

# 1<sup>st</sup> Forum of the GMES & Africa

**Theme:**  
**Unlocking the Potential of Earth  
Observation as a Key Driver of Africa's  
Sustainable Development**



## **Draft Agenda of the Forum**

**19th - 23rd November 2018,  
Libreville, Gabon**



Project co funded by the  
EUROPEAN UNION



Flag of Gabon

## Summary of Sessions of the 1st GMES and Africa Forum

The Agenda of the 1st GMES and Africa Forum comprises an opening session, nine thematic sessions, exhibition, closing session and a technical visit summarized below:

### A. Opening Session

During the opening session, statements will be delivered by the European Commission, AUC and the Gabonese government. A policy Keynote will be delivered to be followed by a high level panel discussions. The first day will also mark the beginning of an exhibition by the GMES and Africa, its consortia and partners.

### B. GMES and Africa Thematic Services and Priorities

This will feature a keynote and ensuing discussions on information needs for Water and Natural Resources, Coastal Areas and Marine issues.

### C. Service Development and Delivery

The keynote of this session will centre on the challenges and opportunities in tailor made services for end users. Discussions will narrow down on policy, strategy, operations and logistics.

### D: Data and Infrastructure:

The Data and Infrastructure Parallel session seeks to generate a keynote on Geospatial Data, Infrastructure and Access in Africa. This will highlight the state of play, challenges and opportunities concerning Data and Infrastructure.

### E. Training, Research and Development in GMES and Africa

A keynote speech on the enhancement of Earth Observation Operational Services through Research and Develop-

ment and Training will be the main highlight of this session, to be followed by interactive discussions on training, capacity building, research and Development.

### E. Resource Mobilization, Collaborations and Partnership

In this session the keynote speaker and the ensuing panel discussion will highlight on resource mobilization for science, technology and innovation in Africa, in respect to Geo-space and Technology.

### F- Discussions on Regional Issues

The last session will be one of engagement and discussion between the Regional Economic Communities and their implementation centres (consortia). It will dig into the challenges, and opportunities for cross fertilization.

### G. Adoption of Action items and Recommendations

During this session, recommendations from the 1st GMES and Africa Forum will be presented in the plenary and reviewed. Action items and recommendations will be part of the report on the Forum..

### H. Closing Session

Closing remarks will be delivered by the AUC, EU delegation and the host country. Press conference and media briefing will be held after the closing ceremony.

### I- Technical Visit

A technical visit will be made to the Space Agency of the host country. To give participants the opportunity to see its infrastructure, facilities, and services.



# 1<sup>st</sup> GMES & Africa Forum Agenda (Draft)

Day 1: Monday 19 November 2018		
Time	Session/Title	
08:00-09:00	Registration	
<b>Opening Ceremony</b>		
09:00-10:30	<b>Statements by:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• European Union Delegation to Gabon</li> <li>• Commission for Human Resources, Science and Technology, AUC</li> <li>• Ministry of Digital Economy, Communication and Post Office and Government</li> </ul> <b>Facilitator:</b> Master of Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poem and song will be presented by School Children as transition</li> </ul>	
10:30 -11:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group photo</li> <li>• VIPs visit Exhibition</li> <li>• Coffee Break and participants visit Exhibitions</li> <li>• Press Conference and coffee break for VIPs</li> </ul>	
<b>Session 1: Setting the Scene</b>		
11:15 - 12:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Objectives of the Forum and Expectations, GMES &amp; Africa Coordinator by Dr. Tidiane Ouattara, GMES &amp; Africa Programme Coordinator, AUC</li> <li>• (Short video clip on GMES &amp; Africa)</li> </ul> <p><b>Keynote:</b> Unlocking Earth Observation Potential for Africa's Sustainable Development</p> <p><b>High level Panel Discussion and Panellists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Gabon</li> <li>• Commission for Human Resources, Science and Technology, African Union Commission (AUC)</li> <li>• Commission for Rural Economy and Agriculture, AUC</li> <li>• European Union Delegation to Gabon</li> <li>• Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology Development, Zimbabwe</li> <li>• Former Minister for Science and Technology, Egypt</li> </ul> <p><b>Facilitator:</b></p>	
12:45 - 14:15	Lunch Break	Lunch Break
<b>Session 2: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation</b>		
14:15 - 15:30	<p><b>Keynote:</b> Science and Technology for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, Presentation: How the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), will contribute to African Climate Change Policy and Strategy, Dr. Jolly Wasambo, Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture, AUC</p> <p>Discussions</p> <p><b>Chair:</b> _____ <b>Facilitator:</b> _____ <b>Rapporteur:</b> _____</p>	
15:30- 16:30	Exhibition and Health Break	Exhibition and Health Break
18:30 - 21:30	Gala dinner	

**Day 2: Tuesday 20 November 2018**

**Session 3: GMES and Africa Thematic Priorities**

**Session 3.1 Marine & Coastal Resources**

**Keynote:** Information needs for decision-making on the Growth of the Blue Economy in Africa ,

<b>8:300-10:00</b>	<b>Parallel Session 1:</b> Information needs for decision-making on Coastal areas	<b>Parallel Session 2:</b> Information needs for decision making on Marine Management	
	<b>Chair:</b> Rapporteur	<b>Facilitator:</b>	<b>Chair:</b> Rapporteur

**10:00-10:30** Health Break

**Session 3.2 Water and Natural Resources**  
**Keynote:** Long term management of land-based resources in Africa: Information requirement for policy and operational decisions

<b>10:30-12:00</b>	<b>Parallel Session 1 :</b> Information requirement for Water Resource Management	<b>Parallel Session 2:</b> Information requirement for Natural Resources Management	
	<b>Chair:</b> Rapporteur	<b>Facilitator:</b>	<b>Chair:</b> Rapporteur

**12:00:-13:30** Lunch Break

**Session 4: Service Development and delivery**

<b>13:30 - 15:00</b>	<b>Keynote:</b> Tailor-made services for end users: Challenges and Opportunities	
	<b>Panel Discussion and Panelists:</b>	
	<b>Facilitator:</b>	<b>Rapporteur</b>

	<b>Parallel Session 1:</b> <b>Information type for policy and strategic actions</b>	<b>Parallel Session 2: : Information type for tactical Logistic activities</b>	
	<b>Chair:</b> Rapporteur	<b>Facilitator:</b>	<b>Chair:</b> Rapporteur

**15:00 - 15:30** Health Break

15:30 - 17:00	<p><b>Session 5: Data &amp; Infrastructure</b></p> <p><b>Keynote:</b> Geospatial data infrastructure and access in Africa: State of play, Challenges and Opportunities</p> <p><b>Panel Discussion and Panelists:</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Facilitator:</b></p>	
	<p><b>Parallel Session 1: Data</b></p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Rapporteur</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Facilitator:</b></p>	<p><b>Parallel Session 2: Infrastructure</b></p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Rapporteur</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Facilitator:</b></p>
18:30 - 21:30	<p>Social Event</p>	

**Day 3: Wednesday 21 November 2018**

**Session 6: Training, Research & Development**

**Keynote:** Enhancing EO Operational Services through Research and Development, and Training  
**Panel Discussion and Panelists:**

8:300-10:00

**Facilitator:**

**Parallel Session 1: Training and Capacity Building to enhance EO operational services**

**Chair:**  
Rapporteur

**Facilitator:**

**Parallel Session2 : Research and Development to enhance EO operational services**

**Chair:**  
Rapporteur

**Facilitator:**

10:00-10:30

Health Break

Health Break

**Session 7: Resource mobilization, collaboration and partnership**

**Keynote:** Resource Mobilization for Science , Technology and Innovation in Africa: the case of geo-space and technology,

10:30-12:00

**Panel Discussion and Panelists:**

**Facilitator:**

12:00:-13:30

**Lunch Break**

**Session 8: Regional Discussions**

13:30 - 15:00

**Objectives of the Regional Session b**  
**Regional Discussion**

- Specific regional issues discussed between the REC and their implementation centers (Consortia) for Northern Africa

**Chair:**

**Facilitator:**

**Rapporteur**

15:00 - 15:30

Health Break

Health Break

15:30 - 17:00

**Regional Discussion**

- Specific regional issues discussed between the REC and their implementation centers (Consortia) for Western Africa

**Chair:**

**Facilitator:**

**Rapporteur**

- Specific regional issues discussed between the REC and their implementation centers (Consortia) for Central Africa

**Chair:**

**Facilitator:**

**Rapporteur**

## Day 4: Thursday 22 November 2018

### Session 6: Training, Research & Development

8:300-10:00	<b>Regional Discussions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific regional issues discussed between the REC and their implementation centers (Consortia) for Southern Africa</li> </ul>	
	Chair:	Rapporteur
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific regional issues discussed between the REC and their implementation centers (Consortia) for Eastern Africa</li> </ul>	
	Chair:	Rapporteur

10:00-10:30	Health Break	Health Break
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10:30-12:00	<b>Overall regional discussion on challenges and opportunities for cross-fertilization</b>	
	Chair:	Rapporteur
	Facilitator:	

12:00:-13:30	Lunch Break	
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### Session 8: Regional Discussions

13:30 - 15:00	<b>Session 9: Actions and Recommendations of the Forum</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Review and adoption of actions and recommendations by Dr. Tidiane Ouattara, GMES &amp; Africa Programme Coordinator, at AUC</b></li> </ul>	
	Chair:	Rapporteur
	Facilitator:	

15:00 - 15:30	Health Break	Health Break
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15:30 - 17:00	<b>Closing Session</b> <b>Closing statements by representatives of</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EU Delegation</li> <li>• AUC</li> <li>• Government of Gabon</li> <li>• Press Conference</li> </ul>	
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## Day 5: Friday 23 November 2018

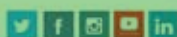
**Technical Visit**



**GMES  
AND AFRICA**

**UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL  
OF EARTH OBSERVATION  
AS A KEY DRIVER OF AFRICA'S  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

19 - 23 November 2018  
Libreville, Gabon

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**African  
Union** 

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the European Union



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