



EUROPEAN UMBRELLA ORGANISATION FOR GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION



**“GEOINFORMATION NETWORKS FOR SOCIETAL AND COMMERCIAL ACCEPTANCE OF COPERNICUS
- Final workshop of the Market-Pull-Pack (MPP) executed by HUNAGI / Hungary - “
Budapest, 12 December 2013**

RESOLUTION

vs 1.1, 09/01/2014

We, the participants at the above mentioned workshop convened by EUROGI, from across Europe, having actively contributed to and listened to

- very hands-on practical and professional use cases and ideas, as well as a
- country-wide survey on the fitness for purpose of COPERNICUS within the Hungarian Geo-Information community as a
- first such country block in a series of “COPERNICUS Market Pull Packs”

conclude the following, and call on the European authorities responsible for the political and socio-economic success of the investment into the COPERNICUS space infrastructure, along the lines set out below:

As expressed in EUROGI's position paper on GMES funding of September 2011, users and service providers in the field of Geo-Information (GI) in public, private and scientific bodies, represented by networks such as EUROGI and its member organisations throughout Europe, welcome the advent of the COPERNICUS programme to transfer the excellent European earth observation research and technology into operation. The GI community hopes that COPERNICUS will strengthen the competitiveness of the European GI sector with regard to other world regions, most notably the United States of America, which have already operational Earth observation capacities in place combined with a liberal data policy. Through stimulation of integrated value-adding producer chains it may boost European GI solutions, which typically include multi-cultural and cross-border aspects, for the challenges ahead. Besides the development of new thematic applications a particular innovation potential is seen in the automated updating of GI data repositories, facilitated by the permanent monitoring capability of the Sentinel Satellites.

We, the participants, observe on the other hand, that the professional GI market, where EUROGI members operate successfully, has largely not yet taken note of this new European opportunity. This was indicated by EUROGI's preliminary Europe-wide overview survey with GI users and producers in 2012 and now confirmed by the survey focussed on Hungary which was presented at the workshop. On the way to the intended socio-economic return on the investment, this barrier can only be overcome by cooperating more intensively with the GI community, because GI is the key to almost all target applications, players and geographic areas. GI networks may help decentralising COPERNICUS from high administrative down to local levels and individual consumers. The private industry, which is organised in these networks, is instrumental in developing both, efficient middleware software and user training opportunities.

We are firmly of the view that the GI community can assist in defining convincing best practice use cases, bring the state of the art knowledge into their implementation and transfer practicable solutions from one place to all places in Europe. Networks such as EUROGI and its member umbrella associations in European countries help federate the GI community in a way that a neutral, consolidated opinion can be articulated and good business cases disseminated peer-to-peer.

The participants therefore wish to encourage the European authorities

- to pursue a COPERNICUS data policy providing free of charge and open access to Sentinel and other base data as well as to outputs from Core Services
- to promote integrated GI and COPERNICUS solutions in suitable European policies (e.g. regional planning, agriculture and fisheries, civil security, demography, mobility, environment and energy, ICT and INSPIRE)
- to involve representatives of the European GI community such as EUROGI in relevant consultations and decisions affecting use of COPERNICUS and invite them to participate in user fora and other pertinent bodies on the European level.
- to involve the GI networks, including those on sub-national level, in dissemination programmes and engage in joint user events
- to involve the GI networks in model projects defining transferable best practice cases and assimilating COPERNICUS data in user work flows and marketable solutions