



Call for Proposals: *Earth Observations in Decision Support*

**Joint Effort of GEO Capacity Building Committee
and User Interface Committee**

**UIC Lead:
Lawrence Friedl, USA-NASA**

***Status Report at UIC 11th Meeting
Stresa, Italy • 2-May-2009***



**GROUP ON
EARTH OBSERVATIONS**



Group on Earth Observations

CFP for Decision Support Projects

Call for Proposals

GEO Secretariat released on
13-February-2009

CFP seeks proposals for projects to
apply Earth observations to improve
policy decisions and management
decisions.

Focus on 4 SBAs: Agriculture,
Energy, Health, and Water

CFP supports GEO Tasks:

- CB-09-01 (Mobilising Resources)
- US-09-01b (Communities of Practice)



**EARTH OBSERVATIONS IN
DECISION SUPPORT PROJECTS**

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

CFP Released: 13-February-2009

Concept Proposals Due: 4-June-2009

Final Proposals Due: 10-November-2009



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Call for Proposals – Three Types of Projects & Advisors

Type I: New Applications Projects

For organizations with limited experience, capacity, resources in applying Earth observations to decision making. *These projects are primarily focused at supporting developing countries.*

Type II: Applications Improvements

For organizations with some experience applying Earth observations to decision making; For those needing assistance with new types of Earth observations.

Type III: Applications Examples

For organizations that have successfully applied Earth observations to their decision making. Want to demonstrate their application and help other organizations adopt the application. (GEO will encourage these organizations to record their application in GEO registries.)

Project Advisors

Advisors on project, especially Type I projects. Advisors have significant skills and experience with Earth observations, applications of Earth observations, project management, decision support, and/or other relevant topics.



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Call for Proposals – Overall Benefits & Opportunities

CFP supports GEO efforts to broker partnerships amongst project teams, sponsors, end users, and Earth observation experts. Supports CBC & UIC efforts to assist GEOSS development.

- International GEO leadership in capacity building
- Increased ability, interest, and capacity in the use of Earth observations and GEOSS
- Sustained uses of Earth observations by end users in their decision-making activities to benefit their countries or communities
- Increased user involvement with GEOSS, including use of GEOSS, information on user needs, and feedback for GEOSS development
- Future suite of examples for GEO on uses of Earth observations and GEOSS in decision making to serve societal benefits
- Achievements & announcements for GEO Plenary & Summits



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Call for Proposals – Main Stages

Stage 1: Concept Proposals – Development & Review

Teams prepare brief, 5-page proposals. UIC/CBC form expert panels to review proposals. UIC/CBC recommend which projects for Full Proposals.

Stage 2: Full Proposals – Development & Review

Teams prepare Full Proposals. UIC/CBC re-form expert panels to review proposals. UIC/CBC recommend which projects to select & ways to support the selected projects.

Stage 3: Project Initiation

UIC/CBC work with project teams to start projects, including introductions to resource-providing organizations. GEO will conduct a kick-off meeting & training sessions.

Stage 4: Project Reviews & Development

GEO will review projects periodically to assess progress. Hold workshops/trainings if needed.

Stage 5: Project Demonstrations and Applications Showcase

Project teams will conduct demonstrations and announce project results. GEO will organize “Applications Showcases” to highlight the projects and demonstrate societal benefits.



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Call for Proposals – Schedule (Project Teams)

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| CFP Issued | 13-February-2009 |
| Concept Proposals Due | 4-June-2009 |
| Review Concept Proposals Announce results and invite Full Proposals | 12-August-2009 |
| Full Proposals Due | 10-November-2009 |
| Review Full Proposals Announce results | 15-January-2010 |
| Kickoff Meeting | circa March 2010 |
| Applications Showcases | Future GEO Plenaries and Workshops |



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Current Status

Distributed CFP broadly

Developed CFP Frequently Asked Questions and Outreach Materials

Completed CFP Management Plan for Review & Selection Process

CFP Website in development

UIC identified review panel leads for 1 of 4 SBAs

CBC identified numerous reviewers for panels

Presentations at SciDev, Telecon with GEOSS in Americas (May), and Information Sessions at ISRSE

Received 2 proposals to date



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Management Plan – Proposal Review & Selection

Plan for the overall management of the CFP, especially the review and selection of proposals:

- to support coordination among GEO, CBC, and UIC.
- for coordination and clarification of the work of the Review Panels.

Includes: Review Panel components (Scope, Composition, Operation & management, Results); Evaluation Criteria & ratings; Proposal selection and notification.

Additional activities: Promotion of the CFP, Interactions with resource providers, Involvement of STC & ADC, Promotion of GEOSS.

- This Plan is an Internal document of GEO and the Committees -



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Call for Proposals – Schedule (UIC & CBC)

- Feb. – June: Distribute CFP & advertise
Identify experts for review panels
- June – Aug: Hold panels to review proposals (Type I & Type II)
UIC & CBC review Type III & Advisor proposals
UIC & CBC review results and select projects for next stage
- Aug. – Nov.: Introduce project teams to experts, Advisors, etc.
Update review panel members (if necessary)
Work with resource-providing organizations
Begin planning the kick-off workshop
- Nov. – Jan.: Report status at GEO Plenary VI
Hold panels to review Final Proposals
UIC & CBC review results, make selection, announce results
Introduce teams to donor organizations
Planning for kick-off workshop



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What can UIC Members do?



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General Request

1. Distribute & circulate the CFP to USGEO organizations and interested parties for their broader distribution
2. Propose and/or participate in projects
 - Encourage submission or participation in Type I projects with developing countries
 - Encourage submission of Type II & III projects
3. Encourage people to be project Advisors
 - Submit a Advisor nomination/proposal (CFP Section 4.4)
4. Encourage experts to be reviewers on proposal review panels
 - Nominate potential reviewers to *secretariat@geosec.org*



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Specific Needs for UIC Involvement

Co-Leads for Review Panels (one for each SBA)

Energy: Ellsworth LeDrew & Thierry Ranchin
(UIC Members requested to support)

Agriculture: TBD

Health: TBD

Water: TBD

Also needed:

- People to broker relationships between projects & Earth obs. experts
- People to work with CBC to talk with resource-providing organizations



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Points of Contact

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Back-up Materials



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Call for Proposals – Funding

GEO will not directly provide funding for projects identified through this CFP.

GEO UIC/CBC are not in a position to directly offer funding for projects.

CBC/UIC may attempt to mobilise resources for identified projects by engaging relevant resource-providing organizations.

GEO's connections and familiarity with multiple resource-providing organizations provides a network for developing countries

GEO task CB-09-01 addresses mobilizing resources from donor organizations

The specific organizations CBC/UIC will approach depends entirely on the topics of the proposed projects.



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Call for Proposals – Benefits

Aside from funding, GEO offers users with opportunities to connect with appropriate, knowledgeable people that can support Earth obs.

Applications

- People within GEO
- Advisors that identify themselves
- Communities of Practice
- Data distribution centers & GEO Portal
- Advisors to guide projects and improve capacity building

Applications Showcases: GEO will provide opportunities for projects to demonstrate their success & the benefits of Earth observations.

- Peer recognition
- Chances for projects to make connections & develop projects more
- Showcases may include press materials, videos, exhibit space, etc.16



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ADC Involvement

Benefits

- Gain insights on opportunities to develop GEOSS/GCI based on the implicit needs and activities expressed in the proposals
- Users who can provide GEO with feedback and help on GEOSS Common Infrastructure (GCI) development

Contributions

- Provide people to review panels (expert perspectives on GEOSS, data access, interoperability, etc)
- Identify people that can serve as Advisors to projects
- Provide training on GEOSS to new GEOSS users at Project Kick-off



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STC Involvement

Benefits

- Opportunity for scientifically-based data products to be used by users
- Opportunity for the scientific community to get feedback on their products from the end users
- Gain insights on the level of scientific knowledge within the end users
- Gain insights on data sets the end users need to support their projects

Contributions

- Provide people to review panels (expert perspectives on Earth obs. data sets and products, sci. & tech. knowledge, etc)
- Identify people that can serve as Advisors to projects
- For datasets not easily available to users, STC can identify opportunities to use their scientific connections to access and make datasets available (and available through GEOSS).



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Call for Proposals – Selection

CBC/UIC will form review panels for Type I and Type II proposals:

- Experts familiar with technical and management aspects of applications of Earth observations to decision making.
- Reviews are unique to Project Types & Project Topics
- Summary of panel's review sent to respective proposal teams
- Panels make recommendations to CBC/UIC for selections

CBC/UIC will review Type III and Advisors proposals in the committees:

- Will involve subject matter experts as needed

Evaluation Criteria:

- Importance, Project Design, Technical Feasibility

CBC/UIC will include as many projects as possible in their selections¹⁹