

GD-07.05 – Sub Task Workplan

Version 4

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1.1 SubTask Description

The Standards and Interoperability Forum (SIF) will promote the advancement of GEOSS interoperability. The SIF will facilitate the interchange of information and the development of recommendations for standards and interoperability in GEOSS. The SIF also oversees a key component of the GEOSS Common Infrastructure (GCI), the Standards and Interoperability Registry (SIR). The purpose of the SIF is to provide advice, expertise and impartial guidance on issues relating to standards and interoperability for GEOSS. The goal of the SIF is to enable ever greater degrees of interoperability among GEOSS-contributed resources through facilitation, technical analysis, advocacy and education. The SIF is composed of experts nominated by GEO Members and Participating Organizations, supported by subject matter experts from around the globe.

1.2 SubTask Team Members

The SIF has an email list of over 60 members. Of the listed members, there is a much smaller core team of members that is regularly active. The current core team is listed here, in no particular order:

Steven F. Browdy (Chair)	IEEE / OMS Tech, Inc.
Lucia Lovison	Afriterra Foundation
Joan Maso	CREAF
Bente Lilja Bye	BLB/Norway
Paul Eglitis	IEEE
William Sonntag	US EPA
Siri Jodha Singh Khalsa	IEEE
Tom Kralidis	Meteorological Services of Canada
Bart De Lathouwer	OGC

1.3 SubTask Activities

The SIF undertakes both ongoing and short-term activities. The Data Management Principles will help guide the implementation of the new GEOSS in the next decade. During their implementation, appropriate standards need to be considered and utilized, and the SIF will support this implementation by providing the necessary analysis and guidance. The following activities have been identified for 2016.

1.3.1 GEOSS Interoperability Workshop

This virtual workshop will be held over WebEx or similar online meeting application. The workshop is planned to address two main areas of concern:

- current issues related to GEOSS interoperability, in particular problems encountered by GEO Flagships, GEO Initiatives, Community Activities, data providers, and data users;
- technical interests and developments that are potentially impactful to GEOSS in the coming years.

The 2016 workshop will focus on data management principles, with particular attention to the standards and interoperability issues associated with them. The impact of the data management principles on the GCI and the broader GEOSS will also be covered.

1.3.2 Tutorials and Guidelines

The SIF manages the generation of tutorials and guidelines, and their publication in the GEOSS Best Practices Wiki. This oversight is in cooperation with other GEOSS participants that are encouraged to write the tutorials and guidelines related to their projects, products, data services, etc. The purpose of these tutorials and guidelines is to establish a library of documents, videos, and presentations that assist the GEOSS community in understanding how to best use, and derive the highest value from, GEOSS.

The SIF will focus its efforts in tutorial activity as follows:

- Target technical aspects of GCI usage and GEOSS interoperability, focusing on data management principles for 2016;
- Use recorded demos as much as possible;
- Reach out to existing project or community groups for generating tutorials and guidelines, which will include:
 - Using the GEO Secretariat to email GEO Initiatives, GEO Flagships, and Community Activities for their involvement;
 - Inviting presentations to the SIF from known projects of interest;
 - Encourage participation from the broader SIF membership in the preparation and publication of specific tutorials and guidelines.

1.3.3 Technical Presentations

The SIF will, from time to time, host technical presentations during its telecons that relate to interoperability concerns and their impacts to GEOSS, including the GCI. Invited speakers will represent GEOSS projects and activities, along with other initiatives, such as the Research Data Alliance (RDA), NSF EarthCube, Eye on Earth, etc. Presentations will be recorded and made available to the GEOSS community. The focus for 2016 will be on data management principles.

1.3.4 GEOSS Analysis

The SIF will analyze the need within GEO Flagships, GEO Initiatives, and Community Activities as to interoperability and GCI usage. Any activities that result from this analysis will be managed within the activities 1.3.1 - 1.3.3 described above. This analysis will be an ongoing activity of the SIF, but will commence in 2016 with the identification of projects that have the most pressing needs, with particular attention to data management principles. The GEO Secretariat will assist in identifying appropriate projects.

1.4 SubTask Deliverables

The deliverables for SIF activities are as follows:

- Interoperability Workshop report – delivered two months after the workshop takes place.
- Tutorials and Guidelines – published into the GEOSS Best Practices Wiki as they become available, with a focus on reorganization of the Wiki to accommodate the Data Management Principles and any identified gaps.
- Technical Presentations – published on a SIF site as they become available, within one month of the presentation.
- GEOSS Analysis reports – delivered periodically as new analysis is completed, but no less than semi-annually. In 2016, the analysis and reporting will cover the standards for implementation of the Data Management Principles.

1.5 SubTask Milestones

Activity	Milestone	Comment
Interoperability Workshop	Finalize agenda by 2016-MAY-31	This applies to whichever year a workshop is planned.
	Announcement sent by 2016-JUN-30	This applies to whichever year a workshop is planned.
	Workshop held by 2016-AUG	This applies to whichever year a workshop is planned.
Tutorials and Guidelines	Identify tutorial and guideline authors	Ongoing, no specific dates.
	Publish in the GEOSS Best Practices Wiki	Ongoing, but will occur within one month of the tutorial or guideline being completed.
Technical Presentations	Host technical presentations	Ongoing, with 2016 focus on

	at SIF meetings from individuals within and outside the GEOSS community	data management principles, one or more principle per presentation.
	Publish on SIF website and/or in the GEOSS Best Practices Wiki	Ongoing, but will occur within one month of the presentation being given.
GEOSS Analysis	Identify appropriate projects	Ongoing, with the assistance of the GEO Secretariat, but initial identification each year will occur as soon as possible.
	Work with projects to identify and resolve interoperability needs	Ongoing, dates for completion indeterminate and will be determined once engagement begins.
	Presentations and/or publications associated with the projects and specific issues addressed by the SIF	Ongoing, dates for presentation or publication will be determined once the work is near completion.

1.6 Interactions with other teams-groups

The SIF and its activities have interaction with other tasks and groups working in the GEOSS community, and beyond. They include, but are not limited to:

1. GD-01 (Advancing GEOSS Data Sharing Principles)
2. GD-02 (GCI Operations)
3. GD-07 (GCI Development)
4. GEO Initiatives, GEO Flagships, and Community Activities
5. CD-01 (Capacity Building)
6. Eye on Earth Global Network of Networks
7. Research Data Alliance