

GEO Symposium 2019 – Agenda

27-29 May 2019

Salle Obasi, World Meteorological Organization
Geneva, Switzerland

Monday, 27 May 2019

Time	Topic
09:00 – 09:15	Welcome and Opening Remarks <i>Gilberto Camara, Secretariat Director</i>
09:15 – 10:00	Session 1 – Overview of the 2020-2022 GEO Work Programme This session will present an overview of the first version of the 2020-2022 GEO Work Programme and how it compares to the 2017-2019 Work Programme. The development process for the Work Programme will be described, including next steps. The session will also include presentations on the planning for the GEO-XVI Plenary and Ministerial Summit, which will be held in Canberra, Australia 4-9 November 2019.
10:00 – 10:45	<i>Opening of the Poster Display</i> <i>Networking break (tea/coffee)</i>
10:45 – 12:15	Session 2 – GEO Support to Biodiversity and Ecosystems Conservation This is the first of six thematic sessions in which GEO Flagships and Initiatives will present their key achievements and lessons learned from 2017-2019, their plans for 2020-2022, and the areas where they are seeking assistance or additional contributions from the GEO community. Each session will provide opportunity for questions and discussion involving Symposium participants. The intent of these sessions will be to help refine and shape the Flagships and Initiatives and to provide an opportunity for others to become engaged in activities of interest.
12:15 – 13:15	<i>Lunch</i>
13:15 – 15:15	Session 3 – GEO Support to the Paris Agreement Support to the Paris Agreement is one of GEO's three engagement priorities. The session will feature a keynote presentation by a GEO Member representative who will discuss ways in which Earth observations can help support national responses to the Paris Agreement and in the preparation and implementation of National Adaptation Plans. GEO Flagships, Initiatives and Community Activities will present some of the ways in which GEO is currently supporting these and other needs, followed by a general discussion on how GEO can strengthen its portfolio of activities in the 2020-2022 Work Programme.
15:15 – 16:00	<i>Browse Poster Display -- Networking break (tea/coffee)</i>
16:00 – 17:45	Session 4 – GEO Support to Freshwater, Coastal and Ocean Management This session will be similar to the other thematic sessions, but with a focus on Work Programme activities dealing with water in its various forms and impacts.
17:45	<i>Adjourn</i>

Tuesday, 28 May 2019

Time	Topic
09:00-10:30	Session 5 – GEO Support to the Sendai Framework Support to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction is the third of GEO's three engagement priorities. This session will highlight examples of GEO Flagships, Initiatives and Community Activities that are developing applications and services relevant to the Sendai Framework.
10:30-11:15	<i>Browse Poster Display -- Networking break (tea/coffee)</i>

Time	Topic
11:15-12:30	<p>Session 6 – Interactive Session on the Sendai Framework</p> <p>This session will build on Session 5, providing an opportunity for Symposium participants to discuss particular challenges and opportunities related to GEO's response to the Sendai Framework in a smaller group setting. The second half of the session will hear back from each of the subgroups, followed by a general discussion on how the ideas discussed can be carried forward.</p>
12:30-13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30-15:30	<p>Session 7 – Interactive Session on the GEO Knowledge Hub</p> <p>In 2018, GEO established an Expert Advisory Group to provide relevant and timely advice with respect to cutting-edge science and technology required to advance the GEOSS infrastructure. This session will focus particularly on the proposed GEO Knowledge Hub, and will provide an opportunity for discussion among the Symposium participants regarding the implications of this new component of the GEOSS infrastructure for GEO Work Programme activities and GEOSS users.</p>
15:30-16:15	<i>Browse Poster Display -- Networking break (tea/coffee)</i>
16:15-17:30	<p>Session 8 – GEO Support to Health and Sustainable Urban Development</p> <p>This session will be similar to the other thematic sessions, but with a focus on Work Programme activities dealing with atmospheric pollutants, disease vectors, and other health and urban-related issues.</p>
17:30	<i>Adjourn</i>

Wednesday, 29 May 2019

Time	Topic
09:00-10:30	<p>Session 9 – GEO Support to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</p> <p>The United Nations 2030 Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), targets and indicators to support the Agenda represents the third GEO engagement priority. This session will showcase GEO Flagships, Initiatives and Community Activities that are developing Earth observations-based applications and services to help national governments achieve, and monitor progress toward, the SDGs.</p>
10:30-11:00	<i>Browse Poster Display -- Networking break (tea/coffee)</i>
11:00-12:45	<p>Session 10 – Interactive Session on Regional GEOs</p> <p>The GEO-XV Plenary in Kyoto in 2018 recognized the important coordination and engagement roles being played by GEO's regional Initiatives and formalized these roles as part of the GEO governance structure. This session will begin with a brief presentation on the implications of the changes for GEO and for the GEO Work Programme. Participants will then have the opportunity to discuss opportunities for collaboration with individual Regional GEOs and with other Work Programme activities within a regional context.</p>
12:45-13:45	<i>Lunch</i>
13:45-15:45	<p>Session 11 – GEO Foundational Tasks</p> <p>This session will begin with an overview of a new structure for the GEO Foundational Tasks that has been discussed within the GEO Programme Board. This will be followed by a series of brief presentations on each of the individual Foundational Tasks, highlighting opportunities for involvement by members of the GEO community, as well as describing the services that will be offered by the GEO Secretariat to the Flagships, Initiatives and Community Activities. The presentations will be followed by an opportunity for questions and discussion with Symposium participants.</p>
15:45-16:15	<i>Networking break (tea/coffee)</i>
16:15-17:30	<p>Session 12 – Closing Session</p> <p>Outcomes from the previous sessions of the Symposium will be reviewed and confirmed prior to their being provided to Programme Board members as they prepare the 2020-2022 GEO Work Programme. This will be followed by a panel of Flagship and Initiative leads discussing ways to strengthen Work Programme activities and to enhance GEO's impact. The session will conclude with a brief response by Programme Board members present.</p>
17:30	<i>Adjourn</i>