

GEO PROGRAMME BOARD – PRIVATE SECTOR SUBGROUP
TERMS OF REFERENCE

(Approved at the 17th Programme Meeting in June 2020)

PURPOSE

The Private Sector subgroup is convened to advise the GEO Programme Board and the GEO Executive Committee regarding the implementation of the elements of the Canberra Declaration related to the private sector. In particular, the subgroup is requested by the Executive Committee to give special attention to article 16, which includes the need to create opportunities for small, medium and micro-sized enterprises (SMMEs) to leverage Earth observations.

DUTIES

- Organize and participate in discussions with private sector organizations to better understand their interests, needs, constraints, and perspectives as they relate to GEO and the GEO Work Programme.
- Review private sector engagement policies, programmes and actions undertaken by other international organizations and identify good practices that may be applicable in the GEO context.
- Identify opportunities for increasing the engagement of private sector organizations with the GEO Work Programme, both as active participants and contributors to GEO Work Programme activities and as users and beneficiaries of the results developed by those activities.
- Link interested private sector organizations with relevant GEO Work Programme activities.
- Support the work of the Programme Board engagement teams and other subgroups as it relates to connecting GEO Work Programme activities with GEO Associates and other private sector partners.
- Develop strategies and plans to address the elements of the Canberra Declaration related to the private sector, especially regarding engagement of SMMEs in developing countries in collaboration with Regional GEOs.
- Advise the GEO Executive Committee regarding any changes to the GEO Rules of Procedure that may help advance GEO's collaboration with the private sector.

EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

- Updated GEO strategy for engagement of the private sector.
- Events or parts of events (in-person or virtual) related to the SG mandate, notably links to the Industry Track at GEO Week each year.
- Guidance to GEO Work Programme activity leads regarding engagement of the private sector.
- Periodic reports to the Programme Board and the Executive Committee.

MEMBERSHIP

Participation in the Private Sector SG is open to all Programme Board member representatives, as well as to other individuals nominated by GEO Members, Participating Organizations and Associates.