

Working Group
Earth Observation/Copernicus

Brussels, 19th November 2014
NEREUS General Assembly
Committee of the Regions



Sentinel-1
Source @ESA

Co-chairs

Prof. Valerio Tramutoli, University of Basilicata, BASILICATA REGION (Italy)

Dr. Branka Cuca, Politecnico di Milano, LOMBARDY REGION (Italy)

Main WG meetings since last GA

3 meetings (all collateral to NEREUS events)

- **Official** EO/Copernicus WG, Brussels 2 July 2013 (in coincidence with NEREUS GA).

Special presentation by **Marc Tondriaux** (ASTRIUM, France).

Guest: **Geoff Sawyer**, Secretary General of EARSC. Participants: 18

- **Informal** EO/Copernicus WG, Brussels 9 October 2013 (in occasion of CoR Open Days). Guest: **Peter Berger** (Deputy Head of Unit ENTR.G.2 – Copernicus Services), Participants: 13
- NEREUS **HORIZON2020 Working Session**, Bari 26 Feb 2014, (in occasion of NEREUS International Conference on *Space, a driver for competitiveness and growth*. Special presentation by **Branka Cuca** on H2020 opportunities and calls. Participants: 10



Network promotion and positioning (1/2)

- **European Space Expo** contributes by **V. Tramutoli, P. Carrara**, Rome, 30 Aug-6 Sept 2013
- **International Conference Space4you “Space, a driver for competitiveness and growth”** Bari 27-28 February 2014 organized by NEREUS with Regione Puglia (with contributes to the organization and as speakers of several WG members form different NEREUS Regions)
- **Copernicus Awareness and Training Event**, Tallinn 9-10 April 2014 with presentations by **V. Tramutoli** and **N. Pergola**
- **Presentation of NEREUS network at Remote Sensing in Cyprus (RSCy2014)** and meeting with representatives of the Cypriot Ministry of Telecommunication and Works, 16-19 March 2014 (R. Ayazi and B. Cuca)



Network promotion and positioning (2/2)

- **Copernicus Big Data workshop Brussels** 13/14 March 2014 organized by the EC (**V. Tramutoli** representing NEREUS from the audience)
- **Networking Session Regions - “SPACE4REGIONS: Satellite Solutions as a Driver for Growth And Innovation”** In the frame of the conference “Copernicus Sentinels Serving Society and the Environment” organized by the ESA, the Greek Presidency and the EC on 12/13 May 2014 in Athens (with contributes to the organization and as speakers of several WG members of **Bavaria, Azores, Lombardy, Veneto, Basilicata, Apulia**)
- **H2020 Space WP 2016-17 Consultation Workshop** (**V. Tramutoli** and **S. De Zorzi**), organized by the European Commission. Bruxelles 14 October, 2014
- **Workshop on Remote Sensing Technologies for Cultural Landscape and Heritage**, EUROMED2014 International Scientific Conference, Limassol, Cyprus (Nov. 3-8 2014), in collaboration with German Space Center (DLR) and Cyprus University of Technology



Projects mobilized within NEREUS

- **FORMAT-EO ERASMUS Intensive Program** involving 7 Universities from 6 NEREUS Regions and members of EO/Copernicus WG (**on going**)
- **Improving Copernicus take-up among Local and Regional Authorities via dedicated thematic workshops.** Series of workshops following previous collaboration with ESA on “*The Growing Use of GMES across Europe’s Regions*” (on going)
- **European NETwork for Redistributing Geospatial Information to user Communities - Open Data (ENERGIC OD)**, project funded by the CIP Programme (Sept 2014-Sept 2017). Several Nereus members/ Associated members and EO/Cop WG members involved

Sustainability of RCO-Network

- **SATURN “SATellite applications for URbaN mobility”**, led by Aerospace Valley (based in Midi/P) RCO-partners from East-Midlands, Mazovia, and Midi-Pyrénées/Aquitaine regions (CETE).
- **EC DG Enterprise Tender “Support to the uptake of Copernicus services by users”** (submitted on 13/11/2014). First direct participation of NEREUS with all the RCO network and several WG members contributing



Main accomplishments /achievements

- **Positioning of network for next decade: Horizon2020, Cohesion Policy post 2020**

The WG has finalized a NEREUS position paper on “Copernicus Regulation post 2014”.

MEP Prof. Prodi explicitly recognized our proposal for a dedicated Copernicus Data Distribution Service (CDDS) to facilitate data access (FOF→FOFE)

For more info see video: www.nibs.tern.it/il-regolamento-copernicu-al-parlamento-europeo/

- **H2020 Space WP 2016-17 consultation:** most of the positions expressed by the WG in previous meeting (including CDDS) and re-proposed into NEREUS answer to the on-line questionnaire were recognized (different story if they will be included, major role requested during the meeting for users, major lobby/ attention for the future)
- **Publications:** WG members contributed to the “*The growing use of GMES across European regions*” (2013) and to the e-Book “*Satellites pour la Télédétection appliquée à la gestion territorial*”



Inputs in respect to the Work Program by President Vendola

The Group could mainly contribute in reference to the objective *“Building an agreement with the new institutional framework at the European level (Commission, Parliament, Committee of the Regions, ecc.) with the aim to identify “platforms of dialogue” which could be used to strengthen the network and its own members”*

It is in the interest of this WG for NEREUS to have a stable and well recognized role of interlocutor with EC regarding future research priorities and user needs in domain of Space, in particular Earth Observation monitoring. This is of particular importance since regional needs are not always coincident with (or represented by) the national level.

*In addition, in order to achieve the proposed **strategic results**, we suggest:*

- to fully exploit the potential the existing and new Regional Contact Offices (RCO) as a facilitator of the data use and uptake, especially in view of the new FOFE data policy by the EC/ESA (Sentinel data missions)*
 - to promote the possibility to fully capitalize on the regional level the results of H2020/national projects by using regional funds such as ERDF, Interreg etc. in order to make the **“Space for Societal challenges”** a more sustainable and long term practice*
-

Inputs regarding EIP Space initiative

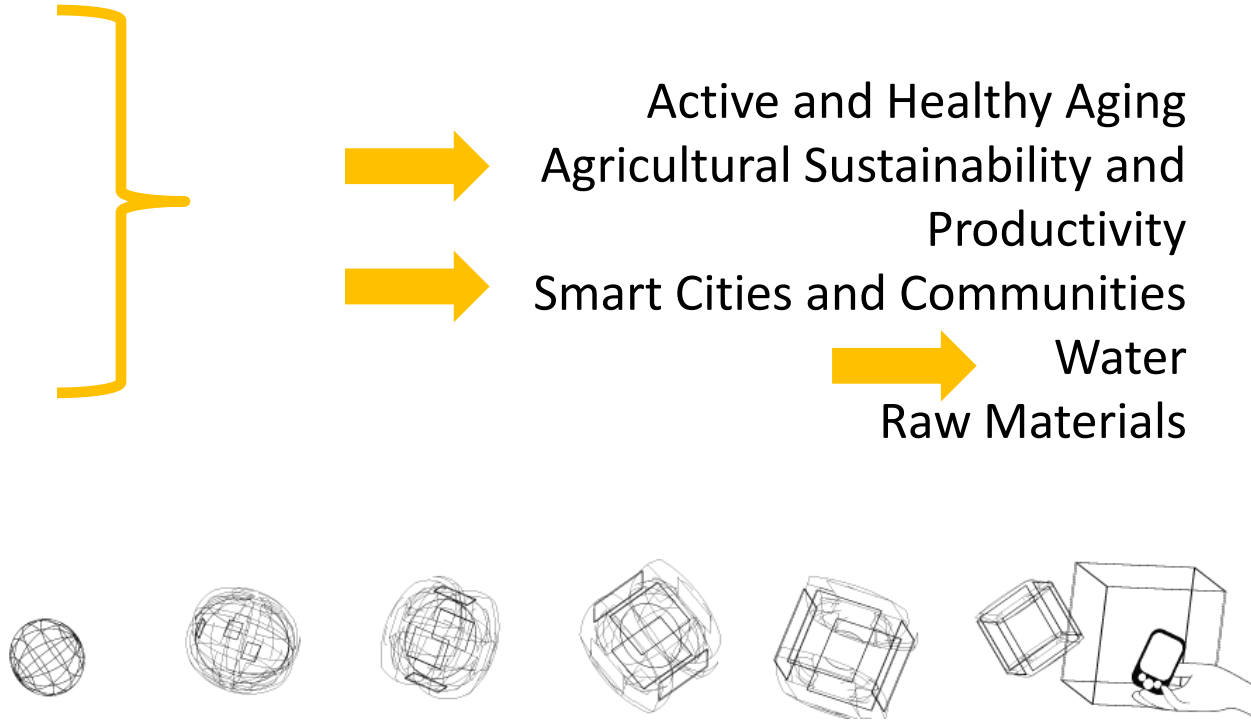
Copernicus services address six main thematic areas:

Land Monitoring
Marine Monitoring
Atmosphere Monitoring
Emergency Management
Security
Climate Change



European Innovation Partnerships

Active and Healthy Aging
Agricultural Sustainability and Productivity
Smart Cities and Communities
Water
Raw Materials



PILOT ACTIVITY: EIP Agricultural Sustainability and Productivity

Excellent exercise to link space with non-space applications : identification of **REAL end-user needs**

WHY EIP-AGRI? (non exhaustive list):

- It is the most active (mature) EIP
- Most transversal EIP: it can aggregate representatives of most (maybe all) NEREUS working Groups
- Large portion of EU/National/Regional funding in many countries dedicated to Agriculture: clear EU priority
- EU Directives and Programs requesting concrete inputs that Space sector is able to provide (e.g. CAP, INSPIRE etc.)



→ First Step: obtain the Green light from Management Board (in occasion of the GA2014)



IMPORTANT: Not exclusive only to EIP-AGRI. Initiatives for other EIP **WELCOME!!!**

*3 key messages for the Management Board
of NEREUS (yesterday, Nov 18)*



- **Major institutional NEREUS role** and active involvement since the planning phases of EU and ESA strategies, with a specific attention to downstream sector
- A **specific strategy** is required in order to increase NEREUS members and its representativeness
- EIP proposal for **action groups within existing EIPs** (starting with EIP **Agricultural Sustainability and Productivity**)