COOPEUS – Strengthening the transatlantic cooperation on common data policies and standards for research infrastructures in the environmental field

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A truly global approach is needed to fully exploit existing and upcoming environmental observing systems. Within the individual domains of environmental research standards for the exchange of data and information are emerging. However, there is still a lack of harmonization across the disciplines and across nations. The scientific community is well aware of that but a promising concept on how to solve relevant issues has not been set in place. It is partially related to differing architecture and technologies that are well fitted for the domain specific requirements but that are not easily transferrable to other domain. However, mostly it is related to diverging data policies.

The three-year joint European-US COOPEUS project has been set in place to address these issues and build a sustainable framework for future cooperation in this field.

Besides fostering the links between the research communities across the Atlantic it is planned to define user scenarios to explore the state of the art in the individual disciplines and ignite cooperation across domains.

Some of the concepts that will be under scrutiny within the course of the COOPEUS project have also been considered within GEOSS, like for instance the data brokering approach. COOPEUS will build upon these experiences to make in the next step in integration existing and upcoming data information services.

First results coming from project workshops are addressing the establishment of common, centralized services like registries and persistent identifiers across five geosciences domains: space weather, carbon observation, biodiversity, ocean observations and solid Earth dynamics. These services and agreements are forming the basis for improved data exchange based on and requirements of the user communities. To test these concepts as part of the user scenarios will be essential for the project progress.