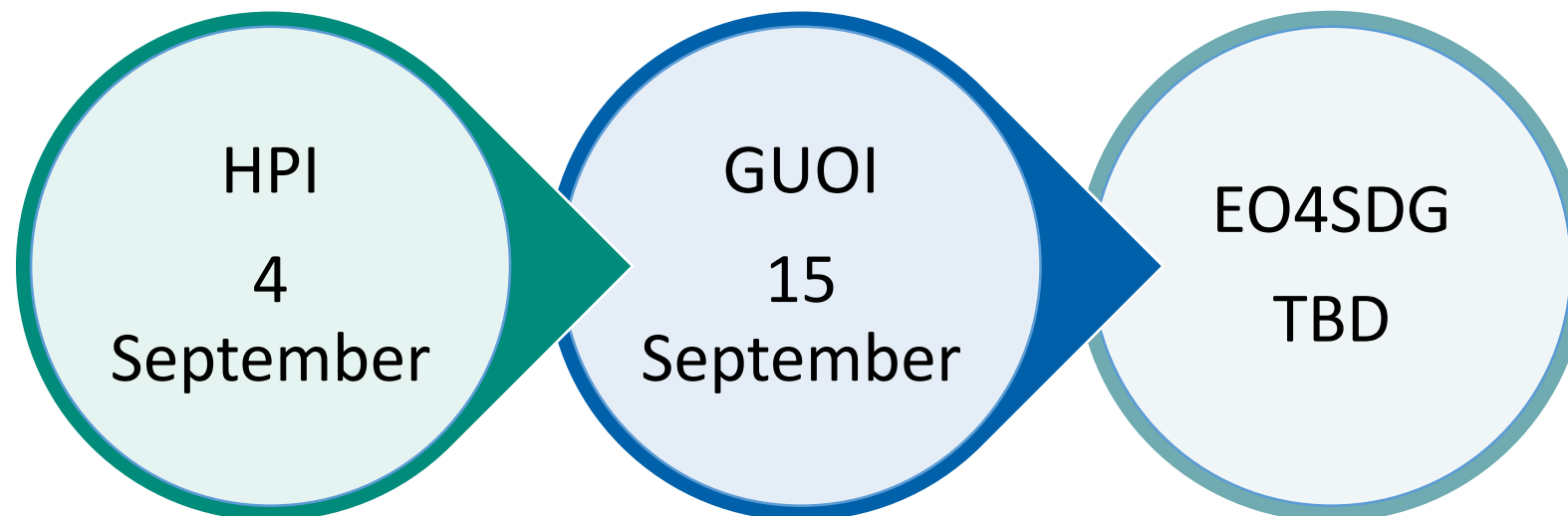
- Report prepared and to be discussed at PB Meeting

Future Action Items:

- Adjusted version for decision at the 53rd GEO Executive Committee Meeting – 3 November 2020 (details to be presented by UR-SG co-leads)

GEO Urban Initiatives

- PB Engagement Teams (ETs) to discuss with each Initiative, ET includes members of UR-SG
- Focus on discussion and exchange with individual Initiatives
- Trigger combined discussions, and asked for each initiative to share key objectives



Help to build the *Earth Observations for Sustainable Cities and Communities Toolkit*

Deadline Extended!
Apply by May 31, 2020

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



GEO GROUP ON
EARTH OBSERVATIONS



EARTH OBSERVATIONS FOR THE
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

https://www.earthobservations.org/geo_blog_obs.php?id=422

- GEO & UN-Habitat (among others) developing an EO Toolkit for SDG 11
 - Build dataset/tool inventory with practical guidance for EO & SDG 11/New Urban Agenda
 - To be integrated into UN-Habitat portal & GEO Knowledge Hub
- Received 57 applications from countries & cities, including NSOs, academia/research networks, municipalities
 - Two evaluation rounds - completed
 - Selection of use cases (1st group - maturity of use case, 2nd group – innovation/perspectives, geographical balance)
 - A Steering Committee for the “Earth Observation Toolkit for Sustainable Cities and Communities” is being established

GEO Community Activity - Climate Change Impacts on World Heritage Cities



Open invitation by GEO Member Greece in collaboration with UNESCO

The Group on Earth Observations announced an initial, open invitation to gauge the interest and support of the GEO community to propose a Community Activity, incorporating urban cultural heritage aspects into the 2020-2022 Work Programme, in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

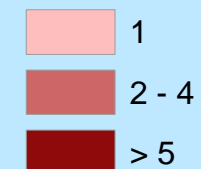
The deadline was on 31st July 2020

GEO Community Activity - Climate Change Impacts on World Heritage Cities



- **71** valid EoI involving **85 Entities**:
- **24** countries
- **10** International Organizations

Participating Countries number of participations



(more details to be presented by Greek representative in PB)