



EGIDA: Coordinating Earth and Environmental cross-disciplinary projects to promote GEOSS

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A consortium of national organizations led by the Italian National Research Council has received a grant from the European Commission in the FP7. The major goal of the grant (named EGIDA) is to support broader implementation and effectiveness of the GEOSS Science and Technology Roadmap and the mission of GEOSS through coherent and interoperable networking of national and international initiatives and European projects.

The presentation will introduce and discuss the EGIDA project objectives and methodology.

EGIDA will prepare a sustainable process promoting coordination of activities carried out by: the GEO Science & Technology (S&T) Committee; S&T national and European initiatives; and other S&T Communities. EGIDA will deliver evaluation processes, tests and assessment indexes, expertise databases, a “GEO Label” concept, surveys, and other instruments that will link relevant European S&T communities to GEOSS and ensure it is built using state-of-the-art science and technology. Through co-ordination with the GEOSS S&T Committee (five co-chairs are involved in EGIDA), these deliverables will contribute strongly to the GEO S&T Roadmap implementation.

For European countries, EGIDA will deliver the EGIDA Methodology, a sustainable mechanism based on the GEO S&T approach at national and regional level, to coordinate national multi-disciplinary “System of Systems”. This builds on existing national initiatives and European projects, and facilitates the European S&T Community contributions to and interactions with GEOSS. The EGIDA Methodology will improve development and management of S&T infrastructures (i.e. sensors, data, processing services, and environmental modeling infrastructures), supporting mobilization of the resources needed to contribute effectively to GEOSS.

EGIDA will involve developing countries by transferring the EGIDA S&T methodology to them and implementing three specific use cases: two regional use-cases (Balkan region, Mediterranean region) and a pan-European thematic use-case (Air Quality and Health). EGIDA will be embedded within a wide Network of Stakeholders selected to represent the various actors (science teams and institutions, S&T programs, GEO components) and the scientific fields relevant to the nine GEOSS Society Benefit Areas.