



20 & 21 October 2014
Athens, Greece

2nd South-Eastern Europe GEO Workshop
on Integrating Earth Observation Data
and Services for monitoring the
Environment, protecting the citizens and
stimulating the regional economic growth

Session I: Balkans



BEYOND



GEO GROUP ON
EARTH OBSERVATIONS

Regional Capacities (1/2)

- Activities - SBA
 - Emergency management & support
 - Disaster risk assessment (DEWERTA)
 - Dust monitoring & SMOG
 - Atmospheric Remote Sensing and air pollution monitoring
 - Observation of the urban environment
 - Weather forecast and extreme weather events
 - Climate change (e.g. GEOCLIMA)
 - Soil moisture by passive radiometry
 - Agriculture
- Infrastructure
 - Satellite ground stations
 - Lidars
 - Optical sensors
 - Meteorological sensors
 - Hyperspectral laboratory
 - Clean Room



Regional Capacities (2/2)

- Technological know-how
 - EO analysis & Image processing
 - ICT
 - DEWERTA
 - Atmospheric and meteo modeling
 - Hydrological modeling (e.g. ADRIARadNet)
 - Cal/val, e.g. PROAGROBURO (PROBA-V mission) + BEYOND project
- European/Global networks
 - ACTRIS
 - EARLINET
 - AERONET
 - WMO, ESA &GEO!
- Funding
 - FP7 (H2020), e.g. BalkanGEONet, OBSERVE, IASON, EOPOWER, BEYOND, COSMO, ENERIGIC
 - ESA
 - National: CARESE Center of Excellence, PANACEA, IRIS

- Data
 - Duplicated data collection
 - No open data mentality
 - Quality standards for collection, storage and sharing
- Exploitation of complementarities, international integration
 - e.g. Self-targeting EO data production
- Observations and modeling integration
- Identification of EO players
 - Fragmentation of communities
 - Lack of awareness of the larger EO picture
- End user engagement, institutional and public awareness + private sector
- **Funding gaps => Difficulty in being sustainable**

Suggestions/propositions

- Networking, e.g. PNF in the Balkans
 - Establish trans-national networks
- Synergies (funds, capacities, topics)
- Capacity building is important!
 - Lifelong learning programs in EO
 - Transfer of methods, equipment, data, results and technologies (e.g. Technology Transfer Office in Bulgaria)
- Common & complementary satellite and in-situ stations – joint exploitation!
- Orientation to stakeholder's needs
- Join GEO!
- Join ESA!
- Active participation to H2020

