

Report of the Science and Technology Committee

GEO Plenary VI
Washington DC, USA
18 November 2009



STC Objectives

GEO Terms of Reference

- Solicit inputs from S&T community
- Ensure S&T integrity and soundness of GEO Work Plans
- Monitor and review output of GEO Work Plans
- Help identify experts to participate in GEO working groups
- Facilitate linkages and partnership with relevant research programmes and organizations willing to contribute to GEO

Target 4: Ensure full interaction and engagement of relevant science and technology communities [...] enabling the research community to fully benefit from GEOSS



STC Key 2009 Accomplishments

- Developed and adopted the **Science and Technology Roadmap**
- Helped define and initiate **Tasks ST-09-01** and **ST-09-02**

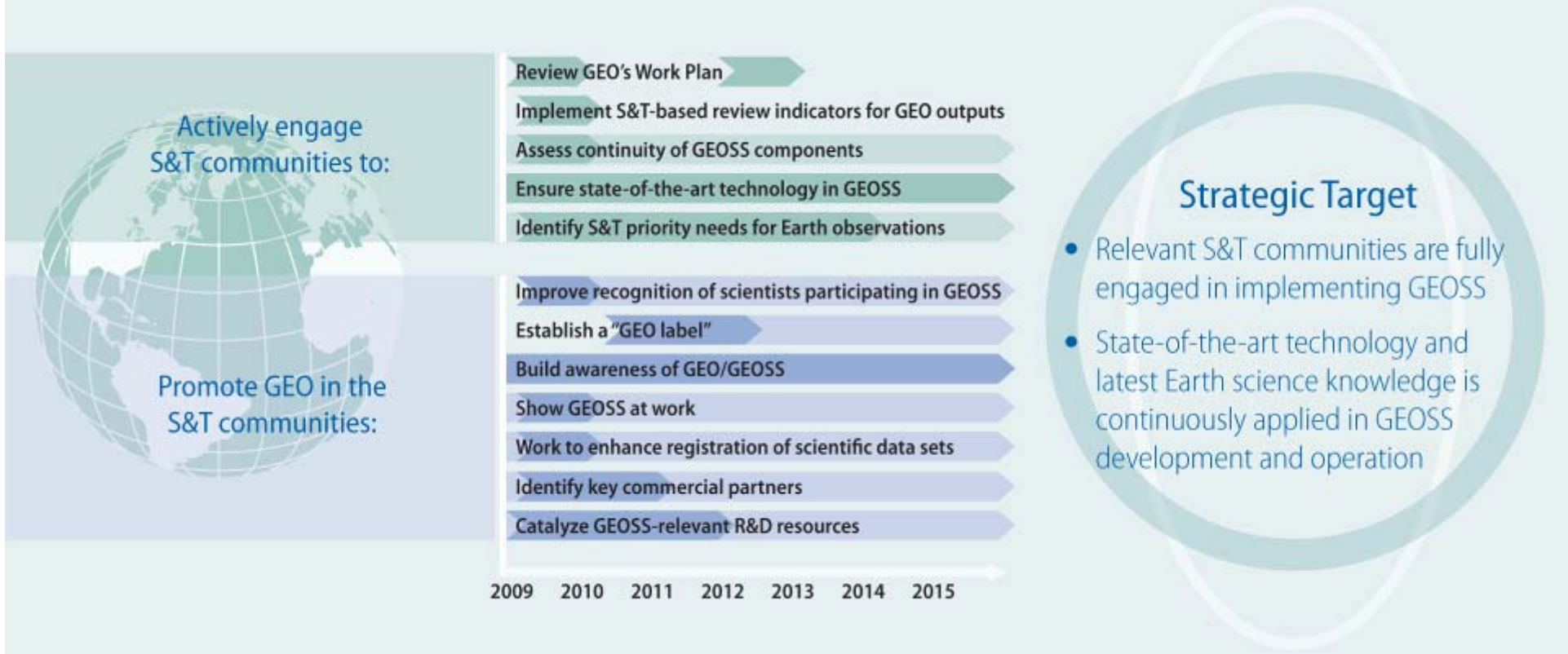
Other STC 2009 Activities

- Supported preparation of the IGOS-P Symposium
- Conceptualized a scientific review of the GEO Work Plan
- Supported review of the UIC/CBC Call for Proposals
- Convened GEOSS sessions at scientific conferences
- Provided input to ExCom's request for advice on task management, Ministerial preparation, ...



STC S&T Roadmap: Advancing GEO S&T Content from *Now to 2015*

- Objective of the S&T Roadmap:
Identify concrete activities to achieve STC objectives



Engaging S&T Communities in GEOSS

- **Revolving scientific review of each Work Plan**, starting with the current work plan for 2009-2011 on grounds of scientific and technological soundness and completeness against the outstanding scientific questions and challenges in each of the SBAs.
- **Implement review indicators in the M&E Framework** to ensure that activities in individual GEO Tasks and Sub-Tasks meet the applicable scientific and technological standards.
- **Assess the requirement for continuity and long-term monitoring** by Earth observation systems of essential data from GEOSS components.
- **Apply state-of-the-art technology in the GEOSS Common Infrastructure (GCI) and Observation Infrastructures.**
- **Respond to S&T needs and priorities** in Earth observation for GEOSS.



Incentives and Promotion in S&T Communities

- **Get GEO/GEOSS better acknowledged** in the scientific community.
- **Establish a “GEO label”** to recognise the scientific relevance, quality, acceptance and societal needs for activities in support of GEOSS.
- **Build awareness of GEO and GEOSS** in the different S&T communities, within the scope of GEOSS development.
- **Show GEOSS at work** with a set of compelling examples demonstrating how GEOSS serves the S&T communities in their work.
- **Work to enhance registration of scientific data sets** as an important indicator for potential contributors from the science communities in assessing the relevance of GEOSS for their work.
- **Identify key commercial partners** who could contribute to GEOSS and also benefit from improved observational means, products and services and might therefore support certain S&T development.
- **Catalyze R&D resources** to help engage S&T communities in implementing GEOSS.



S&T Tasks implement Most of the Following Activities:

ST-09-01 “Catalyzing Research and Development (R&D) Resources for GEOSS”

- Identify key S&T programmes, targeted resources, and other resource mechanisms
- Identify key companies with substantial science, technology, or applications interests in GEOSS or datasets of broad scientific value
- Report on S&T gaps, priorities, and continuity needs to support GEO
- Establish forum/network of funding agencies to respond to needs



S&T Tasks Implement Most of the Following Activities:

ST-09-02 “Promoting Awareness and Benefits of GEO in the Science and Technology Community”

- Foster links with major scientific research enterprises in each SBA
- Encourage relevant scientists and technical experts to contribute
- Make GEOSS more visible and attractive
- Establish contacts in universities and research labs
- Establish presence at major S&T symposia



Main STC Activities Planned for 2010

- Support ST-09-01 in developing a resourcing process to respond to S&T need for implementing GEOSS
- Support ST-09-02 in increasing GEOSS' attractiveness to S&T communities
- Forge closer links with scientific associations
- Pilot Scientific Assessment of GEO Work Plan
- Introduce elements supporting S&T objectives in GEO to the Ministerial preparations
- Support other GEO Committees in reviewing and informing the S&T content of their activities



Issues

- Resources — in the Tasks
- Resources — in the Committee



STC Requests to Plenary

- Plenary is invited to take note of the S&T Roadmap
- All GEO Members and Participating Organizations are requested to support its implementation by:
 - Contributing to ST-09-01 and ST-09-02
 - Joining the STC and contributing to its activities
- STC invites Plenary to take note and consider addressing the following priorities at the GEO Ministerial 2010:
 - Continuity
 - Data sharing
 - Resources

