

G-SEXTANT Newsletter

May 2013

CONTENTS

- In focus: Ethical issues update (page 2)
- New people built the G-SEXTANT team (pages 2 & 3)
- Users' Meeting in Brussels (page 3)
- G-SEXTANT dissemination activities (page 3)
- G-SEXTANT WPs activities (page 4)
- Management issues (page 5)
- Deliverables distributed (page 5)
- Next events and deliverables (page 5)

IN FOCUS

Ethics approvals continue being an opportunity to improve our project and not a problem. Several related actions have been carried out:

- ✓ Collection of opinions from local authorities in countries where the research will be executed. Thanks to the efforts of Herbert Wulf, PLUS, SRC, BICC, Eurosense, DLR, IAI and Indra. We are waiting information from France and clarifications from Italy to close this issue. The main conclusion regarding the collection of opinions is that authorization to conduct this kind of research project is not required by national authorities.
- ✓ Preparation of a documentation set related to personal data protection (informant consent procedure and others).
- ✓ Elaboration of documentation related to ethics (*Report from Ethics Independent Expert, Report from Ethics Advisory Board and Ethics Approval Collection*).
- ✓ A second extraordinary meeting of the Ethics Advisory Board of the project was held through a teleconference, with the following attendants: Indra, DLR, BICC, EUSC, JRC and PLUS.
- ✓ Preparation of documentation related to the application to European Data Protection Supervisor.

Herbert Wulf, acting as Independent Ethics Expert, the Data Protection Office of Indra and the Management Staff are finishing the ethics reports to be submitted to REA in order to receive comments/indications about the situation. Meantime, preliminary works could be conducted whenever do not arise ethical issues.

NEW PEOPLE BUILT THE G-SEXTANT TEAM



María Tamame is on medical leave due to imminent maternity.



Gemma Ventura has been incorporated to the Management Staff replacing María.

We would like to welcome to the G-SEXTANT team the following people:

- ✓ team@dlr: **Simon** Plank (Simon.Plank@dlr.de). Simon will be in charge of the WP400 (Technology Enhancement and Production) coordination. **Eva-Maria** Bernard (Eva-Maria.Bernhard@dlr.de). Eva-Maria will be the first contact to WP440 (SAR change detection) and WP450 (Optical change detection), and thus deeply involved in the technology production and enhancement. **Sandro** Martinis (Sandro.Martinis@dlr.de). Sandro is team leader of the team "Remote Sensing Parameters for Geo-Risks" in our unit and supports the technology production and enhancement work. **Robin** Nitsche (Robin.Nitsche@dlr.de) Robin is cartographer focusing on GIS and will be mainly involved in the map production and DEM and 3D modeling WP activities.

- ✓ team@bicc. **Lena** Guesnet and **Ruth** Volmer Lena will be involved in WP530 (Natural resources scenario) focusing on the subscenario 2 (Oil exploitation). Ruth will be involved in all subscenarios of WP540 (Land conflict situation awareness), but mainly focusing on subscenario 3 (Land use changes caused by 'land grabbing'). Contact: guesnet@bicc.de/ vollmer@bicc.de.
- ✓ team@indra. **Raúl** Martínez (rmartinezq@indra.es). Raúl, geographer and production manager of the EO Application Unit of Indra will be in charge of WP420 (Reference mapping) and WP570 (Border Surveillance). **Carmelo** Alonso (calonso@indra.es). Carmelo as a senior imagery analyst and imagery expert will be involved in WP450 (Optical change detection) and WP460 (Feature extraction).

USERS' MEETING IN BRUSSELS

A **meeting** with users (**EEAS** and **DG-DEVCO**) was held in Brussels on 23/04/2013. **Alessandra** Ussorio (EUSC) presented the portfolio of G-SEXTANT and G-NEXT projects. After this meeting users have had the opportunity to know in more detail the portfolio of both projects. Issues regarding didactic documents, governance, friendly access to products or confidentiality of data had been mentioned by users. Focusing on G-SEXTANT, users thought that it is important to indentify very well the improvements (R&D) to be developed, in order to offer useful products/services.



G-SEXTANT DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES



Several dissemination tools have been issued:

- ✓ Template of G-SEXTANT leaflet.
- ✓ G-SEXTANT on Copernicus.eu web site: <http://copernicus.eu/pages-principales/projects/other-gmes-projects/security/>
- ✓ The web site of the project is pending for the greenlight of the Commission concerning Copernicus websites sub-domains.

According to REA requirements, G-SEXTANT/G-NEXT are aligning their communications activities.

G-SEXTANT WPs ACTIVITIES

WP200 Users Coordination and SLA

Reinforcing the synergies between BRIDGES, G-SEXTANT and G-NEXT and attending the requirements of *SEA Working Group*, EUSC (as coordinator of this WP) continues working on this WP.

We need to show clearly what G-SEXTANT can provide to the users to collect efficiently more detailed requirements. A friendly catalogue presenting G-SEXTANT/G-NEXT portfolio is planned to be edited.

Delay in specific tasks of the project is envisaged due to the collection of detailed requirements.

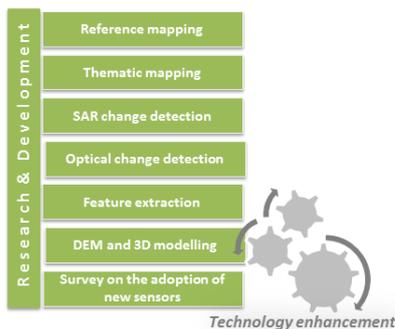
WP300 Scenarios definition and product standardization

As main outcome of this first level WP (led by Indra), *D320.1 Portfolio Specification before G-SEXTANT production* document has been submitted to REA. Thanks to the efforts of DLR, PLUS and EUSC.



Artisanal gold mining in DR Congo.
Credits: BICC/A. Täubert

WP400 Technology enhancement and production



The WP was planned to start in M4 and “kicked-off” accordingly. Simon Plank (DLR) is leading the WP and will inform all sub WP leaders about on-going issues and steps ahead. Activities which are included within this WP are mainly dependent on EO data order and processing and may only start after the acceptance of the *Ethics Approval Collection*. Thus, activities in this WP are currently on hold.

WP500 SEA scenarios integration and demonstration

The WP started in M2. **Elisabeth** Schoepfer (DLR) is leading this WP and kicked-off the work in February. Since the start of the WP main effort was put on the preparation of the first deliverable, *D510.1 User-driven scenarios*, and test sites selection. The scenario leaders (DLR, PLUS, JUELICH and Indra) as well as the involved WP partners contributed to this document providing detailed information on the scenarios and respective subscenarios. The envisaged test sites are described which will be used to elaborate and develop the envisaged products.



WP800 Dissemination

STP, in charge of this WP, is actively coordinating dissemination and communication activities.

MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Besides Ethics, Management Staff is working on other managerial issues:

- ✓ **G-SEXTANT Project Management Plan (PMP)** has been submitted to REA. PMP was edited as a project's handbook. In this document, REA and partners can find a project directory, friendly summary of WPs and partners involved, project management rules, project control procedures and project schedule, a list of deliverables, projects communication and dissemination rules (including project's logos and templates) and aspects related to control risk of the project and implementation of ethics issues.
- ✓ **Improvement of communication** between project partners. This *Newsletter* is the main outcome of this effort.
- ✓ Management staff is working on the adoption of the **Grant Agreement electronic process**.
- ✓ Shortly, Management Staff will circulate the **G-SEXTANT Risk Register**, a key element of the monitoring of the project.
- ✓ **Gender** first report is practically finished.

DELIVERABLES DISTRIBUTED



D120.1 Project Management Plan



D320.1 Portfolio Specification before G-SEXTANT Production

All deliverables can be found in the project FTP site.

NEXT EVENTS AND DELIVERABLES

Meetings



Management Staff is working on the next project meeting to be celebrated in Madrid, probably in the second half of June 2013 (REA approval pending).

On-going deliverables



D110.3 Gender Aspects in G-SEXTANT V1



D110.5; D110.9; D110.14 (Ethics)



D510.1 User-Driven Scenarios



D310.1 User requirements document before G-SEXTANT production