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GMES & AFRICA Eastern Africa Regional Workshop 18 -19 July 2024, Antananarivo, Madagascar

Concept Note

Background

The GMES & Africa (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security and Africa) Programme is a joint initiative Co-financed by the European Commission and the African Union Commission (AUC). GMES & Africa is a continent-wide initiative on Earth Observation resulting from the longstanding cooperation between Africa and Europe.

The overall objective of the GMES & Africa project in the region is to promote a more sustainable long-term management of natural resources by providing decision and policy makers with information and tools needed for the implementation of sustainable environmental policies at regional and national levels. The Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES & Africa) initiative provides a framework for capacity building and access to Earth Observation data and services. This regional workshop aims to bring together stakeholders in East Africa to explore the potential of GMES & Africa and foster collaboration in using EO for sustainable development.

The first phase was concluded in 2021, and the second phase is led by 8 consortia distributed across the 5 regions of the continent, altogether representing over 120 National and Regional institutions. The second phase continues to focus on the two services: 1) Management of Water and Natural Resources, and 2) Marine and Coastal Areas Resource Management.

Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD) is the consortium leader in implementing GMES and Africa in the East African Region under the action titled “Land Degradation Monitoring and Assessment (LDMA), Wetlands Monitoring and Assessment (WMA) and Open Geographical Regional Reference Vector Database for Water and Agro-Ecological Zones (OGRRVD).

IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) is the consortium leader in implementing GMES and Africa in the East African Region under the action titled “Forest Monitoring and Assessment, Agriculture service and Natural Habitat.

The countries covered by both Consortia include Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda.





Six outputs/results areas are expected from this project:

Result Area 1: Improved policy and institutional framework for sustainable management of natural resources and climate change based on Space Science and Technology applications.

Result Area 2: Improved access to Earth Observation data and information products on natural resources, environment and climate change in relevant East African institutions

Result Area 3: Information services are operational for policy makers, private sector and end users for management and monitoring of Natural Resources and Food Security

Result Area 4: Capacities of African public institutions, users of GMES services and private sector to take advantage of EO-based information for Water & Natural Resources applications are enhanced at regional and national level.

Result Area 5: Knowledge management, including cross fertilisation, is improved.

Result Area 6: Outreach, uptake, and dissemination is enhanced.

GMES & Africa Programme, the East African Consortia are convening a Regional Workshop with support by AUC and Partnership with the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) to be held in Madagascar on 18th and 19th July 2024. The workshop will bring together the two (2) East African Region consortia, their partners from project countries, policy, decision makers as well as other relevant stakeholders.

Rationale

- Support the respective National Governments and Regional Economic Community (RECs) with decision ready information to strengthen regional policy





framework in management of cross-boundary resources by engaging and being involved in regional and continental activities.

- Establishing working relations with RECs to ensure results of the programme adequately inform policy development in the regions and contribute to meeting societal needs by enriching quality of life.

Objectives

The main objectives of the workshop are;

- **Raise awareness:** Engage, dialogue, network and create awareness of GMES and Africa Phase II among East Africa stakeholders including the decision and policy makers, private sector, academia, and end users.
- **Foster collaboration:** Create a platform for knowledge exchange and networking among EO users, providers, and policymakers in East Africa. This, Identify opportunities for GMES and Africa Products & Services utilization for decision making and policy formulation in Eastern African Countries including Indian Ocean Islands
- Sharing case studies and experiences in use of EO to address Land and Degradation, Coastal Erosion, coastal flooding, and shoreline monitoring.
- **Identify priorities:** Collect and discuss feedback and further needs on the developed products and services on how EO can contribute to addressing key regional challenges.
- **Capacity building:** Equip participants with the knowledge and skills to access and utilize EO data and tools.

Expected Outcomes

- Stakeholders engaged on the role of Earth Observation on sustainable development policy making.
- Opportunities identified for GMES & Africa Project to work with stakeholders.
- to align the existing products and service based on the feedback received.

The participants expected for the workshop are:

- Decision makers from Government Institutions
- Partners institutions
- International and regional organizations
- Private sector.





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Approach

The workshop will include a mix of plenary sessions, dedicated thematic presentations, interactive workshops, and demonstrations of EO tools and applications. Case studies highlighting successful applications of EO across various sectors in East Africa will be presented.

Agenda

Thursday 18 th July 2024	
Time	Activity
08:30 – 09:00 am	Registration
09:30 – 10:30 am	Opening Addresses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian Ocean Commission, IOC – Gina Bonne • ICPAC - Zachary Atheru, Programme Manager, ICPAC • RCMRD – Dr. Immanuel Director General, RCMRD • GMES and Africa, AUC - Dr. Mahaman Bachir • Chief Guest: Minister of Ministry of Environment, Ecology, and Forests - • Group Photograph
10:30 – 11:00 am	Tea Break
POLICY AND INSTITUTION FRAMEWORK	
11:00 -12:00 pm	<p>Policy Framework opportunities for IOC institution to EO data to address environmental challenges – Gina Bone</p> <p>Strengthening engagement with regional and national institutions for the use of Earth Observation – Peter Maina</p> <p>Leveraging on EO Data for Sustainable Development Policy Making in Madagascar – Gildas to suggest</p> <p>Use Case study on addressing environmental challenges in Mauritius – Dr Jay Doorga, Locate IT</p> <p>Questions from the audience and responses from presenters</p> <p><i>Panel Discussion – Moderator, Dr Daniel Waiswa</i></p>
13.00 - 14:00 pm	Lunch Break
DATA ACCESS AND SERVICES	
2:00 – 4.30 pm	<p><i>ICPAC Services Areas (Natural Habitat Monitoring and Assessment, Rangeland Monitoring and Assessment, and Forest Monitoring and Assessment) – David Ongo</i></p> <p><i>RCMRD Services Areas (Land Degradation Monitoring and Assessment, Wetland Monitoring and Assessment, Open Geographic Regional</i></p>





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	<p>Reference Vector database) – Eunice Wangui</p> <p>Socio-economic valuation of wetlands using earth observation data & Innovative techniques – Hilda Manzi, GRI</p> <p>Panel Discussion on access to GMES & Africa Services Moderator – Vincent Imala, DRSRS, Kenya</p>
4.30 - 5:00	Tea Break
FRIDAY 19th July 2024	
09:00 - 10:30 am	<p>Improving access to EO data for sustainable development – Allan Oware</p> <p>Opportunities in the use of EO in addressing development challenges in Comoros - Aboubacar Nair, Cellule Cartographie de la DATUH</p> <p>Coastal Erosion Mapping Tool - Dr Jay Doorga, Locate IT</p> <p>Questions from the audience and responses from presenters</p> <p>Moderator – Hilda Manzi, GRI</p>
10:30 - 11:00 am	Tea Break
CAPACITY BUILDING	
11:00 - 11.30 pm	Capacity development opportunities for EO – Dr Daniel Waiswa & Dr. Gidudu
CROSS-FERTILIZATION AND SYNERGIES	
11.30 – 12.00 pm	<p>Creating Synergies and linkages with other Regional Initiatives – Eunice Wangui, RCMRD</p> <p>Network of Experts for Joint Monitoring of Land Degradation in Africa – Opportunities for IOC - Evence Zoungana, OSS</p> <p>Moderator – Joseph Murage</p>
12.00 – 1.00 pm	Outreach, Uptake, and Communication – Communication & Outreach Officers
01:00 – 2:00 pm	Lunch Break
2.00 – 2.30 pm	Key Recommendations – Jospaht Makanga/Denis Kerich Moderator – Eugene Kayijamahe
2.30 – 3.00 pm	Official closing of the Workshop

