

APPENDIX 2

Capacity Building Committee Terms of Reference

Purpose

The Capacity Building Committee will support the GEO in strengthening the capability of all countries, in particular developing countries, to use Earth observation data and products in a sustainable manner and to contribute observations and systems to GEOSS. The GEO capacity building strategy will follow the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) concept of a global partnership between those whose capacity needs development and those who are able to assist in the process, recognizing that activities have intertwined social, environmental, and economic impacts.

Objectives

1. To facilitate Earth observation capacity building activities among GEO Members, in concert with GEO Participating Organizations.
2. To build the capacity of all GEO Members to access, retrieve, analyze, include into appropriate models, and interpret relevant data from global data systems.
3. To build the capacity of all GEO Members to integrate Earth observation data and information with data and information from other sources, improving understanding of problems in order to identify sustainable solutions.
4. Support the GEO in developing a coordinated GEOSS capacity building strategy based on the principles articulated in the GEOSS 10-Year Implementation Plan Reference Document.
5. Recommend strategies for resource mobilization.

Approach and Functions

1. In collaboration with existing capacity building mechanisms of GEO Members and participating organizations, identify priority areas in which Earth observation capacity building would have significant impact and benefit.
2. Examine existing and proposed Earth observation capacity building activities by national governments, participating organizations, and other relevant institutions, and identify mechanisms for leveraging, developing and coordinating Earth observation capacity building initiatives.
3. The Capacity Building Committee will monitor and report to Plenary on the achievement of milestones and deliverables in the implementation of relevant elements of the GEO annual work plans.