

# NEOSS

A strategic approach to National Earth observations

Earth Observation (EO) Stakeholder Engagement Workshop, 15  
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Business Excellence and Integration (BE&I) Portfolio ,Hosted National Programmes,  
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# NEOSS Structure

**Host Institution  
(CSIR)**

**Secretariat  
(NEOSS)**

**Strategic Advisory  
Committee (SACOM)**

**Management Committee  
(MANCO)**

Engagement Forums

# Committees

## MANCO

- Chaired by the DSI
- Members-6 (DSI,CSIR and NEOSS)
- Management oversight of the Implementation of the NEOSS Agreement
- Oversee the implementation of the business plan and strategies of NEOSS , in according to CSIR internal policies and procedures
- Meets at least quarterly

## SACOM

- Chaired by selected Committee Member or Volunteer
- Members - 6 (DSI,DEA,DTPS,SAWS,SANSACCSIR)
- Strategic advice on the future strategic direction and focus of the NEOSS
- Oversees the development of **strategies** and policies that promote best practices for the communities
- Meets at least Bi-Annually

# Coordination Forums



The coordination forums serves as collaborative platforms for professionals or organisations to exchange ideas, stay informed about the latest technological developments, explore applications and build networks within their respective fields, fostering collaboration and innovation.

# Our aspirations

To promote collaboration and coordination among organizations and individuals to enhance the use of Earth observations for the benefit of society and

- **Improved community Coordination:**
  - Foster collaboration and strengthened coordination mechanisms to ensure more efficient and streamlined processes across various functions and stakeholders.
- **Extensive Community Engagement:**
  - Expanded and deepened involvement with a wider spectrum of stakeholders, ensuring a more inclusive and diverse representation to enrich discussions and perspectives.
- **Community Initiatives and Programmes :**
  - Introduce innovative and impactful initiatives designed to bring about significant positive changes and advancements, emphasizing a forward-looking and visionary approach.
- **Equity & Inclusivity:**
  - Promoted an inclusive environment that values and embraces diversity, ensuring that all voices are heard and considered in decision-making processes for a more comprehensive and equitable outcome.

# Coordination Programmes



## Community Building Support Networks

**8** x Communities of Practice (CoPs)



## Community Integrated Support Platforms

NEOSS Integrated Platform-**Information Resources**

NEOSS Monitoring and Evaluation Platform

South African Earth Observations System of Systems (SAEOS) , Under development with SANSA



## IEOS Collaboration

Capacity Building support Interventions (TPG)

Collaborative Programmes to harness the immense potential of Earth Observations and Space for progressive socio-economic innovation



## GEO and AfriGEO Involvement

Participation in GEO High-level structures, Flagships, Initiatives and Working Groups and AfriGEO CoPs

Community  
building support  
Networks



SA-GEO

# Community building Support – CoPs

## What is a Community of Practice ?

a group of individuals who share a common interest or profession and engage in collaborative learning and knowledge sharing to enhance their expertise within that domain.



# Elements of a Community of Practice (CoP)



## Structure

No Hierarchy but cross link with organisations



## Domain

Area of shared interest /thematic orientation



## Mandate

Thematic focus with expected results with resource implications



## Motivation

Personal interest and priority assigned to daily work



## Practice

Each member has associated know-how in the domain

# Importance of EO coordination



- Data sharing and access
- Resource optimisation
- Cross -disciplinary collaboration and insights
- Improved decision-making
- Policy Development
- Capacity building
- Deriving socio economic benefits
- Long term sustainability

# SA-GEO Communities of Practice

An initiative for Information and Knowledge sharing and collective impact;

- **Chairing :**
  - Co-Chaired by the Community Members , with expertise and knowledge of EO
- **Participation:**
  - Participation is voluntary based on area of interest and expertise
- **Strategic Plan of Action:**
  - Strategic plan of action with objectives and expected outcomes .
  - Understanding of current institutional arrangements for EO
  - Identifying user needs, gaps in data, meta data and products, and advocating for them to be addressed.
  - Facilitates downscaling of GEO products and services
  - Involvement of youth , women and SMMEs
- **Engagement Opportunities:**
  - CoP Meetings
  - Workshops/Symposiums
  - Platforms

# CoP Members

PROVINCES -  
9

MEMBERS -  
205

PUBLIC  
SECTOR-69  
%

PRIVATE  
SECTOR 31%

YOUTH 39%

FEMALE 41%

MALE 59%

# CoP work-plans

CoPs	Research and Surveys	Information Knowledge Resources (Tools/platforms /tech)	Guidelines /standards /policy recommendations	Capacity building /training /Advocacy	User requirements	Collaboration		
						CoP	Organisations	GEO/International
<i>Agriculture and Food Security</i>	Identification of existing capability ,capacity /initiatives	Decision support tools in agriculture and Food Security	_____	Tools to support agriculture applications i.e training on Crop monitoring /GEO GLAM	Gap Analysis	CA, CE and NRM, DG and EO infrastructure	SANSA, DFFE, ARC, DALLRD, Research and academic institutions, private Sector	GEO Glam, JECAM, GEOBon, Crop-watch SDG's
<i>Climate Action</i>	Identification of existing capability ,capacity /initiatives	Decision support Tools for Climate Action mitigation and response	Guidelines on use of EO for Climate Change	Climate Action Advocacy	_____	AFS, CE and NRM, DG, HS &SP and EO infrastructure	SAWS, NDMC, DEA, Research and academic institutions, private Sector	GEO Glam, IPCC, AIMIS
<i>Circular Economy and NRM</i>	Best Practices on CE approaches	Decision support tools for Natural Resources Management	_____	Training on CE	_____	AFS, CA, DG and EO infrastructure, SC&N	DFFE, DALLRD, SANBI, CGS, CSIR, NDMC, Research and academic institutions, private Sector	GEOBON SDG's
<i>Data Governance</i>	Best Practices on data sharing	_____	Open data policy recommendations	Training on open data i.e GEO open data workshop	_____	AFS, CA, CE and NRM, HS&SP and EO infrastructure	CSI and all data custodians	GEO data WG, CEOSS data WG
<i>EO Infrastructure</i>	Identification of available infrastructure	Decision Support System /Contribution to SAEOS /SANSA	_____	Training on EO infrastructure i.e GEO Knowledge Hub	_____	AFS, CA, CE and NRM, HS&SP DG and SC&N	CSI and all data infrastructure owners (SDI, SANSA, SABS etc.) Research and academic institutions, private Sector	GEOSS, ESA, DEA
<i>Satellite Communications and Navigations</i>	_____	Precision navigation	Satellite Communications policy recommendations	Training on Comms and Nav i.e DUT CNS Workshop	_____	AFS,CE&NRM,DG	Dtps, ICASA, DSI, Research and academic institutions, private Sector	ITU
<i>Human Settlements and Spatial Planning</i>	_____	Decision support tools for spatial planning	_____	_____	_____	AFS, CA, CE and NRM, DG, HS &SP and EO infrastructure	SANSA, municipalities Research and academic institutions, private Sector	GEO
<i>Natural Capital</i>	NCA Practices	_____	NCA Guidelines	Training on NCA	_____	AFS, CA, CE and NRM, DG,	Research and academic	GEO

# Community Engagements (Ministerial Summit), Cape Town, South Africa

The theme for GEO Week was 'The Earth is talking,' and there were several key highlights in line with this theme:

1. **GEO Post-2025 Strategy Adoption:** The strategy, titled 'Earth Intelligence for All,' was adopted. It supports GEO's continued leadership in coordinating and enabling the use of Earth Observation (EO). The strategy also introduces ways for GEO to collaborate with users in producing products and services.
2. **Youth Participation:** During GEO-19, youth participants played a more significant role in discussions, highlighting their crucial role in data-driven economies. The youth presented the Youth Declaration, emphasizing their perspectives.
3. **Global Ecosystems Atlas and Global Heat Resilience Service:** Two major programs led by GEO since GEO-18 were introduced, serving as proof of concept for the Post-2025 Strategy.
4. **Ministerial Summit:** The final day of GEO Week 2023 focused on the Ministerial Summit. A Ministerial Declaration was adopted, affirming GEO's commitment to supporting multilateral environmental agreements. It also encouraged flexible, multi-user licensing agreements for non-governmental data and tasked GEO with developing an implementation plan for the Post-2025 Strategy and mobilizing resources.



# Planned Events

Capacity Building  
Training on GEO EO  
Tools , 4-5 June  
2024

CoP Integrated  
Workshop, 6 June  
2024

National Space  
Conference , 28-30  
August 2024

Open Data & Open  
Knowledge workshop  
in Geneva

AfriGEO Symposium ,  
1<sup>st</sup> week/Oct/Nov

# Thank you

