



***GEO Capacity Building Committee
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**Strategic Targets:
GEOSS Implementation by 2015**

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Strategic Approach: Refined Targets, Goals and Definition

The following steps were taken to refine a layer of strategic targets:

- **Provide a short definition of GEOSS**, based on negotiated text.
- **Articulate high-level goals for GEOSS implementation**,
(based upon the 2007 Cape Town Declaration).
- **Formulate strategic targets** for each transverse area and each societal benefit area (SBA), which encompass the ideas of the original targets.



Strategic Approach: Refined Targets, Goals and Definition

These targets will:

- form the link between the negotiated text of the GEOSS 10-Year Implementation Plan and the text of the 2009-2011 GEO Work Plan;
- will facilitate the construction of a GEOSS Roadmap which maps the Work Plan tasks onto the targets;
- and will connect to the emerging framework for GEOSS monitoring and evaluation.



GEOSS Vision and Purpose

(GEOSS 10-Year Implementation Plan, February 2005)

“The **vision** for GEOSS is to realize a future wherein decisions and actions for the benefit of humankind are informed by coordinated, comprehensive and sustained Earth observations and information”.



GEOSS Vision and Purpose

(GEOSS 10-Year Implementation Plan, February 2005)

The **purpose** of GEOSS is to achieve comprehensive, coordinated and sustained observations of the Earth system, in order to improve monitoring of the state of the Earth, increase understanding of Earth processes, and enhance prediction of the behaviour of the Earth system. GEOSS will meet the need for timely, quality long-term global information as a basis for sound decision making, and will enhance delivery of benefits to society in the following initial (Societal Benefit) areas: (list of SBAs).



GEOSS Definition

The Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) is a coordinating and integrating network of Earth observing and information systems[1], contributed on a voluntary basis by Members and Participating Organizations of the intergovernmental Group on Earth Observations (GEO), to support informed decision making for society, including the implementation of international environmental treaty obligations.



GEOSS Definition

[1] The contributing systems will range across the processing cycle, from primary observation to information production. Through GEOSS, they will share observations and products with the system as a whole, and will take the necessary steps to ensure that the shared observations and products are accessible, comparable, and understandable, by supporting common standards and adaptation to users needs. (*The Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) 10-Year Implementation Plan, 2005*)



Capacity Building Target

Current draft text

Facilitate coordinated efforts, at national Regional and international levels, that enhance ...

Coordinate / Facilitate, at national and international levels, efforts ...

Coordinate, at national and international levels, efforts to enhance individual, institutional and infrastructure capacities to use Earth observations and derived information in all Societal Benefit Areas.



Capacity Building Target

This will be demonstrated by (/ outcomes)

Current draft text

- Increased access and use of Earth observation data for sustainable development through globally coordinated efforts to address infrastructure, human resources and institutional capacity gaps.
- Increased resources of Earth observation capacity building programs.
- Increased use of Earth observations by policy and decision makers, especially in developing countries.

Documented and dedicated networks to collaborate and leverage resources to build capacity to use Earth observations that meet identified gaps and needs.



Capacity Building Target

Documented and dedicated networks to collaborate and leverage resources to build capacity to use Earth observations that meet identified gaps and needs.