



Group on Earth Observations

Task US-06-01

GEO Task US-06-01:

Establish a GEO process for identifying critical Earth observation priorities common to many GEOSS societal benefit areas, involving scientific and technical experts, taking account of socio-economic factors, and building on the results of existing systems' requirements development processes.



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UIC's Refined Process: Nine Steps

- The process lists the steps serially, yet some of them can be done in parallel.
- With some concurrent activities, this process spans at least 6-7 months.
- Analyst and Advisory Group for each SBA will develop a detailed schedule, milestones, etc.

Step 1: UIC Members identify Advisory Groups and Analysts for each SBA

Step 2: Determine scope of topics for the current priority-setting activity

Step 3: Identify existing documents regarding observation priorities for the SBA

Step 4: Develop analytic methods and priority-setting criteria

Step 5: Review and analyze documents for priority Earth observations needs

Step 6: Combine the information and develop a preliminary report on the priorities

Step 7: Gather feedback on the preliminary report

Step 8: Perform any additional analysis

Step 9: Complete the report on Earth observations for the SBA

This process should be viewed as a “meta-analysis” exercise.



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Since some GEO Members and Participating Organizations have already conducted activities to identify Earth observation needs, this process seeks to incorporate and build on those activities.

NOTE: The process “harvests” observation needs expressed in existing documents and reports that GEO Members and POs have generated from ~2001-present.

This process tries to avoid the duplication of efforts that GEO Members and Participating Organizations have or will perform as part of their responsibilities.

This process should be viewed as a meta-analysis exercise.

The GEO 10-year Implementation Plan provides a description and summary of topics within each SBA – the IPTT identified some initial observation priorities for each SBA. This process incorporates those IPTT priorities.

Advisory Groups may decide to focus efforts a subset of issues within an SBA



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General structure:

An “Analyst” and an “Advisory Group” work together to identify and analyze documents and report the priorities within each SBA.

Analyst (1 per SBA)

Functions:

- Overall coordination of task
- Will read and analyze the documents
- Develops an analytic method and priority-setting criteria for adv.group review
- Conducts the meta-analysis to identify common priorities within a SBA.

The analyst will be the primary coordinator and organizer of the activity to meet the schedules and deadlines.

Will interact with and utilize the Advisory Group the SBA

Advisory Group (1 per SBA)

Functions:

- Will help to identify documents
- Comments on analytic methods and priority-setting criteria
- Review the analysts’ findings, priorities, and reports.

Approximately 10 people from developed and developing countries that represent experts in an SBA

The UIC Communities of Practice and IPTT members may constitute part of this group.



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Task US-06-01: Status

GEO Task US-06-01: Status of Analysts

- Analysts have begun for 5 SBAs
 - Energy
 - Biodiversity
 - Water
 - Agriculture (including Forests)
 - Health (Air, Infectious Disease)
- Analysts to start in mid-July for 3 SBAs
 - Climate
 - Ecosystems
 - Disasters
- No Analyst finalized for Weather
 - Preliminary suggestions but nothing finalized