



## GEO-CRADLE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE #1, May 2016

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! Highlights !

PDF Version

### EDITORIAL

GEO-CRADLE brings together key players representing the whole (Balkans, N. Africa and M. East) region with the overarching objective of establishing a multi-regional coordination network (the GEO-CRADLE network) that will support the effective integration of existing EO capacities, and contributes to the improved implementation of GEO, GEOSS, and Copernicus in response to the regional needs.

In this context, GEO-CRADLE lays out an action plan for the definition of region specific (G)EO Maturity Indicators and common priority needs. Through showcasing pilot studies, in the four thematic priority areas of the project which are Climate Change, Raw Materials, Food Security, and Energy, the project attempts to demonstrate how the regional priorities can be tackled by the GEO-CRADLE Network. As outcome of this, the project seek to define the roadmap for the future implementation of GEOSS and Copernicus in the region.

To maximise the impact of the GEO-CRADLE activities, welldefined Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are used for the quantified assessment of the impact, identifying potential enabling or constraining factors, while pursuing realistic but also ambitious exploitation scenarios. For efficient project coordination, the project management is assisted by a regional coordination structure, and active liaison with EC, GEO and UN initiatives.

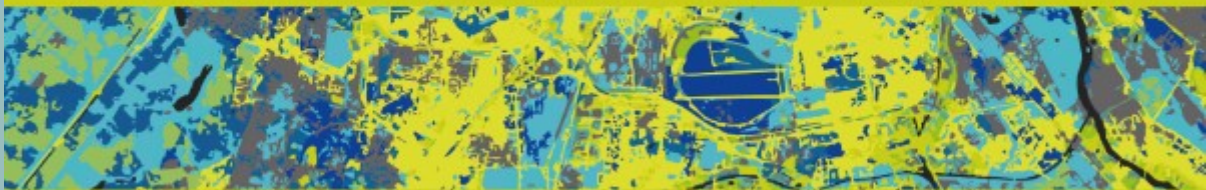
By Project Coordinator Dr. Haris Kontoes

## EVENTS:

### **!GEO-CRADLE at the 10th GEO European Projects Workshop in Berlin!**



10TH GEO EUROPEAN PROJECTS WORKSHOP | 31 MAY - 2 JUNE 2016, BERLIN



<http://europa.eu/VN46Gn>

#GEPW16

GEO-CRADLE Project will participate in the 10th GEO European Projects Workshop 2016, which will take place in Berlin (Germany) from 31st May to 2nd June 2016. A general overview of the project will be presented at a round table session entitled "Regional dimension for GEO and capacity building priorities" on Wednesday, 1st June 2016, 16:15-18:30.

Official Announcement on European Commission's Site.

Official Workshop Agenda on European Commission's Site.

[read more >](#)

### **!GEO-CRADLE Workshop in Novi Sad!**



## PROJECT WORKSHOP

NOVI SAD, 14-15 JULY 2016



Taking place in the picturesque background of Novi Sad (Serbia) the event will gather diverse organisations along the data value-added service chain.

The workshop will be a great opportunity for both private and public stakeholders, to discuss transformational issues affecting the uptake and use of geo-information services.

The round table discussions will bring together confirmed operational users of EO services and data providers, as well as interested and potential users with the aim of promoting knowledge transfer and cross-sector fertilization of good practices.

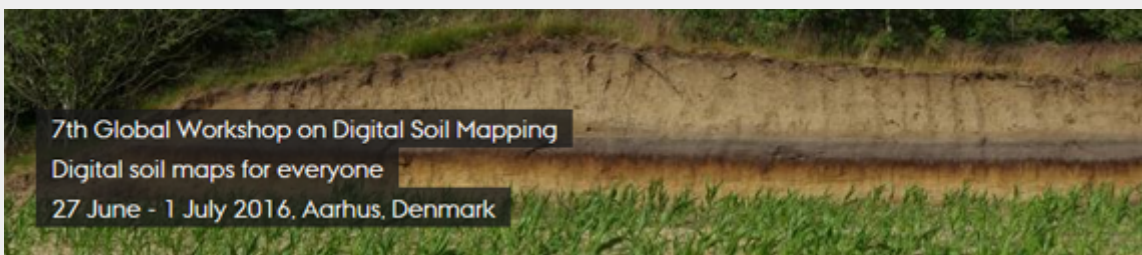
Furthermore, the session will showcase innovation incubators and funding opportunities for start-ups looking to develop info-information services.

[GEO-CRADLE Novi Sad Workshop on eurusy.org](#)

[read more >](#)

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## Global Digital Soil Mapping Workshop in Aarhus



**Digital Soil Mapping (DSM)** is the creation and the population of a geographically referenced soil database generated at a given resolution by using field and laboratory observation methods coupled with environmental data through quantitative relationships. The key issues of digital soil mapping include the adoption of new mapping tools and techniques, data management systems, innovative delivery of soil data, and methods to analyze, integrate, and visualize soil and environmental datasets.

[read more >](#)

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## 2nd EGS Meeting in Morocco



The event will be organized at the Geological Survey of Morocco based in Rabat on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of October, 2016.

[read more >](#)

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## **! GEO-CRADLE Kick-Off Meeting !**



GEO-CRADLE Partners at the Kick-off Meeting, Athens, 2016

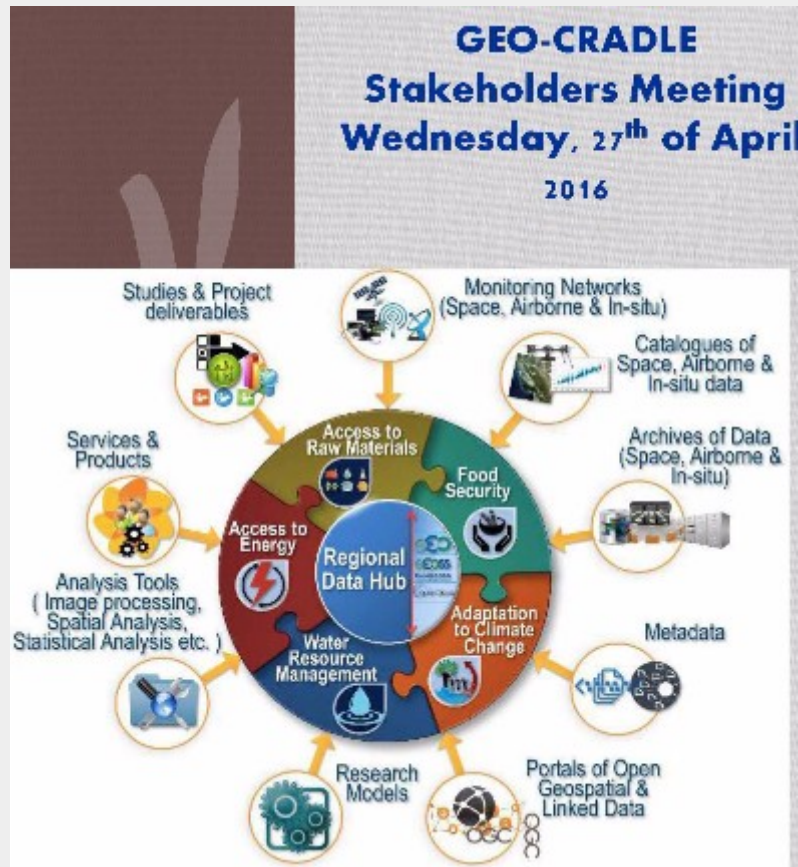
The Kick-Off (KO) Meeting of the GEO-CRADLE project took place at the **IONIC CENTRE (Plaka, Athens)** on February, 18 and 19, 2016.

[read more >](#)

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## GEO-CRADLE Stakeholders Meeting in Cairo



This event was held back to back with R-KNOW project national policy workshop in Cairo, Egypt. R-KNOW is a regional project funded by the European Union. The project aspires to create a Regional Knowledge Network on Water that assist in strengthening the application of systematic approaches to water management and governance in five countries (Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine, Morocco and Egypt). Within R-KNOW, four thematic areas have been selected (Climate Change, Sustainable Technologies, Governance and Water Food Energy Nexus) to disseminate knowledge, lessons learnt and experiences.

[read more >](#)



## OUTCOMES:

**! GEO-CRADLE Project Survey is launched!**



We kindly invite you to help us document your organisation's capacities in terms of EO monitoring networks and infrastructures, and EO data modelling, exploitation and processing skills, by filling in the on-line questionnaire.

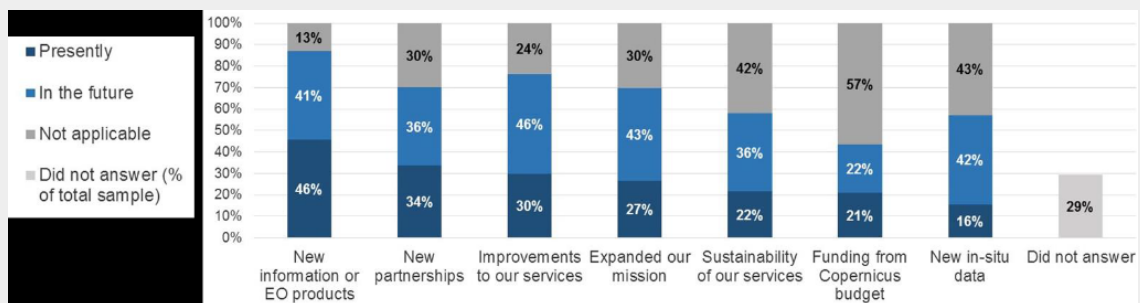
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## NEWS:



### Initial Report on "Public Service Bodies using EO data & services" Survey outcomes released

EARSC presented the results coming from the survey they conducted into the Public Service Bodies (PSB) using EO data and services. The survey has been carried out by EARSC in 2015. Its main purpose is to construct a complete and accurate picture of the public organisations in Europe that use EO data and services, documenting key aspects such as their involvement in and awareness of Copernicus and their engagement with external EO providers.



#### Expected benefits of Copernicus

Positive current perception and future expectation of Copernicus benefits and the fact that engagement of PSBs with external EO providers hints to untapped opportunities, are some of the initial conclusions.

For more information: [Survey into Public Service Bodies using EO data and services – Initial Report \(April 2016\)](#)

[read more >](#)

## OUTREACH:

- GEO-CRADLE establishes network and Data Hub for Earth Observation in MENA and the Balkans on GSDI site
- GEO-CRADLE establishes network and Data Hub for Earth Observation in MENA and the Balkans on GEO site
- Kick-off Meeting for GEO-CRADLE on Capital.com.cy
- National Observatory of Athens coordinates GEO-CRADLE on newsbeast.gr
- National Observatory of Athens coordinates the GEO-CRADLE European Program on Ethnos
- GEO-CRADLE on BalkanWeb

## GEO & COPERNICUS:

### Upcoming & In progress

- **ConnectinGEO:** Gap analysis regarding EO in Europe
- **GFOI:** Web Application to Help Countries Develop National Forest Monitoring Systems
- **GEOSS:** Africa data on the GEOSS Portal through RCMRD
- **GEO BON:** Towards a GEO-Wetlands Initiative and a Global Wetlands Observing System (GWOS)
- **AARSE:** 11th International Conference 24-28 October 2016, in Uganda.

### Past

- **AfriGEOSS:** 1st Symposium 27-29 April 2016 in Zimbabwe
- **GEO-XII Plenary:** 12th Plenary Session of the Group on Earth Observations and Ministerial Summit

### Miscellaneous

- **Morocco:** Africa's first High Frequency Radar System





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Project Homepage: [www.geocradle.eu](http://www.geocradle.eu)

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