



Coordinating and integrating state-of-the-art
Earth Observation Activities in the regions of
North Africa, Middle East and Balkans
and Developing Links with GEO related initiatives
toward GEOSS

GEO-CRADLE Pre Kick-Off Meeting
Friday, 18th of February, 2016
EGS networking event

EuroGeoSurveys
Albanian Geological Survey
ALBANIA



Albanian Geological Survey (AGS)

According to the law the Albanian Geological Survey is technical and scientific adviser of the Government in the field of Geosciences.

The main activities of the AGS are focused toward:

Geological Mapping

Mineral Resources

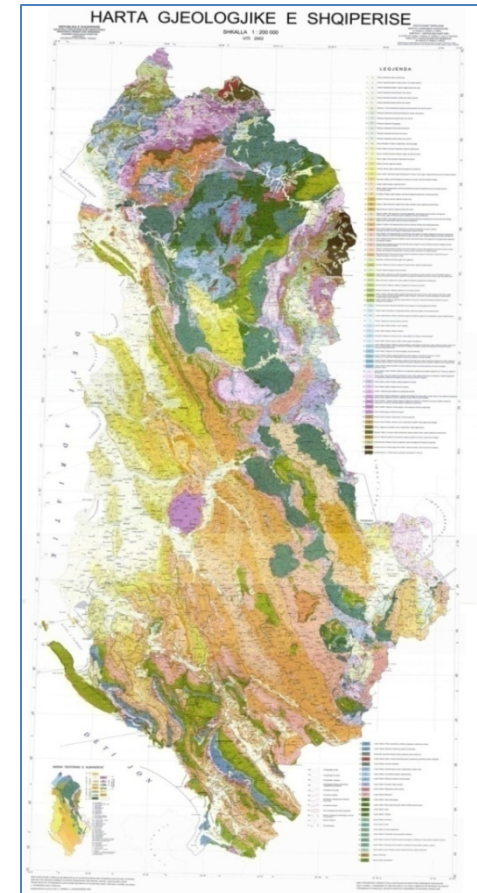
Oil and gas prospection

Hydrogeology

Engineering Geology

Marine Geology

Geoinformation





Albanian Geological Survey (AGS)

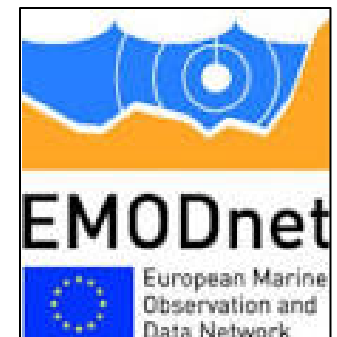
Albanian Geological Survey (AGS) is member of the European Geological Surveys.

The AGS in the Balkan area has collaboration with Geological Surveys of Kosova, Slovenia, Greece, Turkey etc.

There is no any existing network of AGS with countries of Middle East and North Africa.

The AGS has participated in several international projects including FOREGS, OneGeology-World, SARMa, MINERALS4EU, etc.

Currently is also a member of the EMODnet-Geology project.





Albanian Geological Survey (AGS)

The AGS owns, creates and provides *in situ* data important for the GEOSS including:

full coverage of the country with 1:25 000 geological maps

landslide and geohazard maps

groundwater investigation and hydrogeological maps

databases and maps of mineral resources

geochemistry of urban soils

particular large scale geoscientific investigations along the coastal area

rock sample collections etc.



Albanian Geological Survey (AGS)

A number of activities of the Geological Survey also require Earth Observation data (from satellites or airborne). For this mostly **open source satellite imagery from Google Earth** and to a less extent aerial photography acquired by other governmental institutions is used.

Due to high spatial resolution, easy to use software and the 3D view, Google Earth imagery is routinely used for geolocation, coastal zone monitoring, landslide area investigation, structural geology, as base layer imagery etc.



Moderate spatial resolution remote sensing imagery (15-30 m spatial resolution, e.g. Landsat, ASTER, Sentinel-2 etc.) can be easily acquired. However, in the vegetation covered and well-mapped territories of most Europe (including the Balkans) the 15-30 m spatial resolution hampers useful applications in geology.



Earth Observation

State Authority for Geospatial Information has the task of “Implementation of national policy for geospatial information infrastructure” in Albania, including Earth Observation.



In 2007 was carried out a country coverage by very high resolution digital aerial photography (spatial resolution of 8 cm and 20/35 cm) including a NIR band. However, data distributed as RGB orthophotos (so, no NIR band and no stereo).

Another digital aerial photography survey carried out in 2015, including LIDAR for all country; but data not yet available.