

Institutions & Development Implementation Board

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With contributions from

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Continuing the work of the Committees & the IDIB in the GEO Action Areas “Advocate. Engage. Deliver”

Key points Extracted from GEO Strategic Plan 2016-2025 – pages 11 & 12

Advocate:

- identify, prioritize & mitigate gaps in information-chain knowledge . . .

Engage:

- Serve as a “knowledge broker” for EO and environmental information.
- Grow GEO’s user base by
- Strengthen existing communities of practice and new ones by

Deliver:

- co-define & document observation requirements, jointly with user communities
- Share best practices for creating usable information through. . . .

Capacity Building

- *We have a Foundational Task CD-01: coordination of capacity building*
- Core group has been established (with involvement of CEOS capacity development working group)
- Volunteers pledged support to maintaining and updating the capacity building resource facility GEOCAB (through MoU)
- Draft plan for 2016 is ready
- Baseline study (status quo + needs) for capacity building in GEO activities will be carried out in the next few months
- **Programme Board needs to maintain a watching brief on this process**

User Engagement

- Major lessons
 - The term 'user' has not been defined clearly enough to ensure consistent interpretation and measurement
 - User engagement is a skill in and of itself!
 - User engagement is a 'push' function (GEO participants have to go engage with users rather than wait for the users to come)
 - Surveys (of Tasks, Activities, etc.) don't work well partly because of items 1 and 2
 - Databases are a necessary, but not sufficient, answer to the engagement process
- Putting the lessons to use
 - Recommend a Core Function dedicated, with GEO Sec assistance, to User Engagement [potential activities include – but are not limited to - developing a GEO-adopted set of definitions; working with GEO Sec Outreach and Help Desk folks; creating an engagement strategy that is specific and measurable]
 - IDIB has already prepared a draft write-up on a User Engagement Foundational Task
- Programme Board can help define the way forward by
 - convening an advisory group to address whether/how this combines with SO-02 (Communications and Engagement) and GD-08 (SBA Processes)
 - Deciding how this dovetails with the GEO Engagement Strategy from 2014?

Resource Mobilization

- Major lessons
 - Resources in GEO are both monetary and in-kind
 - Concrete process examples needed to find the resources in the future
- Putting the lessons to use
 - Group formed under SO-04; Bob Samors (GEO Sec) is involved
 - Two major activities
 - Use the Water SBA (Rick Lawford and co) and the Water Cycle Implementation Plan to go to potential funders; gather lessons; go on from there
 - Produce a paper/chapter/study that highlights funding processes globally, as a reference doc
- Programme Board can help by
 - Providing one or more funding points of contact for interviews
 - Providing specific points of contact interested in funding water efforts

Science & Technology

- Major lessons
 - *Science & Technology Roadmap* and *dedicated Tasks* both had mixed results
 - Some initiatives would have happened anyway without a plan
 - Some good things definitely only happened because there was a plan
 - Some things never happened despite being in the plan and taking a lot of our focus!
- Putting the lessons to use
 - S&T is pervasive and can be found throughout the draft working plan
 - Mostly, this reflects the above lessons well but...
 - ... it creates the potential for things to go missing
- Programme Board can help by
 - Establishing a PB mechanism to take an overview of S&T, whilst avoiding the pitfalls of the “Grand Plan” approach
 - Through this, deciding how to proceed with the S&T aspects of the Work Programme