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EuroGEOSS: building inter-disciplinary interoperability for the global community

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Abstract

EuroGEOSS is a 3-year Integrated Project funded by the European Commission in its 7th Framework Programme for Research & Development. The project supports the development of the European Environment Observation systems based on the Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe (INSPIRE) and compatible with GEOSS (Global Earth Observation System of Systems). EuroGEOSS focuses on three thematic areas Forest, Biodiversity and Drought and makes existing systems interoperable and used within the GEOSS and INSPIRE frameworks. Linking Observations and measurements, data and webservices, in and between the three thematic communities covered is one of the project's cornerstones. Another major element of the project is to provide access not just to data but also to analytical models made understandable and useable by scientists from different disciplinary domains. This concept of inter-disciplinary interoperability requires research in advanced modelling from multi-scale heterogeneous data sources, expressing models as workflows of geo-processing components

reusable by other communities, and ability to use natural language to interface with the models. The extension of INSPIRE and GEOSS components with concepts emerging in the Web 2.0 communities in respect to user interactions and resource discovery has to be seen also as collaborative action within the project.