



Policy RECommendations for Open access to research Data in Europe

# Workshop: Perspectives in understanding open access to research data – infrastructure and technology challenges

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*Part of the 10th Plenary Session of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO-X) & 2014 Ministerial Summit*

*14 January 2014, 9:00-17:00, Room 7 (Level 2)  
Centre International de Conférences de Genève (CICG)  
17, rue de Varembé, Geneva, Switzerland, [www.cicg.ch](http://www.cicg.ch)*

Many networks, initiatives, projects and communities are addressing the key technical and infrastructural barriers to Open Access to research data. Such barriers may include: lack of automatic mechanisms for policy enforcement, lack of metadata and data models supporting open access, obsolescence of infrastructures, scarce awareness about new technological solutions, lack of training and/or expertise on IT and semantics aspects.

However, these organizations are often heterogeneous and fragmented by discipline, geography, stakeholder category (publishers, academics, repositories, etc.) as well as other boundaries, and often work in isolation or with limited contact with one another.

This workshop will offer a multi-disciplinary space for GEOSS and other stakeholders interested in Open Access to research data, to:

- Identify and map good practices;
- Identify and map areas where further support is required;
- Develop common solutions for the infrastructure and technology challenges that are hindering Open Access and data preservation.

## RECODE Project 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop

In this context, "infrastructure" means: technological assets (hardware and software), personnel involved, and all the policies, processes and procedures for management, training and support to its continuous operation and evolution.

The workshop will explore the infrastructure and technology challenges by undertaking a review of the existing state of the art and by examining five case studies in different scientific disciplines: particle physics and particle astrophysics, clinical research, medicine and technical physiology (bioengineering), the humanities (archaeology), and the environmental sciences (GEOSS).

Aim of the workshop:

- Present key findings from a survey of the existing solutions and best practice for Open Data Access, from the five case studies of research practice;
- Solicit participants' and case study partners' feedback on the effectiveness of these solutions as well as any gaps, to assess their significance in practice;
- Better understand how to increase the effectiveness of the current technological baseline in supporting open access to research data.

Key questions to be considered:

- Where should open research data be stored and made accessible?
- How can we mitigate the technological barriers to Open Access to research Data?
- How can we cope with technological sustainability and obsolescence?
- What emerging technologies could be optimized to promote ease of deposit and retrieval of research data?

The workshop is part of the EU FP7 RECODE project (Grant no. 321463; <http://recodeproject.eu/>), which is addressing the drivers and barriers in developing Open Data Access, to identify a series of targeted and over-arching policy recommendations for Open Access to European research data, based on existing good practice.

# Agenda

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9:00 – Participant registration and coffee

9:30 – Introduction to RECODE project (Kush Wadhwa, Trilateral Research)

9:45 – Outline and purpose of today's workshop (Lorenzo Bigagli, National Research Council of Italy)

10:00 – The EC perspective and the GEOSS Data Sharing Principles (Michel Schouppe, European Commission)

10:30 – Coffee break

11:00 – NSF EarthCube/Belmont Forum perspective (to be defined)

11:30 – Key findings from a survey (questionnaire and literature review) and case studies interviews on the existing technological barriers, solutions and best practice for Open Research Data Access (Lorenzo Bigagli, National Research Council of Italy)

12:00 – Q&A

12:30 – Lunch break

13:30 – Plenary open discussion: Effectiveness, gaps, and practical significance of the existing technical solutions for Open Research Data Access (Jeroen Sondervan, Amsterdam University Press)

14.45 – Coffee break

15:15 – Plenary open discussion: Recommendations on how to increase the effectiveness of the current technological baseline in supporting Open Research Data Access (Bridgette Wessels, University of Sheffield)

16:30 – Next steps: legal and ethical issues in Open Research Data Access: Introduction to RECODE WP3 (Rachel Finn, Trilateral Research)

16:45 – Conclusions (Stefano Nativi, National Research Council of Italy)

17:00 – Finish

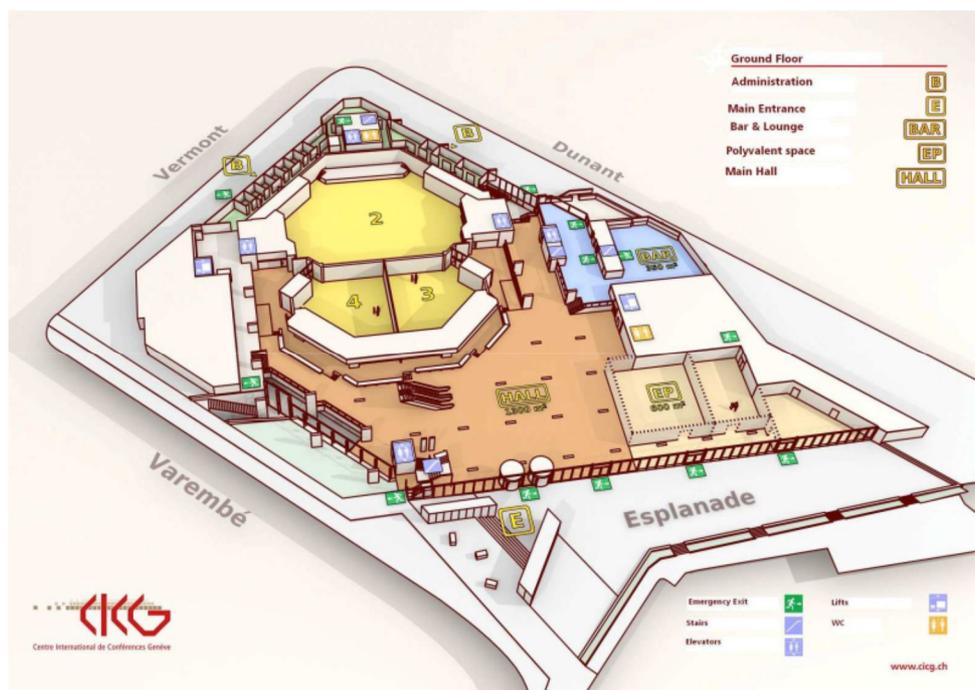
# Logistics information

The workshop is an official Side Event of the “GEO Week” (12-17 January 2014), which includes the GEO-X Plenary (15-16 January 2014), the GEO 2014 Ministerial Summit (17 January 2014), and the GEO Exhibition (14-17 January 2014).

All meeting and events will take place at the Centre International de Conférences de Genève (CICG), 17, rue de Varembe, Geneva, Switzerland ([www.cicg.ch](http://www.cicg.ch)).

The workshop will take place in Room 7 (Level 2). Access to the location will be open to the public. To facilitate the workshop organization, please pre-register at: <http://recodeproject.eu/events/recode-workshops/>

Access to other parts of the premises may be restricted. The Exhibition area (Ground Floor, Level 0), providing tangible examples of GEO achievements, and informed decision-making, will be open to the public to the extent possible, taking into account the security policy of the GEO official meetings.



Updated information on directions, accommodation and other practicalities is available on the GEO-X homepage at:

<http://www.earthobservations.org/geo10.shtml>

For additional information please visit the Geneva Tourism Office at:

[www.geneve-tourisme.ch](http://www.geneve-tourisme.ch).