1. FPCUP WG Africa at a glance

The FPCUP WG Africa project is a joint effort of 11 national institutions of 8 European countries, in the framework of the Caroline Herschel Framework Partnership Agreement between the European Commission and Copernicus Participating States.

The main purpose of the project is to provide training on Copernicus to African trainers and support them to develop a training programme adapted to their local needs and context in a co-design and sustainable approach.

The trainings and activities are being conducted in three languages i.e. English, Portuguese and French.

READ MORE

2. 1st Webinar update

The 1st webinar of the "FPCUP Training of Trainers in Africa Program" was held in 3 languages in separate Sessions during May/June 2023.

The African participants had the chance to gain insight into the project and the possible ways to participate.

In addition, the EU Copernicus programme and the GMES & Africa program managed by the AUC were also presented in its various aspects (Overview, networks).

The presentations and the recorded video links for the 3 different languages are available online. EN | FR | PT

Webinar #2 will be organized in January 2024 and will focus on the Copernicus services and thematic applications. More information on the agenda and how to participate coming up soon.

3. Online Training Programme Update

In the framework of the FPCUP WG Africa project, the selected African trainers have followed a 12 weeks online Training Program (8 weeks of core training and 4 weeks of thematic training).

Up to date, the first 5 Modules of the training programme have been delivered, whereas the second period of the trainings for Modules 6-9 will be completed in October 2023.

- Mod. 1 • Trainer pedagogical methods and techniques
- Mod. 2 • **GIS** basics
- Mod. 3 • **Remote Sensing** and Optical data basics
- Mod. 4 • **European Union Copernicus Program**
- Mod. 5 • **Python** scripting, Jupyter notebook/JupyterLab
- Mod. 6 • **SAR** Basics ; Data and Processing tools
- Mod. 7 • **Artificial Intelligence** for Earth Observation data analysis
- Mod. 8 • **Webmapping** and geo-data visualisation
- Mod. 9 • **Thematic** trainings - on demand

4. Meet our African Trainers

Name/Surname
 **MBIA MBIDA Félicité Alida** Supported by: CNES-France and IDGEO-France
Country
Cameroon
Organisation/Position
EURÊKA GÉO is NewSpace's technical skills centre, which (i) develops and runs certification and professional qualification programmes in geomatics and space science; (ii) detects and supports start-ups and high-potential projects in space innovations; (iii) lobbies with ecosystem players to integrate geospatial applications and data into local intervention policies and strategies.

Short Bio
As a specialist in forest and wildlife resource management, MBIA MBIDA Félicité Alida is passionate about geospatial solutions for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Her aim is to contextualize geospatial solutions developed using earth observation data, and to promote their popularization through an innovative approach.

Topic of the future Training
GIS for Land Use Planning

Details about the organization of the future Training
On-Site training session/ April 2024

Social media accounts/web page	
Web page: www.eurekageo.space	Twitter/Facebook: https://twitter.com/Eureka_Geo https://www.facebook.com/eurekageospace/

Name/Surname
 **Farid Traoré** Supported by: ISSeP-Belgium

Country
Burkina Faso/Ouagadougou

Organisation/Position
INERA ((Institute of Environment and Agricultural Research) /Researcher

Short Bio
Farid Traoré is specialized in environmental sciences. He is working as a researcher within a national agency in charge of environmental and agronomic research, in Burkina Faso. As part of his activities, he is working on : - Watershed hydrology monitoring - Diagnostic of AWM of small and medium reservoirs and schemes - Capacity building in agricultural water management - Companion Modelling (using Multi-Agent Systems) - Remote sensing and GIS.
Topic of the future Training
Introduction to QGIS
Details about the organization of the future Training
INERA (Ouagadougou)/INERA Agents + Ministry in charge of water and agriculture/March 2024
Presentation of any Copernicus Use case
Copernicus Land Monitoring Service (CLMS)
Social media accounts/web page
Twitter/LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/farid-traore-9b7b30124/

Name/Surname
 **BWAZANI BALANDI JULIEN** Supported by: CNES-France and VisioTerra-France
Country
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

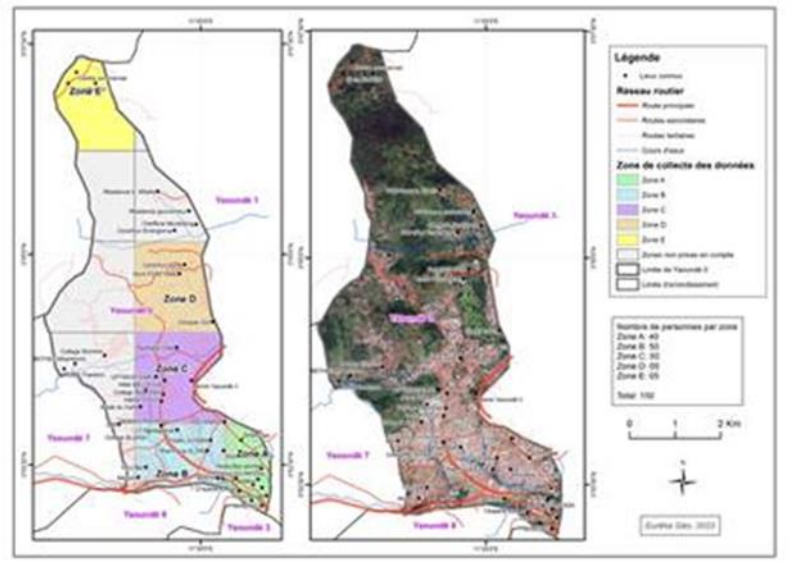
Organisation/Position
 ECOLE REGIONALE POSTUNIVERSITAIRE D'AMENAGEMENT ET DE GESTION INTEGRES DES FORETS ET TERRITOIRES TROPICAUX (ERAIFT) REGIONAL POST-UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF TROPICAL FORESTS
Short Bio
Julien BWAZANI BALANDI is born in 1995 at Lisala in the Democratic Republic of Congo. He obtained his license in Forest Ecosystem Management in 2016 and a master's degree in the same field in 2018. Then, he completed a Master's degree in Integrated Planning and Management of Forests and Tropical Territories at ERAIFT between 2019 and 2021. From 2022 to date he is research assistant at ERAIFT and doctoral student registered at ERAIFT and the University of Liège.
Topic of the future Training
Training in advanced processing of satellite data (SAR and optical data from Copernicus) for the management of forests and tropical territories
Details about the organization of the future Training
ERAIFT, in Kinshasa, 02/2024. The first session of the training will concern agents of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development as well as those of the Ministry of Agriculture. The second session will be organized for all managers and supporters of Biodiversity.
Presentation of any Copernicus Use case
As part of the first session of the training, Copernicus data from the Sentinel-1 sensor (GRD data) are used for mapping forest aggregates and monitoring deforestation. In the second training session, we plan to also teach participants the use of SAR data in monitoring flooding and coastal erosion. We will also address the Optical-Radar complementarity in monitoring deforestation.
Social media accounts/web page
Webpage : https://www.eraift-rdc.org/fr/

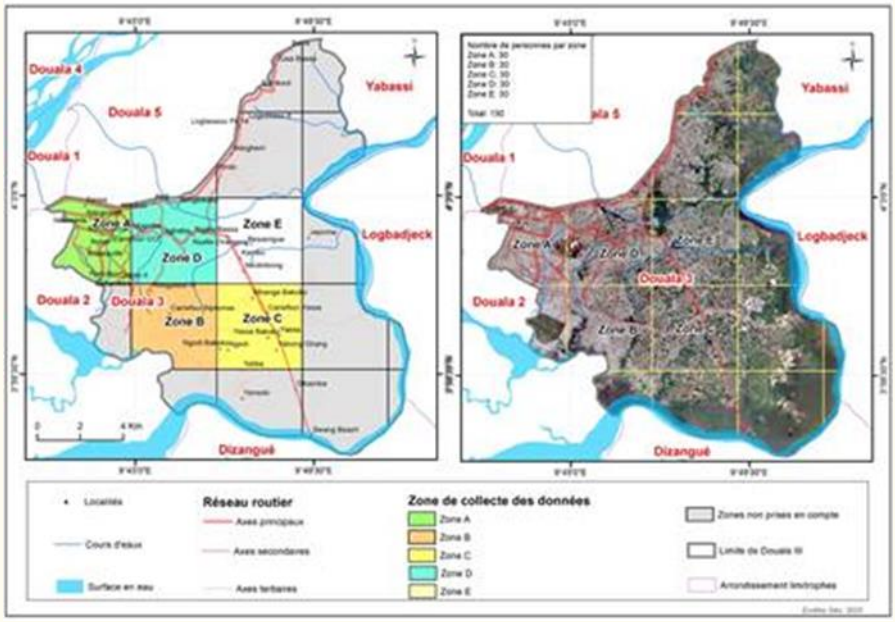
Name/Surname
 **Bignon Nicanor KOUTON** Supported by: GeoDEV-France
Country
Benin
Organisation/Position
Laboratoire d'Ecologie, de Botanique et de Biologie végétale UNIVERSITE DE PARAKOU Position: Research assistant Organization: Research unit at Biodiversity conservation at the Interface People, Land use and Climate changes (UR-BIPLaC) / Laboratory of Ecology, Botany and Plant Biology (LEB) research unit.
Short Bio
Bignon Nicanor Kouton is a multidisciplinary expert from Benin with a Master's degree in forestry and natural resource management. His work focuses on issues related to geographic information systems (GIS), remote sensing, the creation of geospatial databases and natural risk management. He is also active with civil society organizations whose aim is to safeguard the environment, biodiversity and climate change. This dynamism has earned him the position of Northern Zone Coordinator for the NGO Save Our Planet and member of the IUCN Commission on Education and Communication. In parallel, he is a part-time web content creator. He is known for his work ethic and commitment to biodiversity and environmental conservation.
Topic of the future Training
1) Initial training in QGIS: acquiring the fundamentals of the Geographic Information System (GIS); 2) Copernicus Program Data Access and Use Training: Harness the Power of Earth Observation; 3) Copernicus Data in Action: Remote Sensing Training.
Details about the organization of the future Training

Venue: all training will take place at the University of Parakou (Benin), and more specifically on the premises of the Laboratory Target audience: Geomatics professionals; Students and Researchers; Environmental professionals; Urban and Regional Planners; Information Systems Managers Date: January 2024 / March 2024 / July 2024
Presentation of any Copernicus Use case
Copernicus data play a key role in the analysis of spatio-temporal dynamics in Benin. They provide crucial information for monitoring environmental change, land use and other aspects of geospatial dynamics in the country. These data are essential for understanding the evolution of landscapes and environmental conditions over time, enabling researchers and decision-makers to make informed decisions on resource management and sustainable development. It is worth noting that, due to the launch period of the Sentinel satellites, these data are used for more recent dates, thus complementing the information provided by Landsat or SPOT data.
Social media accounts/web page
Twitter/LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/bignon-nicanor-kouton-48b06323b/

5. Copernicus use cases in Africa

Organisation
Eureka Geo
Presentation of Copernicus Use case
Technical Assistance to develop the spatial database and Geographic Information Systems of the INFORM'ALL - CITY digital platform, made available to Decentralised Territorial Authorities and street vendors in Cameroon to improve: • Urban management: control the management, planning and occupation of the territory thanks to the analysis of satellite images and Geographic Information Systems. • Fiscal management: controlling the collection of taxes from informal street vendors • Increasing resources: capturing additional taxes through the digital collection of occupancy rights from street vendors • Platform for ordering from street vendors





Deliverable 1: Stratification of the communes of Yaoundé 1 and Douala 3 for the reorganisation of streets occupied by women in the informal sector.

6. We are online!

The Working Group Africa is online. Follow us on social media and stay updated on news and project developments.

Facebook | LinkedIn | Twitter

7. We will be at GEO Week 2023!

WG Africa will be at GEO in South Africa! Ali Arslan will be giving a presentation about the project. A video has been prepared for such occasion, and you can see it already here!

8. Copernicus related future events

Click here and be informed about the current and upcoming Copernicus related events!