

Sub-task Number: CB-09-02a

Sub-task Title: Recognition of Cross Border Education and Training in Earth Observation

Overarching Task: Building Individual Capacity in Earth Observations

Area: CAPACITY BUILDING

Relevant Committee: CBC

Related Targets: (to be included in 2009)

Sub-task Definition (as given in the 2009-2011 Work Plan):

Bring together providers of (international and cross-border) capacity building, experts in recognition (credential valuation and accreditation) and governance (quality assurance) of higher education qualifications, and professionals from the Earth-observation and geographical-information sectors, to exchange knowledge and propose potential solutions on the issues of recognition and exchange of cross-border and international education & training products for Earth observation.

Leads:

Netherlands (ITC, POC: molenaar@itc.nl)

ISPRS

Motivation/Background

Recognition and quality assurance of education or training programs are essential for internationalization and exchanges in higher education and capacity building in Earth Observation and Geo-information sciences. It plays as such an important role in the capacity building component of GEO, aiming at a global outreach. Int'l accreditation, certification and quality control mechanisms should be further inventoried, analysed, and modalities set in place in line with the advancement of GEOSS. As such qualifications supplied or obtained in GEO member countries or at int'l organizations will become mutually accredited and accepted, permitting exchange and transfer of qualifications across borders. This will ultimately lead to improved understanding and cooperation for GEOSS in the int'l and global society.

Outputs

Planned:

It is anticipated that work under this task will lead to recommended guidelines for recognition of cross border education in the space and geo information science fields.

Produced (current status 2007-2008):

Nov, 07: A first int'l executive workshop (co-organized by GEO, ITC and ISPRS) on recognition of cross-border education was held at the ITC, the Netherlands on 1-2 Nov. For the first time, an int'l group of experts from Asia, Europe, Africa and the Americas, incl. experts from the UN system, met on the issue. Report is available from the GEO secretariat or ITC host organizer.

Jul 08: During the ISPRS2008 Congress in Beijing, the int'l education recognition and quality assurance issue was set on the work agenda of Commission VI on Education and Outreach. ISPRS appointed M.Molenaar (NL) as Com.VI president. Two special working groups were installed (VI-3 Chair: S.Beerens from ITC (NL) and Tao Cheng (UCL, UK) and VI-4 Chair: J.Kofuniyi from Rectas, Nigeria and co-chair: V.K.Dadhwal from IIRS, India) to deal with respectively frameworks for cross-border education and educational program development.

We refer to the annual 2008 report or TC Report VI: Education & Outreach (from ISPRS) for more details on scheduled work activities.

Activities

Planned 2009:

Within the framework of ISPRS Commission VI on Education & Outreach, several working groups have been installed (at the ISPRS2008 conference in July, Beijing), who will further deploy activities related to this issue for the GEO CB component, in the next years (2009-2012).

The following 2 int'l working groups typically address this GEO task, and will operate under ISPRS TC Com.VI. A number of task related activities are foreseen in 2009 as follows

WG VI-3+4: Frameworks and educational program development for cross-border education (workshop and meeting agenda):

Apr, 28 – May, 01 2009: CODIST meeting or Committee on Development Information, Science and Technology of the Economic Commission of Africa will meet in Addis Ababa, to amongst others, discuss the cross-border capacity building issues (related to Africa). WG VI-3 and 4 members will attend as member or observers, pending their status. (Event liaison with task: Jide Kofuniji, former Dir. Rectas, Nigeria).

Sep, 4-6, 2009: The ISPRS council will meet at the ITC Enschede, NL. TC VI and WG 3-4 issues will be further elaborated at this meeting. (Event liaison with task: ITC/Tsehaie Woldai).

Oct, 25-29, 2009: AfricaGIS2009, Kampala, Uganda: the topic is on the agenda of special ISPRS COM VI for Education & Outreach session(s).

Planned 2010:

June, 2-4 2010 (ITC, Enschede, The Netherlands): A major ISPRS mid-term linked event (symposium) is being planned by the task lead and partners, related to the ISPRS TC-VI Education & Outreach and also commemorating the 60th anniversary (1950-2010) of the ITC institute. The theme of int'l education networks, web-based and e-delivery, best practices, recognition and quality assurance issues and others will be high on the meeting agenda. It is proposed to have this coinciding with a GEO 2010 CBC committee meeting. -> ITC ISPRS mid term symposium 2010. Preparatory for 2012 ISPRS Conference, Australia.

Progress (current status): ...

Resources

Own GEO member country and int'l organizations resource inputs.

Capacity Building Component

Related to this task, several short training events, summer schools and other are planned in the framework of E-delivery of educational services or web-based education, de facto representing cross-border educational in the field. We refer to sub-task CB-09-04a for more information on these planned activities.

User Engagement Component

(please briefly describe to what extent end users are engaged in this Task and influence the nature of the outputs produced)

Science and Technology (S&T) Component

1) Please briefly describe the elements of scientific research or technological development contained in this Task

2) In relation to the S&T component(s) of this task, please describe gaps, priorities, continuity needs, barriers, scientific expertise and additional resource needs (this information will be used for developing a gaps and needs assessment in Task ST-09-01)

Members and POs' Contributions to Outputs and Activities above:

(Input is optional. This section gives the chance to Members and POs to provide more details (3-5 lines) on their individual activities, making a clear connection with the Outputs and Activities outlined above).

Participation (Table to be filled in 2009):

Type	Member or PO	Representing	Contact Name	EmailAddress
PoC	The Netherlands	ITC	M.Molenaar	molenaar@itc.nl
Co-Lead	The Netherlands	ITC	Chris Mannaerts	mannaerts@itc.nl
Co-Lead				
Contributor				