

European
Commission

Contributing to promote a more sustainable management of natural resources by improving decision making process through provision of additional pertinent information.

Facts and figures

- ❖ Total budget: EUR 31.75 million
- ❖ EU contribution: EUR 26.5 million
- ❖ Action of the 2015 Annual Action Programme of the Pan-African Programme

Contributing partners

- ❖ Joint Research Centre (JRC): EU 0.8 million
- ❖ Co-financed by beneficiaries EUR 4.45 million

GLOBAL MONITORING FOR ENVIRONMENT & SECURITY (GMES)

In the past, there have been numerous Earth Observation initiatives in Africa seeking to address almost similar needs in the continent. However, one of the major drawbacks is that some of the initiatives are designed as projects having been founded on short timelines and thereby not being able to address targeted needs in entirety and in a sustainable manner. GMES & Africa seeks to establish continuity in a more sustainable approach building on the infrastructure and capacities established by predecessor projects such as PUMA (Preparation for the Use of Meteosat Second Generation in Africa), AMESD (African Monitoring of Environment and Sustainable Development), and MESA (Monitoring of the Environment and Security in Africa).

Objective

The overall objective of the project is to promote a more sustainable management of natural resources by improving decision making process through provision of additional pertinent information. Its specific objective is to improve African policy-makers' and planners' capacities to design, implement, and monitor national, regional and continental policies and to promote sustainable management of natural resources through the use of EO data and derived information.

Activities

The main activities are following five key areas:

- Access to Earth Observation data: maintain and install receiving stations, upgrade existing software, Strengthen access to Copernicus data etc.
- African Water & Natural Resources Service: consolidate existing water and natural resources services, design new regional and continental applications
- Marine & Coastal environments Service: consolidate existing marine services, extend existing marine services to other regions in Africa etc.
- Capacity building: establish a cooperation framework with universities, pursue existing training courses to support GMES etc.
- Awareness raising: Adopt awareness raising strategies and practices in the development and provision of GMES & Africa services/applications etc.

Implementation

This action may be implemented in direct management by procurement of services and administrative arrangement with the Joint Research Centre as well as in indirect management with the African Union Commission (AUC).