Symposium Outcomes

21st Programme Board meeting
28-30 September 2021

GEO Secretariat
Symposium Organizers

Programme Board Symposium Subgroup

*Jan Ramboer (EC)
Xingfa Gu (China)
Amos Kabo-bah (Ghana)
Andiswa Mlisa (South Africa)
Kerry Sawyer (United States)

*Kathy Fontaine (ESIP)
Andreia Siqueira (CEOS)
Marie-Claire Greening (CEOS)
Bapon Fakhruddin (CODATA/WDS)
Carolina Adler (MRI)

GEO Secretariat

Wenbo Chu
Rik Baeyens
Craig Larlee
Steven Ramage
Chloe Tiberghien
Diana Mastracci Sanchez

+ other Secretariat staff as session organizers, moderators and presenters
Objectives for this Symposium

• Shorter sessions, shorter presentations
• More time for discussion, direct interaction with speakers
• Encourage informal interactions among participants
• Varied session times to accommodate regions
• More opportunity for GEO community-led sessions
• Linkage to GEO Week anchor themes
• Prepare the ground for the 2023-2025 GWP development
## Session Types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Plenary Session</th>
<th>Parallel Session</th>
<th>Spotlight Session</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session Organizer</td>
<td>GEO Secretariat</td>
<td>GEO Work Programme community</td>
<td>GEO Work Programme community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>100+</td>
<td>30-100</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>60min</td>
<td>60min</td>
<td>30min</td>
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<tr>
<td>Format</td>
<td>Live presentation</td>
<td>Live presentation</td>
<td>Single lightning talk</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Moderated discussion</td>
<td>Moderated discussion</td>
<td>Q&amp;A via speaking</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Q&amp;A via chats</td>
<td>Q&amp;A via speaking</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting tool</td>
<td>Zoom Webinar</td>
<td>Zoom Meeting</td>
<td>Zoom Breakout Rooms</td>
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Symposium Registrants

Total Registrants = 931

From:
82  GEO Members
49  Participating Org’s
  4  GEO Associates
10  Non-Member countries
  6  Other International Orgs
Locations of Symposium Registrants
Session Attendance

Total Unique Attendees = 800
Survey Results: % Satisfied or Very Satisfied
Preferences for Future Symposia

- **Combined, 58%**
- **Face to face, 17%**
- **Virtual, 19%**
- **No response, 4%**
- **Other, 3%**
Observations

• Strong interest from the GEO community to organize sessions.
• Very high attendance, much more than an in-person Symposium.
• Much higher participation from developing countries.
• Attendees were selective; most attended only a few sessions.
• Plenary sessions had excellent content, but attendance was low, possibly due to delays in confirming the programme.
• Some spotlight sessions had difficulty in attracting participants.
• More time needed for discussion and questions; inclusion of regional content; access to presentations.
• Majority of survey respondents prefer Symposia offering options for in-person and remote participation.