

2023-2025 GEO Work Programme

Recommendations on Pilot Initiatives

**GEO Secretariat
PB-24: 6-7 September 2022**

Transition from Community Activity to Pilot Initiative

MTE finding

- There was “limited guidance on the lifecycle of activities within the GEO Work Programme” and recommended that GEO should “clarify how and if GEO activities should progress from a Community Activity to an Initiative to a Flagship”.

Refecation in GWP23-25 development

- “Community Activity” category renamed as “Pilot Initiatives”
- Pilot Initiatives are expected to progress to Initiative status within a reasonable period of time
- The review criteria was published for use by GWP activities as a form of self-assessment
- The Secretariat worked actively with existing Community Activities that did not fit comfortably as Pilot Initiatives. Options included: redefining the activity, merging with another GWP activity, engaging with GEO outside GWP, etc.

Review Process

- Conducted review collectively within GEO Secretariat
- Reached out proactively to activity leads for their feedback on review comments
- Organized and facilitated dialogues for coordination and integration
- Provided clarifications on Pilot Initiatives criteria and recommended pathways if they didn't fit in the category
- Accepted 20 activities from 40 proposals

Status of Pilot Initiative IPs

36 Existing CA IPs

- 7 applied as Initiative and 13 applied as Pilot Initiatives
 - 15 accepted Pilot Initiative
 - 1 accepted as Initiative
 - 1 merged with another Initiative
 - 1 may re-apply next year
 - 2 didn't fit in the Pilot Initiative category
- 16 didn't submit IPs
 - 1 became PO
 - 1 merged with another Pilot Initiative
 - 2 will apply next year
 - 7 didn't submit because they didn't fit well in Pilot Initiative category
 - 5 no response despite 2 reminders

Status of Pilot Initiative IPs (Cont.)

20 new Pilot Initiative Proposals

- 5 accepted as Pilot Initiatives
- 6 merged with other GWP activities
- 9 not accepted as Pilot Initiatives as they didn't meet the criteria

Recommended list of Pilot Initiatives

Community activities accepted as Pilot Initiatives (15)

- ArcticGEOSS (ARCTIC-GEOSS)
- Digital Earth Pacific (DE-PACIFIC)
- Earth Observations for multi-scale monitoring of mining impacts (EO4MIN)
- Earth Observations for the Water-Energy-Food Nexus (EO4WEF)
- Forest Biomass Reference System from Tree-by-Tree Inventory Data (GEO-TREES)
- GEO Citizen Science (GEO-CITSCI)
- GEO Essential Variables (GEO-EV)
- Geodesy for the Sendai Framework (GEODESY4SENDAI)
- Global Ecosystems and Environment Observation Analysis Research Cooperation (GEOARC)
- Global Vegetation Pest and Disease Dynamic Remote Sensing Monitoring and Forecasting (GEO-PDRS)
- In-Situ Observations and Applications for Ecosystem Status of China and Central Asia (IN-SITU-ESC)
- Night-Time Light Remote Sensing for Sustainable Development Goals (NIGHT-LIGHT)
- Open Earth Alliance (OEA)
- Space and Security (SPACE-SECURITY)
- Urban Heritage Climate Observatory (UHCO)

Recommended list of Pilot Initiatives (Cont.)

New Proposals accepted as Pilot Initiatives (5)

- Antarctic Ice Sheet Monitoring (AIS-MONITORING)
- Earth Observations for Global Typical Karst (EO4KARST)
- GEO Cold Regions Initiative (GEOCRI)
- Global Geochemical Observation Network and Digital Chemical Earth (CHEMICAL-EARTH)
- Global Products of Common Essential Variables from Multiple Satellite Data (GEO-EV-PRODUCTS)