



Geospatial Intelligence for Environmental Protection Against Illegal Activities

29 May 2024 10:00 - 13:00

Objectives

Geospatial Intelligence for Environmental Protection Against Illegal Activities (GEOINT4ENV) is a project funded by the EU Commission within the framework of the Caroline Herschel Framework Partnership Agreement for Copernicus User Uptake Programme (FPCUP).

The framework of this project focused on showcasing the potential of remote sensing for different fields of environmental pollution and other activities affecting the environment and to define suitable implementation options in close exchange with user groups.

In this way, environmental protection agencies and NGOs can be provided with an extended information and decision-making basis thanks to satellite remote sensing.

Together with European partner institutions, we propose to bring remote sensing research on environmental pollution into practical application. GEOINT4ENV is developed by a team involving experts from CBK PAN (Poland), CUT (Cyprus), German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ) Potsdam, ISPRA Italy, Meteo Romania, Romanian Space Agency.

The project is benefiting the experience acquired by the partners while investigating the potential of satellite remote sensing for different aspects of environmental compliance assurance such as: illegal landfills, illegal building, unauthorized logging, illegal manure spreading, water pollution, air pollution.



Presentations (10:00-12:30)

- Welcome and introduction of the workshop and participants.
- Context of Copernicus and the Uptake Activities in FPCUP. Project planning, objectives and outcomes, demonstration cases
- Detection and monitoring of non-compliant waste deposits with satellite imagery. Case study performed in the area of Sintești
- Detection and description of waste burning events based on space and in-situ observations. Case study performed in the area of Sintești.
- Surveillance of volcanic ash with satellite data. Case study performed over Romania/Europe during the Las Palmas eruption.
- Safeguarding the forest habitats through the monitoring of logging events. Case study performed in the area of Mioveni.
- Tackling illegal groundwater drilling and abstractions. Earth Observation Techniques for the Detection of Illegal Groundwater Activities. Preliminary results.
- Conformity check on the exploitation of sand and gravel in river beds.

Follow-up (12:30-13:00)

In this session, the discussion will be organized around the consideration of possible actions and resources that need to be planned or allocated for supporting the uptake of the activities described, as they relate to the application of the geospatial intelligence principles for supporting environmental compliance assurance in the sense defined in the EU Environmental Crime Directive. These relate to data and instruments, legal framework, knowledge sharing and governance. A summary of recommendations for uptake and possible actions will be derived.

Venue

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