The world is in the grip of global changes, whether climatic or societal. In this context, the United Nations has initiated the establishment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which aim at promoting prosperity while protecting the planet, leaving no one behind.

At regional and local levels, it is therefore necessary to put in place policies for the **sustainable management of territories and resources**. However, this leads to **increasing needs** with limited resources to address them, especially for the Pacific island states which are suffering from the full force of climate change.

The Symposium will promote the importance of using more EO data to improve people’s life and environment, by **pooling needs and resources, strengthening regional collaboration** in the geospatial field.
The first idea of such a Symposium for the *Pacific island countries and territories (PICTs)* came from a real need for a better knowledge of each other and of our local geospatial communities, understanding better every local ways of doing, projects and priorities.

Contributing to the main objectives of the *Pacific Island Advisory Group (PIAG)* and its Terms of References endorsed by the Group on Earth Observations (GEO), this initiative aims to contribute actively to *connecting the regional geospatial community*.

Composed by multiple *complementary sub-events*, the event will ensure to everyone the opportunity to express himself and get involve as expected in discussions and projects, leaving no one behind and remaining totally *inclusive and accessible* for everyone.
Setting up Pacific projects

The Symposium will aim to set up regional projects collegially, with a strong desire to work all together and to get adapted and sustainable solutions. The main goals will then be to get as many PICTs involved as possible and to mutualize resources the best.

Among the main key areas addressed by Earth observation, based on the needs assessment report led by SPC, OGS will focus on 3 central themes:

- **Territory knowledge** through land occupation/use
- **Water resources** and sustainability management
- **Maritime activities** efficient monitoring
From ancient times, Pacific Island peoples have relied on maps based on stars and ocean currents to locate and orient themselves as a traditional form of navigation.

The stars of the Southern Cross have special significance to cartographers across Micronesia, Melanesia and Polynesia, enabling ocean crossings to be undertaken safely and efficiently. The importance of the Southern Cross in traditional navigation is reflected in its appearance on a number of flags across the Oceania region.

It is to pay tribute to these outstanding navigators from the Pacific that we have named our event "Tauhā", the Polynesian for "Southern Cross".

The 5 stages of our Oceania Geospatial Symposium represent the 5 bright stars in the constellation. While each star is bright and important in its own way, for the purposes of navigation, all must be used in combination to ensure a safe and efficient journey.
Discover OGS' content in more details
#RegionalNeeds
Gathering decision makers, institutions, scientists, providers, associations, regional organizations and funders to find out common needs and possible sharable resources aiming to design collegially possible projects for the region.

#RegionalAssets
- Global, regional and local Open Source & Open Data initiatives
- Pacific adapted support, including both initiatives (projects/programs) and fundings

#Solutions
Gathering PICTs representatives, decision makers and supporting organizations in order to set up scope of regional projects to be led together.
CONFERENCES GIS & RS

#InternationalTechnicalTools
Based on SGDs, this aims to provide to a hybrid audience with high level technical presentations from the whole community:

- Institutions
- Providers
- Scientists
- Students

#Networking
Dedicated to physical participants, OGS will facilitate as possible both management & organization of customized bilateral meetings

Plenary Sessions
Presentations & discussions
Speed networking

OGS 2022 - NOUMEA - FROM NOV. 28TH TO DEC. 4TH
GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS

#GEO&PICTs
Parallel session dedicated to high-level collegial discussions on GEO, on strengthening and sustaining the link with Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs), and on the future of the working group set up for this purpose: the Pacific Island Advisory Group (PIAG)

OCEAN HACKATHON

#Innovation
48 hours of challenge to get to know your team, frame a common project, get hands on diverse and varied geospatial data, develop innovative solutions to answer problems on the theme of the Ocean, drink coffee and ... pitch the whole thing to an international jury in 3 minutes!
#CapacityBuilding

FREE trainings and workshops (hands-on) delivered by leading experts to increase Open Data and Open-Source tools uptake for everyone

OGS 2022 - TAUHĀA special surprises

#CommunityBuilding

Opportunities to strengthen connections within the Pacific geospatial and Earth observation community