Socioeconomic Benefits of Earth Observations
A Workshop to Develop an International Program of Activities

July 11-13, 2011
Ispra, Italy
Sponsors: JRC, NASA, IIASA, and IEEE

A workshop on the socioeconomic benefits of Earth observations is planned for
July 11-13 at the Joint Research Center in Ispra, Italy. The purpose of the
workshop is to identify a “program of activities” (aka, research agenda) to
undertake during 2011-14 to support the development of capabilities
internationally to determine, document, and quantify the socioeconomic benefits
from Earth observations and their use, including the benefits that can and will be
achieved by the Group on Earth Observations (www.earthobservations.org).

Such a program of activities may include a review of dispersed bodies of
literature relevant to the assessment of impacts and benefits of geographic
information/Earth observation, the evaluation of different methodologies
appropriate to undertake such assessments, the gathering of evidence of
impacts/benefits in different user communities and societal benefits areas,
development of case studies and use cases, and outreach activities to develop
shared understanding across disciplinary boundaries on value and methods of
assessment.

The number of workshop participants is expected to be 25 with focus on
practitioners of benefit/impact assessments and related fields. Experts in
physical, social and economic sciences are invited to attend. The workshop is
being organized by JRC, NASA, IIASA and IEEE. Please contact Max Craglia
(massimo.craglia@jrc.ec.europa.eu), Jay Pearlman (jay.pearlman@ieee.org),
Steffen Fritz (fritz@iiasa.ac.at) or Lawrence Friedl (lfriedl@nasa.gov) for further
information. If you are interested in attending, please forward an expression of
interest via email to the organizers and include your area of expertise and a CV.
Following the workshop a report will be posted on the GEO website when it is
available.