

Umvoto Africa and CSIR-Satellite Application Center of South Africa are working on an FP7 project, GEO Network for Capacity Building (GEO-Net-Cab) project as focusing team for the SADC region. The project aims to create conditions for the improvement and increase of the GEO capacity building activities and framework, with special emphasis on developing countries, new EU member states (and EU neighbouring states) and climate monitoring and will serve the bigger goal of improved effectiveness and efficiency of GEO capacity building for application in the GEO societal benefit areas. Coinciding with this purpose, successful brokerage with (potential) clients for earth observation products and services will be facilitated. The project will deliver the following output:

1. Capacity building needs in earth observation are identified (at a generic and global level, but with emphasis on the target regions).
2. Specifications for earth observation capacity buildings are described.
3. Resource providers are identified.
4. Sustainable brokerage between stakeholders (including resource providers) is established.
5. A mechanism to facilitate cooperation between stakeholders and providers is established.
6. A global base of technical expertise for education and training in earth observation is established (with emphasis on developing countries, new EU member states and climate monitoring).
7. Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for determining the efficacy of GEO capacity building efforts are established.

In order to achieve the above-mentioned deliverables the project has various work packages (WP). WP-1 is the development of an inventory for gap and needs assessment based on existing human, scientific, technological, organizational and institutional resources and capabilities in Earth Observation. This will also include an inventory of existing capacity building initiatives and programmes and a census of best practices that are already in place.

The project team would like your assistance in making this project a success by providing them with information on activities you are undertaking in Earth Observation. Please contact the project team to share your EO activities, Andiswa Mlisa [andiswa@umvoto.com](mailto:andiswa@umvoto.com) and / or Daniel Matsapola [DMatsapola@csir.co.za](mailto:DMatsapola@csir.co.za).

