

# Health Theme Report-Out: Recommendations and Questions to the UIC

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**Workplan:  
General Comments  
and UIC Description**

# Proposed Revision

## Workplan: Edits for User Focus (p 4)

Currently in Workplan Section I (iii):

This marks the start of a reinvigorated effort to ensure that users are engaged with GEO and that they are actively involved in implementing the Work Plan

Suggestion:

This marks the start of a reinvigorated effort to ensure that users are engaged with GEO, that they are actively involved in implementing the Work Plan, and that they begin to realize societal benefits of GEOSS through improved decisions.

# Proposed Revision I: Workplan - Evolving Role of UIC (p5)

## Currently:

The User Interface Committee takes the lead in assessing the needs and requirements of the end-users of Earth observations. UIC members ensure that user needs are reflected in the Work Plan Tasks. These diverse user groups need to be engaged actively in the design and construction of GEOSS so that it delivers what they truly need.

## Suggestion:

The User Interface Committee takes the lead in assessing the needs, requirements, and **priorities** of the end-users of Earth observations. UIC members ensure that user needs are reflected in the Work Plan Tasks. These diverse user groups need to be engaged actively in the design and construction of GEOSS so that it delivers what they truly need. The UIC, in conjunction with other Committees, supports the application of Earth observations to support end-users' decision making activities and realize societal benefits of GEOSS.

# **Proposed Revision I: Workplan - Evolving Role of UIC (p5)**

## Currently:

**The User Interface Committee takes the lead in assessing the needs and requirements of the end-users of Earth observations. UIC members ensure that user needs are reflected in the Work Plan Tasks. These diverse user groups need to be engaged actively in the design and construction of GEOSS so that it delivers what they truly need.**

## Addition to UIC Description:

**The User Interface Committee develops methods and processes to engage the broad range of users in GEOSS and the benefits of Earth observations.**

## Comments on User Focus

***GEO Sec. has said that UIC really needs to focus on getting users to provide comments on Portals and register their data, model products, services, etc.***

- For the review of GCI & Data Sharing Principles, we need groups/users that are early technology adopters

Note: We're essentially asking users to review an "alpha" version of GEOSS Portal, Registries, etc.

- Thus, using existing groups of users might be the "low hanging fruit" to get input on Registries, Portal, etc.

**Workplan and  
GEOSS Development:  
Communities of Practice**

# Communities of Practice

- **CoPs seem to be of three types:**
  - **Some CoPs exist due to GEO efforts (e.g. Energy)**
  - **Other CoPs exist outside of GEO**  
*We're not developed through GEO & don't engage in GEO*
  - **CoPs that do not exist as yet**

# Communities of Practice

→ **Question to UIC: Do we want COPs to be top-down or issue-oriented (grassroots)?**

- Top-Down: Ask people to get together and expect them to determine what to do and what issues to address.
- Issue-oriented: Determine a topic to address (e.g., Malaria) and create ways for interested people to get together. This group will effectively be a COP.

# **Proposed Revision I:**

## **Workplan Governance - Evolving Role of UIC (p7)**

- **The revised paragraph on the CoPs should not appear under header 'User Interface Committee', since also the other Committees need to interact and rely on CoPs.**
- **The revised paragraph on the CoPs should reflect the following:**
  - **Some CoPs exist and are already reflected in the WP (see current text)**
  - **Other CoPs exist but do not yet engage in GEO and/or are not yet identified in the WP**
  - **For some activities/tasks CoPs do not exist as yet**
- **The revised paragraph on CoPs should describe potential mechanisms to engage users in the latter two cases with the aim to establish new CoPs, such as:**
  - **Contact potential players to engage in already existing (sub) tasks**
  - **Calls for proposal for new (sub) tasks**
- **CoPs should serve as vehicle for the UIC (and the other Committees) to get in contact with users**
- **CoPs should allow the UIC to deal with well organized user communities**

# **Proposed Revision:**

## **Workplan – Task Management (pp8-9)**

### Introduction

#### **CURRENT:**

**For many Tasks, the process of user engagement will benefit from the work of a related Community of Practice (see User Interface Committee above)**

#### **INSTEAD:**

**For Tasks focused on user needs, Task Leads and Contributors are encouraged to work with a related Community of Practice.**

# Proposed Revision II: Workplan – Task Management (pp8-9)

## (iii) Reporting on and updating Tasks:

### CURRENT:

Based on the Task Sheet updates, the Secretariat produces periodic Work Plan progress reports presented to the Executive Committee and an annual report presented to the GEO Plenary.

### ADDITION:

**Based on the Task Sheet updates, the Secretariat produces periodic Work Plan progress reports presented to the Executive Committee and an annual report presented to the GEO Plenary. The Secretariat will also communicate Task sheets and periodic Work Plan progress reports to relevant Communities of Practice.**

# Question about the Workplan – Governance

## Page 7 – UIC description

### Currently in Plan:

[COPs] obtain and analyze information provided by national, regional and project-level surveys

### What does this mean?

Is this a reference to US-06-01??

This sections needs to focus more on COPs focusing on specific topics – COPs get together to work issues and topics rather than gather user needs.

# Communities of Practice

## → Question to UIC: How to enable new Communities of Practice?

- The Call For Participation (CFP) is one mechanism to create new COPs.
- Teams proposing projects are self-identified as interested on specific topics
- CFP process could help to identify new COPs around a specific issue (e.g. Malaria, Water Quality)
- Furthermore, the proposal project teams could be sources for user needs/observational requirements.

# **Workplan Tasks that Need Revision for End-User Perspective**

# Proposed Revision:

## Workplan Tasks that Require User-Perspective

**Page 10 AR-09-01**

### Currently:

Address the core architectural principles in GEOSS, and provide useful guidelines and tools to GEO Members and Participating Organizations in the establishment and operation of GEOSS.

### Suggestion:

Add: **Involves significant involvement with UIC for articulation of user needs and priorities.**

# Proposed Revision:

## Workplan Tasks that Require User-Perspective

**Page 11 AR-09-01**

### Suggestion:

Need a registry on applications of Earth observations to decision making

*The Best Practices seems to focus on the construction of GEOSS rather than use of observations.*

### *Two options:*

- A. Best Practices needs to add word “applications”*
- B. Applications Registry a separate entry in AR-09-01*

# **Proposed Revision:**

## **Workplan Tasks that Require User-Perspective**

### **Page 19 DA-09-04: Socio-Economic Indicators**

Why is this in the DA group?

#### **CURRENT:**

Support the development of methods, models and tools required to produce GEOSS-relevant socioeconomic indicators.

#### **SUGGEST:**

Support the development of methods, models and tools required to determine socioeconomic benefits of Earth observations and value of GEOSS.

# **Proposed Revision:**

## **Workplan Tasks that Require User-Perspective**

### **Page 19 DA-09-04: Socio-Economic Indicators**

#### **CURRENT:**

In particular develop an integrated model that will also serve as an effective decision-making tool to evaluate impacts and benefits of multiple scenarios across societal benefit areas.

#### **NEEDS TO CHANGE:**

A “one-solution-fits-all” solution is not a good solution. The techniques to determine socioeconomic benefits are unique to the application and user. We need to encourage broad development and use of techniques.

#### **SUGGESTION:**

TBD

# **Proposed Revision:**

## **Workplan – Interaction with other GEO committees and ExCom, Secretariat**

- Revise workplan to clearly describe in 1-2 sentences how each Task benefits capacity building (CBC) and infrastructure (ADC) needs
  - e.g. HE-09-03 Subtask c) Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Health: Research and Decision-Support
    - Implementation of research projects will result in distributional disease and predictive risk models, and indicators on biodiversity and infectious disease which will be registered as components into the GEO common infrastructure.
    - Training modules on dataset integration (ecological and epidemiological) will be developed to assist individual capacity building. Integration can also be registered as an application.

# **Proposed Revision:**

## **Workplan – Interaction with other GEO committees and ExCom, Secretariat**

- Revise workplan to clearly describe in 1-2 sentences how each Task benefits capacity building (CBC) and infrastructure (ADC) needs
    - Revise Task sheets to include these in more detail
    - e.g. HE-09-03 Subtask c) Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Health: Research and Decision-Support
    - Clearly identify GEOSS architecture and vision.
- For each Task, identify Points of Contact to ADC and CBC Committees?

**UIC Committee Member  
Involvement to Make  
Activities and Tasks Successful**

# How many UIC members needed to do work to make each activity successful?

For all the tasks where user-perspective is needed:

- Each Task lead should liaise with a UIC member

→ can we identify the UIC members today?

- How to best report on progress?

Encourage progress reporting to UIC member to share with Co-Chairs

→ Can we adapt performance measure questions to UIC task tracking, reporting, involvement, etc. ?

From the discussion with ADC today:

Will UIC members serve as “Moderators” for the Requirements Registry?

Are UIC members interested to serve as a Moderator?

## **Workplan:**

**What are specific activities in the  
3, 6, 12-month timeframe to get  
users engaged in the  
GEO Common Infrastructure and  
Data Sharing Principles?**

## **5(a) Key issues to address first, before inviting users to participate in infrastructure and confirming schedule of activities**

- Portal currently in preliminary operational stage - need early input for readiness for new communities to engage effectively
- GEOSS Registry & Portal in “Alpha” phase
  - For user involvement, need early adopters
  - Need to clarify the “Alpha” nature of the system
- Do we want to target specific SBAs
  - If so, which are priority SBAs

# Specific Activities to Engage Users for GEOSS GCI and DSP: **3 Months**

Develop introduction to GEO Portal, Registry, GCI, etc.  
A GEOSS “Infrastructure 101”

Materials to explain: What is it? For what purpose?  
Why should you contribute?

- Integrate this session into meetings.
- ADC and UIC should jointly work to develop this “module.”
  - Assign one ADC and one UIC member to collaborate.

# Specific Activities to Engage Users for GEOSS GCI and DSP: **3 Months**

When Materials Are Developed:

UIC to distribute “101” materials to attendees from recent prior workshops and conferences

- Request them to register and input datasets
- Test Wiki “best practices”
- Test data use in portals

Suggestions from earlier in 2008:

GEO Architecture and User Workshop (Beijing)

UNOOSA Graz Symposium on Atmosphere and Land

# Specific Activities to Engage Users for GEOSS GCI and DSP: **4-6 Months**

UIC-ADC joint activity to conduct “101” module at user-focused meetings identified by UIC

**In 2 weeks:** UIC should identify user-focused meetings to target in the next year

Suggestions:

- ISPRS - ICA Working Group on Cartography in Early Warning & Crises Management, JBGIS Geo-information for Disaster Management
- ISPRS 2009 calendar events (Amy Budge has identified already!!)
- AARSE (Oct. 2008, Ghana)
- ICSU JSPT (Jan '09, Pretoria)
- TIGGE Users Workshop '09

→ Do we need a larger GEO outreach strategy to engage potential new users?

# Specific Activities to Engage Users for GEOSS GCI and DSP: **Next 12 Months**

- Continue using mailing/contact lists from user focused meetings
- Target key upcoming user-focused meetings:
  - TIGGE Users' Workshop '09
  - ISRSE Conference ('09) – dedicated time and resources for Portal access
- Conduct CFP with CBC
  - Use proposal project teams to reach new users