GEO Capacity Building Strategy: Panel

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- What are the unmet capacity building priority needs among the GEO societal benefit areas? i.e. where are the important gaps in infrastructure, institutions & education/ training?
- What current practices are worthy of replication?
- Where are the possible areas of synergy and co-ordination needs?

GEO CB Strategy elements

- Provide an overall framework and specific means for coordination and contributions
- Embrace the CB efforts of all main global and national organizations
- Gains
  - Better targeting of effort
  - Enhance co-ordination
  - Identification of lessons learned
  - Publicity for existing and planned activities
- Specific needs of developing countries

GEO CB Strategy elements

- Address "how to do" as well as "what to do"

- Include all main aspects of geo-information production

- Address decision-making and governance process

- Have a clear relationship to
  - GEOSS 10-year implementation plan and other GEO working groups

Questions to the panel

- What elements should the GEO Capacity Building strategy contain?

- What is the best practical methodology to ensure an effective strategy?

- How to engage major donors and decision-makers?

The elements of a capacity building strategy

"Qualified specialists produce relevant results by using good-quality data with adequate tools in stable institutions"

Capacity building = people + data + infrastructure

A GEO CB strategy for people

- Provide syllabus for graduate programs focused at societal benefit areas

- Identify existing programs and promote improvements in their work

- Promote open courseware and e-learning initiatives

A GEO CB strategy for data

- Adopt guidelines that indicate that EO data is a "public good"

- Encourage all GEO member states to make their EO archives freely acessible on the Internet

- Promote "good practice" initiatives that allow free access to EO data

A GEO CB strategy for infrastructure

- Promote open source software as the option of choice for EO application development

- Identify gaps in EO applications and fund open source software project in these areas

- Leverage national initiatives by promoting their visibility at a global level

- Promote funding for creating new learning centres and improve existing ones