**The Role of Citizen Observatories and Crowdsourcing Community in GEOSS**

24 October 2017

Washington, DC

Agenda

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| 13:00 | Welcoming Remarks |
| 13:15 | Citizen Science Observatories: Lightning TalksModerator: Dr. Lea Shanley, South Big Data Innovation HubSpeakers:Laetitia Navarro, GEO BONMaria Krommyda, Institute of Communication and Computer Systems,Joan Masó, Center for Ecological Research and ForestryMikel Maron, Humanitarian Open Street Maps |
| 14:15 | Tools, Best Practices, and Standards for Utilizing Citizen Science for GEOSSModerator: Krystal Wilson, Secure World FoundationMax Craglia, Joint Research CenterAnne Bowser, Wilson CenterSteffen Fritz, International Institute for Applied Science System AnalysisDixon Butler, Youth Learning as Citizen Environmental Scientists |
| 16:15 | Prioritization of Citizen Science as GEO ActivityModerator: Joan Masó, Center for Ecological Research and Forestry |
| 17:00 | Closing Remarks and Next Steps |
| 17:30 | Adjourn |

The growth of citizen science is a global phenomenon. In the United States, the scientific impacts of citizen science are recognized by 60 federal agencies and organizations, which coordinate and support hundreds of citizen science projects. In Europe, the European Commission continues to fund Citizen Observatories, beginning with the FP7 Programme and extending through active projects Ground Truth 2.0, LandSense, SCENT, and GROW. Similar initiatives are emerging in other parts of the world.

GEO can benefit from these initiatives if standards and best practices in managing (collection, representation, annotation, processing) crowd-sourced data are promoted. There is a need to explore the linkages of citizen data to the GEOSS and its common infrastructure (GCI), identify activities necessary for scaling up (examples are GBIF contributions, Mosquito Alert-UN...), and investigate methods and tools to integrate citizens-generated data with authoritative ones.  This should be done in coordination with other GEO initiatives such as GEOBON. In this meeting, we will know more about existing citizen science projects and observatories and will discuss evolving standards and best practices for citizen-observed data management and ways to integrate citizen-acquired with established data sources.

