



GEO GLOWS

**GEO - Global Water
Sustainability**

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High level commitment to use EO for policy



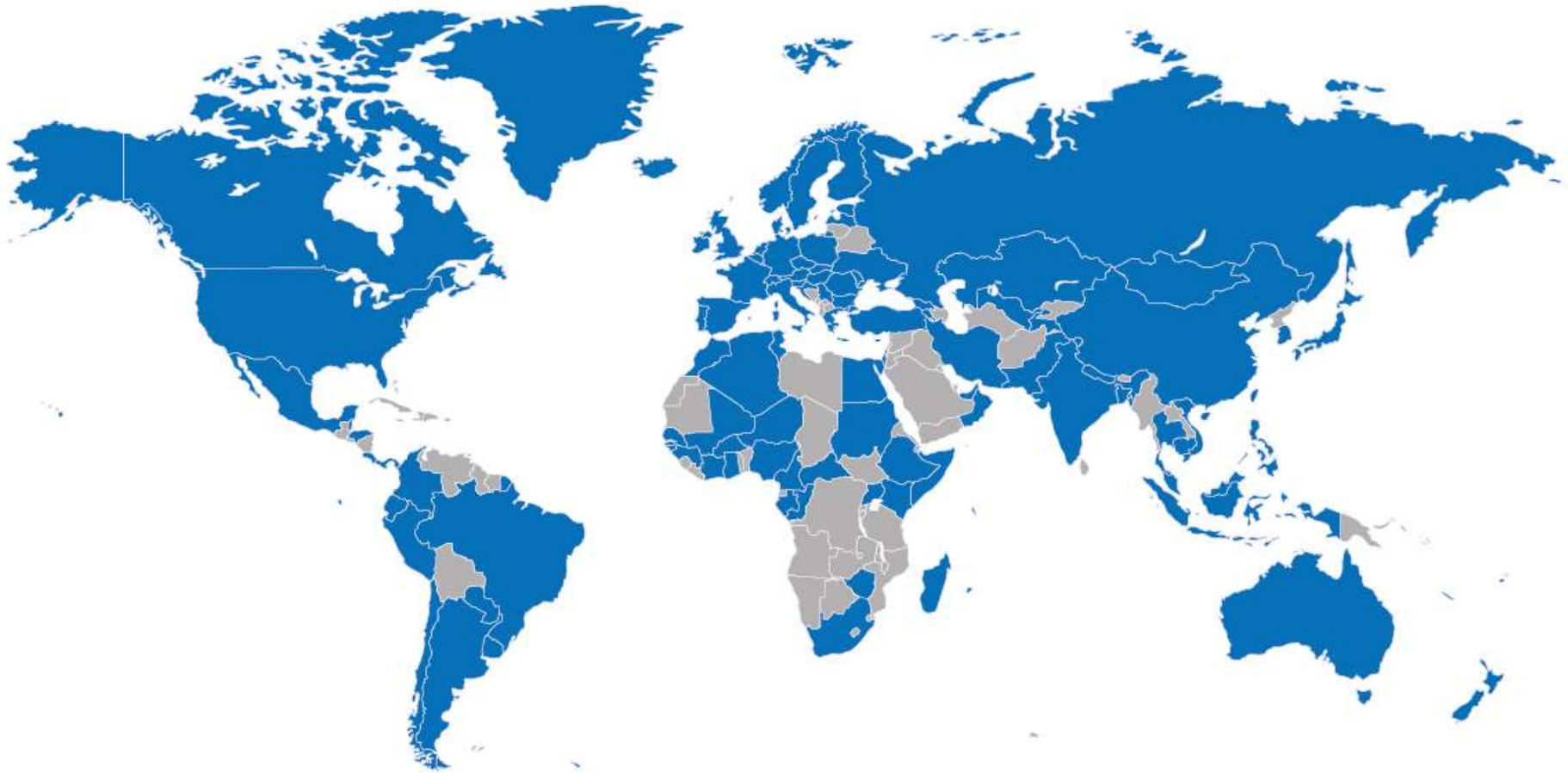
GEO is an intergovernmental body that promotes open Earth Observation data availability, access and use

Ministerial Declaration , GEO Plenary XII, Mexico City, 2015

“Affirm that GEO and its Earth observations and information will support the implementation of, inter alia, the 2030 Global Goals for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the United Nations System of Environmental and Economic Accounts, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.”



GEO partnership 105 Members



Africa: **27** - Asia/Oceania - **21**, Europe: **34** - C.I.S: **7** - Americas: **16**

Total: 105

8 Societal Benefit Areas



GEO VISION: To realize a future wherein decisions and actions, for the benefit of humankind, are informed by coordinated, comprehensive & sustained Earth observations & information

Water links to other SBAs

GEOGLOWS



- ***GEOGLOWS Mission Statement***

- To facilitate synergy among efforts to connect the demand for sound and timely environmental information to the supply of data and information about the Earth's water system and to explore the science needed to achieve the goals outlined by the initiative.
- Advocacy for broad, open data policies and for the realization of the right to access information, helping to ensure that the data collected through national, regional and global observing systems is both made available in the public domain and applied to decision-making.

Why GEOGLOWS

1. user-driven initiative with members of multiple stakeholders communities,
2. Supports synergies and provides networking at the global and regional level for improved awareness of the plethora of activities and products from a variety of agencies (e.g. GEO-related efforts, NASA, NOAA, ESA, CEOS, UN, World Bank, academia, etc.),
3. Addresses water sustainability from a holistic, multi-sectorial, spatial, and hydrologic context,
4. Advocates for the inclusion of socio-economic analyses on all activities of the initiative,
5. Advocates for broad, open data policies, and for the realization of the right to access information,
6. Supports informed decision making by promoting the use of EO data and associated analytical tools and services among its members,
7. Explores the science needed to achieve the goals outlined by the initiative through its partnership with the Integrated Global Water Cycle Observations (IGWCO) (CoP) and academia,
8. Through Capacity Building in the use of existing data and analytical services, improve awareness of the power of earth observations in the decision-making process.

Objectives

1. Strengthen the understanding of water data and analyses needs, and develop user-driven applications products from Earth Observation data and applications;
2. Engage end users and boundary organizations to understand needs and decision making process by region, and to prioritize activities based on vulnerability analyses;
3. Promote synergy (e.g. on shared vision, financing, joint/coordinated activities, products, and services) among initiatives for open water data and analytical services to support improved understanding and decision support;
4. Support awareness, strengthen capacity-building, and facilitate professional networking activities (including private sector) related to the use of earth observation data and analytical tools;
5. Contribute to the assessments of population and economic growth impacts on water resources availability and climate change, to inform planning and adaptation activities;
6. Improve public-domain access to water sustainability related data, tools, and knowledge products and services; and
7. Enable innovations and support documentation of activities related to the effective use of earth observation for sustainable water management.

GEOGLOWS Framework includes activities focusing on:

- Enhancing Global Water Sustainability;
- Minimizing Basin and Regional Risk;
- Essential Water Variable (EWV) Understanding (water quality and use; water cycle Variables), and to explore the science needed to achieve the initiative's objectives;
- Earth Observations, Integrated Data Products and Applications, and Tool Development;
- Data Sharing, Dissemination of Data, Information, Products, and Knowledge; and
- User Engagement, Capacity Building.

GEOGLOWS 1st International Business Meeting, @ NOAA/NWC – USA – May 16-19,2017



**GEOGLOWS Steering Committee
members**



Working Groups

1. Socio-economic issues of the water crisis and policy linkages
2. Science, applications, product development, and testing.
3. Essential Water Variables (EWV) and observations
4. Data dissemination, community portals, capacity building.

Next steps for GEOGLOWS

- ◆ Steering Committee will provide strategy, policy, and technically related guidance and recommendations to the GEOGLOWS Working Groups and the GEO Secretariat as needed, and assesses progress on GEOGLOWS activities.
- ◆ Strengthening partnerships within other GEO Initiatives (e.g., GEOGLAM, GEOBON, GEOWetlands, AmeriGEOSS, AfriGEOSS, AOGEOSS, NextGEOSS), and other related activities outside GEO.

Thank you !

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Group on Earth Observations