Program Board 21.01
Agenda Item 21.18
30 September 2021
Geneva, Switzerland

Australia on behalf of PIAG members

Report from
The Pacific Island Advisory Group (PIAG)
Presentation Overview

• Chronology – where have we come from
• Primary activities of PIAG in 2021
• The draft PIAG Engagement Strategy
• Supporting the Work Plan: Developments and Opportunities
• Beginning with the end in mind – who are the users?
Key events GEO ↔ PICTs

• 2019
  • GEO Week 2019 ↔ GEO Ministerial Summit Declaration
  • GEO Week Pacific Island Program ↔ EO in the Pacific Talanoa Statement

• 2020
  • Establishment of the Pacific Island Advisory Group (PIAG) to GEO Executive Committee
  • Endorsement of the PIAG Terms of Reference by ExCOM 53

• 2021
  • AO GEO Symposium, GEO Week 2021
  • Draft PIAG Engagement Strategy & Workplan => ExCOM 55
Primary activities of PIAG in 2021

- Ongoing efforts to **develop and refine PIAGs work plan**
- Development of an **overarching Engagement Strategy**
- Participation by members / PICTs in a **range of activities promoting GEO-PICTs engagement**
  - in line with the **PIAG TORs and detailed PIAG work plan**
- Several **significant developments/opportunities**:
  - Digital Earth Pacific & EO in the Pacific Needs Assessment
  - Engagement with Asia Oceania GEO
  - New GEO members, and increased engagement by existing PICT members
PIAG draft Engagement Strategy

- Draft Engagement Strategy outline (Annex A)
  - A series of actions and opportunities to increase and improve GEO⇔ PICT connections
  - Highlights links between goals of GEO (Canberra Declaration) and the PICTs (Talanoa Statement on EO)
  - Links PIAG TORs to proposed activities and associated deliverables
  - 5 areas of focus: Scoping, Consulting, Connecting, Aligning and Advising
Goal: Support GEO Ministerial Summit Declaration, “Welcome new Members from the Pacific and other island nations to the GEO community, and recognise the significant capabilities they have to offer. Emphasise the importance of GEO being inclusive of these countries with their significant and increasing exposure to disaster risk, climate change and sustainable development challenges”, in line with the priorities of the EO in the Pacific Talanoa Statement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PIAG TOR FUNCTION/DELIVERABLE</th>
<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>OUTPUTS</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SCOPE</strong> the EO needs and priorities of the Pacific</td>
<td>• Identify EO needs &amp; end user priorities, connect to GEO WP</td>
<td>• Target GEO Work Program according to priorities</td>
<td>Support objectives of:</td>
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<td><strong>CONSULT</strong> discuss needs, barriers, opportunities for engagement PICTs ↔ GEO</td>
<td>• Strengthen PICT-GEO engagement</td>
<td>• Broker GEO member assistance to PICTs</td>
<td>• GEO Ministerial Summit Canberra Declaration 2019</td>
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<td><strong>CONNECT</strong> technical EO activities happening PICTs ↔ GEO</td>
<td>• Promote PICT participation in activities to increase knowledge sharing, expertise and opportunities</td>
<td>• Establish a community of practice</td>
<td>• Earth Observation in the Pacific Talanoa Statement 2019</td>
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<td><strong>ALIGN</strong> with relevant UN agendas</td>
<td>• Promote UN Agenda alignment</td>
<td>• Increase GEO membership, engagement, participation</td>
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Supporting the Work Plan: 
*Developments and Opportunities*

- **SCOPE** the EO needs and priorities of the Pacific
  - SPC needs assessment complete
- **CONSULT** and discuss needs, barriers, opportunities for engagement PICTs to GEO
  - University of South Pacific => GEO PO
  - Deep consultation with SPREP as existing GEO PO
  - GEO Week 2021 side event
- **CONNECT** the PICTs ↔ GEO technical EO activities
  - Digital Earth Pacific accepted as GEO Community Activity
  - USP ↔ GRSS on MOOC
  - AO GEO Symposium session “*Satellite data for the Pacific Islands: Supplier and User perspectives*”
- **Align** with relevant UN Agendas
  - Ongoing discussions with UN SPIDER
  - Opportunities to link SPREP EO ↔ SDGs
Connecting GEO and the PICTs: 
*It’s all about the users...*

Technical EO users => EO advisors => governments, business and community users (least EO proficiency)
Thank You

Communicate and Collaborate with GEO: