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GEO-CRADLE: 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 towards GEOSS



GEO-CRADLE



Regional Workshop in Sofia

Addressing regional needs in the Balkans by enhancing Earth Observation uptake and relevant business performances





Thematic Areas linked with the UN SDGs











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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 intiatives toward GEOSS

The ACC Pilot (Adaptation to Climate Change)





EARTH OBSERVATIONS

The ACC pilot will pave the ground for the holistic monitoring and forecasting of region-specific atmospheric components, ECVs and hazards, in line with the standards and vision of GEOSS and Copernicus for information extraction and service delivery regarding the Climate SDG.

Specifically, the GEO-CRADLE ACC will provide 3 services on respective thematic pillars:

- 1. Desert dust services
- 2. Regional climate change services
- 3. Air quality services

Gap Analysis of the Regional Climate related Capacities



End-User Awareness on Copernicus and GEO







ACC – Desert dust services

The September 2015 Middle East dust-storm results in dramatic **reduction of visibility** in Limassol *Mamouri et al., 2016, ACP*



Landuse changes (**desertification**) and local meteorology increased the severity of this episode *Solomos et al., 2016, ACPD*











ACC – Desert dust services

Dust effects on **aviation safety** (AirFrance 2009 accident)



Dust concentration; Cross at 30W; 5S-15N 03UTC 24 Juny 1 Jun 2009



Optimization of the ACC dust forecast with satellite data assimilation





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Engeen Exercision



ACC – Regional climate change services

Establishing a pilot regional climate change web application tool to retrieve climate variables and climate indices from high resolution regional climate projections in support of end-users and decision makers on climate change mitigation and adaptation policies.

- A need for reliable open access to weather and climate data is expressed by all countries of the Rol.
- For ACC is essential the use of future climate data from high resolution model projections for the Rol based on Regional Climate Models (RCMs).
- Need for uncertainty estimates in future projections based on ensemble versus individual RCM simulations.
- Plenty of open access data in databases but there is limited usability from non-experts.
- Need for establishing a user friendly climate change web application tool for regional climate data download in support of intermediary and end users.







ACC - Regional climate change services

Indicative list of Climate variables and indices

| Clima | ate Indices | Relevance |
|-------|---|--|
| CI1 | Mean near surface temperature | Fundamental |
| CI2 | Precipitation rate | Fundamental |
| CI3 | Maximum near surface temperature | Fundamental, extremes |
| CI4 | Minimum near surface temperature | Fundamental, extremes |
| CI5 | Wind speed at 10m, 50m, 100m and 200m | Fundamental, Energy, natural disasters |
| CI6 | Surface absorbed solar radiation | Fundamental, Energy, Tourism, |
| ~ 7 | | Agriculture |
| CI7 | 95th percentile of rain day amounts | Extremes, natural disasters |
| CI8 | 95th percentile of wind speed at 10 m | Extremes, natural disasters |
| CI9 | Annual greatest 5-day total rainfall | Extremes, natural disasters |
| C10 | Fraction % of total rainfall from events> long-term P90 | Extremes, natural disasters |
| C11 | Number of events > long-term 90th percentile of rain days | Extremes, natural disasters |
| CI 12 | Number of frost days Tmin < 0 degC | Extremes |
| CI 13 | Heat Wave Duration Index | Agriculture,Tourism |
| CI 14 | Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) | Agriculture,Water resources |
| CI 15 | Potential evaporation | Agriculture |
| CI 16 | Growing season duration (GSD) | Agriculture |
| CI17 | Tourism Climate Index (TCI) | Tourism |
| CI 18 | Snow depth (SnowD) | Tourism |
| CI 19 | Heating Degree Day (HDD) | Energy |
| CI20 | Cooling Degree Day (CDD) | Energy |

Make use of high resolution RCM data (0.11°) for a number of climate variables from various RCMs and emission scenarios 1950-2100.

data source: EURO-CORDEX: http://www.euro-cordex.net/



Time (Years)









ACC - Regional air quality services



A thorough evaluation of specific CAMS forecasts will be exploiting an intensive ACC pilot experimental campaign as well as other regional observational platforms







ACC - Regional air quality services

ACC experimental campaign for ACC service evaluation and optimization – April 2017









End-users expressing interest in the ACC pilot

(from the results of end user survey and gap analysis)

- Tourism sector for dust forecasting
- Meteorological agencies for dust forecasting
- Civil aviation for dust forecasting
- Insurance companies for Climate Change services
- Agriculture sector for Climate Change services
- Water river basin agencies for Climate Change services







Improved Food Security (IFS) – Water Extremes Management (WEM)







Concept of T4.2

- Generate a Regional Soil Spectral Library
- Resample the models into Sentinel-2 spectral configuration
- Predict soil attributes using spectral base models
- Apply the models on a pixel by pixel basis on Sentinel-2 (reflectance) data to create soil moisture and clay content maps
- Transfer the thematic maps to the DEWETRA platform
- Apply the thematic maps into the flood models
- Assess the added accuracy obtained from the suggested concept







The Connection - demetra

Field moisture and clay content

Output Layers









myDewetra implementation at Regional scale:

Weather forecast model outputs global scale (e.g. GFS), land use/land cover maps, exposed elements (e.g. OpenStreetMap), satellite based rainfall observation (e.g. GPM, TRMM) and global scale flood risk hazard (e.g. GAR2015 hazard maps).

myDewetra implementation at Basin scale:

- identification basin "test-case" (e.g. DRIN-BUNA basin in Albania)
- selection of the time period for hydrological forecast (e.g. November 2016)
- ingestion soil moisture and clay content maps into Continuum hydrological model
- run and comparison of results from hydrological modeling with and without soil moisture and clay content maps
- value added evaluation
- publication and sharing of the results by myDewetra and connection to GEO-CRADLE Data Hub







Access to Raw Materials (ARM)



Establishing a roadmap for long-term monitoring, mapping, and management of mineral deposits in a severely under-explored ROI.



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Identification, collection, assessment and use of EO based and in-situ data

Enrichment of the information content of the Regional Data Hub







T4.3 answer to the need defined by WP3

- Five proposals on raw materials pilot projects were submitted from Greece (two) and Cyprus (three)
- Selected examples of the pilot studies sites (Greece and Cyprus) present most interesting mining and post-mining areas which are going to be analysed from the point of view applicability of the EO methods
- The elaborated methodologies will be the main goal of the pilot. The elaborated EO methodologies will be useful for better management of the mining and post-mining areas and reduce their impact on the surrounding areas
- It is expected that the methodologies elaborated on the examples pilot site will have a universal character and could be applied for other Rol







T4.3 answer to the need defined by WP3

Greece

Monitoring of Illegal Quarrying

Objective: Roadmap for the use of Earth Observation data & techniques for mapping and monitoring "Quarries"

Environmental Monitoring of Ayios Filippos Abandoned Public Mine of Mixed Sulphide Ores – Kirki Village (North Greece)

Site Information: Ayios Filippos sulphide Pb-Zn deposit

Objective: Creation of a database to include satellite data and other thematic, physical, environmental, geomorphic, geologic, socio-economic information pertaining to factors that affect post-mining restoration activities.











T4.3 answer to the need defined by WP3

Cyprus

Three mines with different characteristics located on the Troodos Ophiolite

Abestos mine (abandoned - under restoration)

Skourriotissa (operating - massive sulfides)

Kokkinopezoula (abandoned -massive sulfides)

Objectives: Roadmap for

- Use Space born data to assess possible instabilities in waste dumps in order to take the proper remedial measures
- Use Space born data to map the waste dumps of abandoned mines in order to select locations for borehole drilling for the assessment of the waste dumps for secondary mineral resources
- Use Space born data to assess the stability of reprofiled waste dumps in under restoration mines and take the necessary measures if needed
- Use Space born data to record the behavior of the leaching heaps of the operating mine in Skourriotissa and look for instabilities and possible environmental pollution









Refined pilot scope Access to Raw Materials

The aim of the feasibility study for the selected pilot test sites is to establish a roadmap for long-term monitoring, mapping, and management of mineral deposits in a severely under-explored ROI.









SOLar Energy Applications The Solar Energy Nowcasting SystEm (SENSE) pilot T4.4

Access to energy (Sense), Partners: PMOD/WRC, NOA

Sense: a solar energy now-casting system +

Purpose:

- demonstrate ways to maximize value and benefits at the Rol
- Create synergies with public and private sector (solar plants, energy distributors, solar energy related end-users)

Provision of (tailored to end-user):

- Now-casting of solar radiation and solar energy
- Long term solar energy atlases for various areas with high temporal and spatial detail
- Solar radiation related products (real time and forecasts) related with: health (UV Index (melanoma), DNA damage, cataract, Vitamin D efficiency), agriculture (photosynthesis), scientific..

Application: anywhere (Rol)







The Solar Energy Nowcasting SystEm (Sense)





Long term funding: Science towards applications

- Private sector (PV parks, energy solutions apps, ships, health related SMEs)
- Public sector (energy operators, EPAs, public information sectors e.g. weather and meteorology related bodies)
- Government based initiatives (municipalities, touristic destinations)
- EU projects (Scientific development, user oriented products, case studies)
- Copernicus/GEO related calls

Purpose

- demonstrate ways to maximize value and benefits at the Rol
- Sense can be implemented anywhere on Rol tailored products
- create synergies with public and private sector (solar plants, energy distributors, solar energy related end-users).
- Through GEO-Cradle, new projects, conferences to "advertise" the product.
- Spin-off opportunity.







Energy consumption in North Africa and Middle East

Annual power generation [TWh], peak demand [GW] and generation capacity [GW]



PV market forecast Egypt (cumulative installations) [MW]



Source: Apricum market model Q4/2015















Definition of the specific pilot sites

| Region | Product | Maturity | User |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|
| Greece | Energy Nowcasting + forecasting | high | Independent Energy Operator |
| Egypt | Nowcasting + solar atlas | Mod | Dep. Of Energy Egypt |
| Aegean and Adriatic sea | Solar UV Index | Mod | Superfast ferries |





Pilot #1: IPTO



- IPTO is the Independent Power Transmission Operator for Greece
 - Control the energy demands



GROUP ON

EARTH OBSERVATIONS



Solar Energy now-casting





Pilot #2: Ministry of electricity and renewable energy of Egypt









Pilot #3: Attica Group













For more information





