ST-09-02
Promoting Awareness and Benefits of GEO in the Science and Technology Community

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- Progress Report since STC meeting in Washington
- Issues Requiring STC Actions
- Task Leads, Membership and Resources

More information at http://www.geo-tasks.org/st0902

Introduction

- Task Kick-Off meeting: July 27-28, 2009, Frascati, Italy
- Minutes available at http://www.geo-tasks.org/st0902/meetings
- Report on status of Action Items at STC meeting in Melbourne
- Report on status of Task at STC meeting in Washington

- Report on status of Task at STC meeting in Ankara
- *Potentially*:
  Task Team meeting on May 6-7, 2010 in Vienna/Laxenburg (?)
  Alternatives: COSPAR Meeting, IGARSS Meeting

Activity 1

Activity 1: Links with major scientific research enterprises

1.1 High-level list of major scientific research enterprises necessary for GEOSS

List is in preparation by ICSU, but there are some resource issues to be discussed by the Task Team.

1.2 Identification of key organizations currently not linked to GEO and development of mechanisms for linkage to these organizations

Action Item ST2-KO-1: Douglas Cripe and Hans-Peter Plag will monitor the discussion concerning acceptance criteria for and status of POs and will inform the Task Team when decisions are reached by the GEO Plenary. Responsible: Douglas Cripe, Hans-Peter Plag, Deadline: 2009-12-31.

The GEO-VI Plenary accepted a document prepared by the Executive Committee, that sets the rules for POs. Basically, the document encourages organizations to contribute through a Member country if possible; otherwise, the organizations should be able to contribute meaningfully to GEO to be considered as a PO in its own right.

1.3 Organize, support, initiate workshops to network the new organizations with relevant Task Team and CoPs in the different SBA.

Pending depends on 1.1 and 1.2.

Activity 2

Activity 2: Encourage scientists and technical experts to contribute to GEOSS

2.1 Getting GEOSS acknowledged among scientists; a GEOSS citation standard

Action Item ST2-KO-2: All Task Team members will gather information on approaches to citation rules and credits for acknowledging data established and applied in relevant organizations they are linked to, and they will submit this information to Stuart Marsh for the preparation of a summary report. Responsible: ALL, Deadline: 2009-10-31.

The Federation of Earth Science Information Partners (ESIP) has a Preservation and Stewardship Cluster, which is discussing Data Citation Rules.

The objective of the cluster is to support the long-term preservation of Earth system science data and information.

We plan to link to the ESIP Cluster and align the GEOSS citation standard to what the Cluster develops.

Activity 2

Activity 2.1: Getting GEOSS acknowledged among scientists; a GEOSS citation

Applications Places System hppla... Mail ::... Downl... Main ... to do... Thu Mar 18, 8:24 PM

Main Page - Federation of Earth Science Information Partners - SeaMonkey

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Main Page

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Federation Of Earth Science Information Partners (ESIP)

Earth observation information from satellites and ground-based collection sites has the potential for providing scientifically valid answers to many of the world's most pressing environmental problems. However, the data sets tend to be very large, poorly cataloged, widely distributed and difficult to access.

The Federation of Earth Science Information Partners is a unique consortium of more than 115 organizations that collect, interpret and develop applications for remotely sensed Earth observation information. Included in the ESIP network are NASA, NOAA and USGS data centers, research universities, government research laboratories, supercomputing facilities, education resource providers, information technology innovators, nonprofit organizations and commercial enterprises.

With our Strategic Partners the National Aeronautical and Space Administration and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Federation and its operations arm, the Foundation for Earth Science, are working to make observation information relating to a broad spectrum of Earth science issues more available and understandable to researchers, educators, policy makers and the general public. By so doing, the Federation hopes to contribute significantly to the creation of a healthy and sustainable planet.

Societal Benefit Areas

Air Quality
Carbon
Coastal Management
Disaster Management
Ecological Forecasting
Public Health
Water Management
Discovery

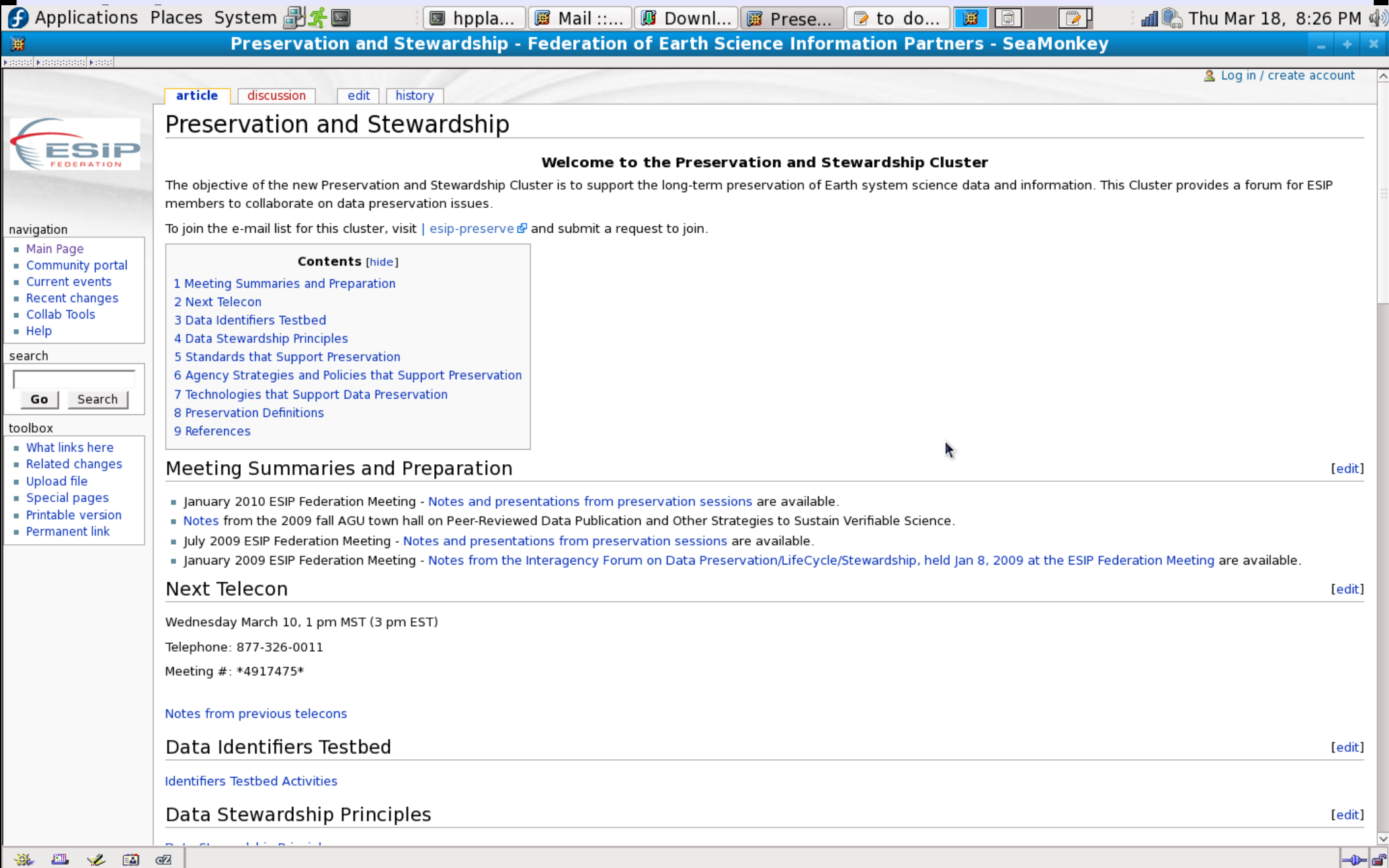
Cluster tools

Federation Activities

- Meeting
  - July 20-23, 2010, ESIP Federation Meeting, Knoxville, TN
  - Past Meetings
  - Visioneers

Activity 2

Activity 2.1: Getting GEOSS acknowledged among scientists; a GEOSS citation



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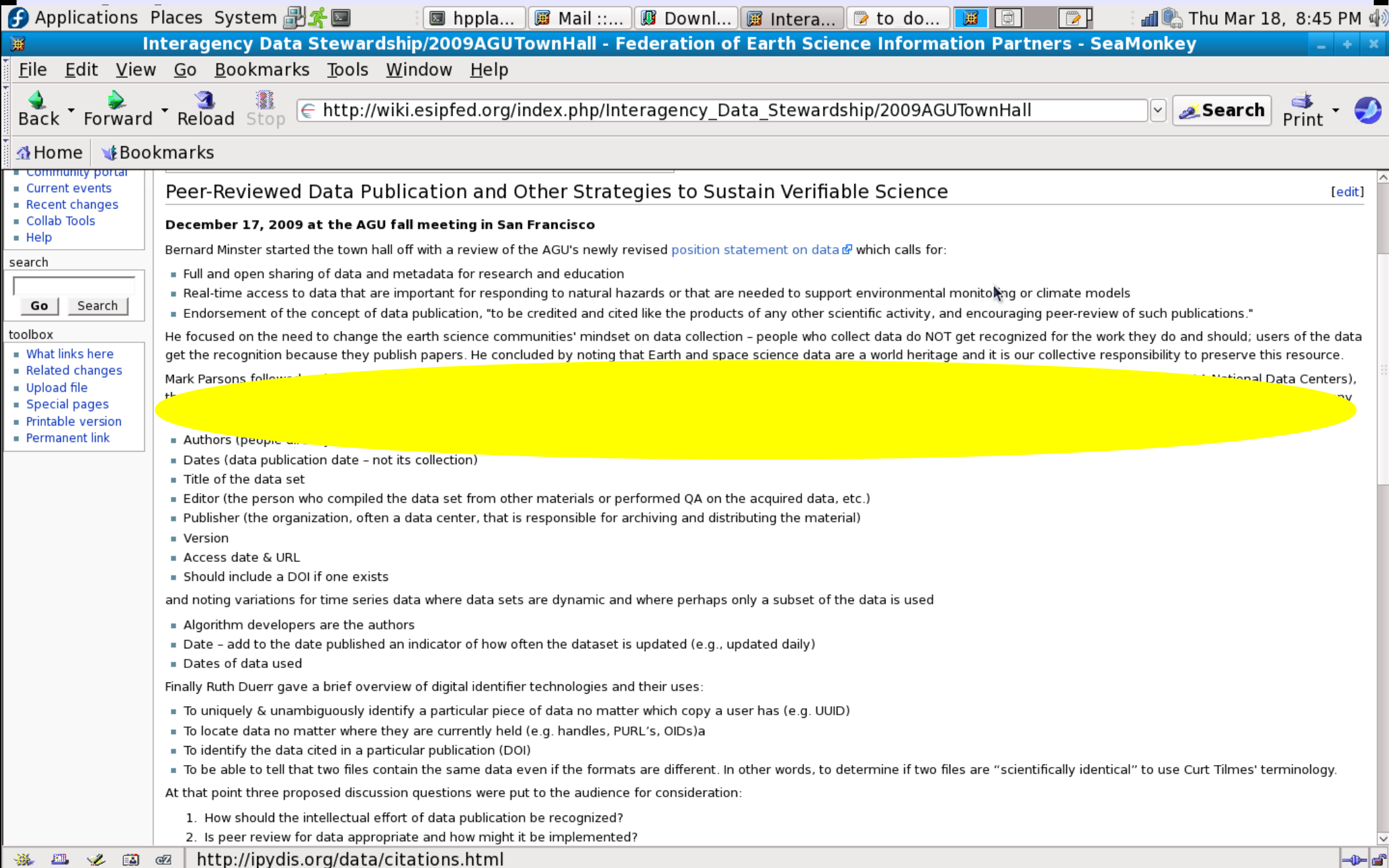
Activity 2.1: Getting GEOSS acknowledged among scientists; a GEOSS citation



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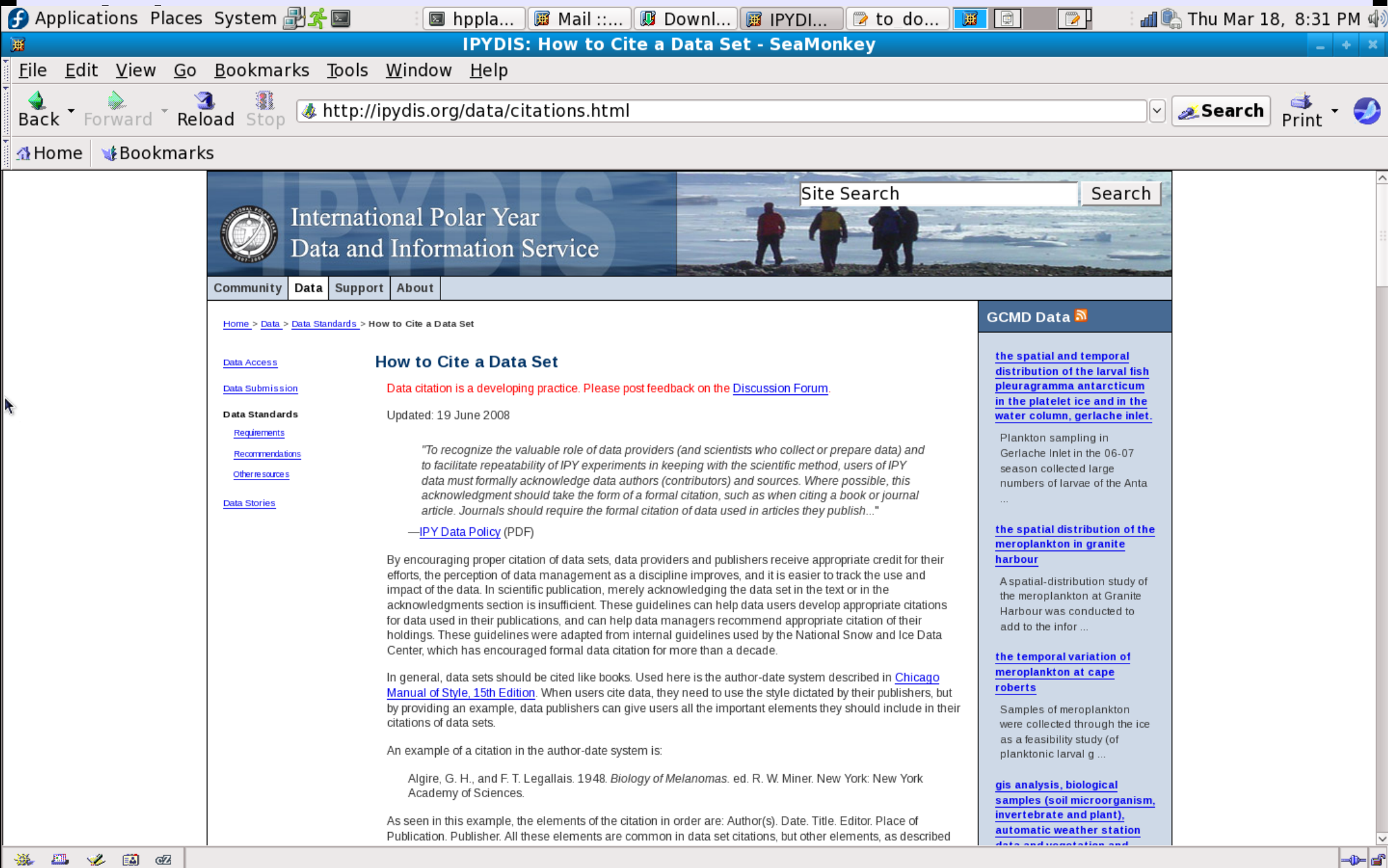

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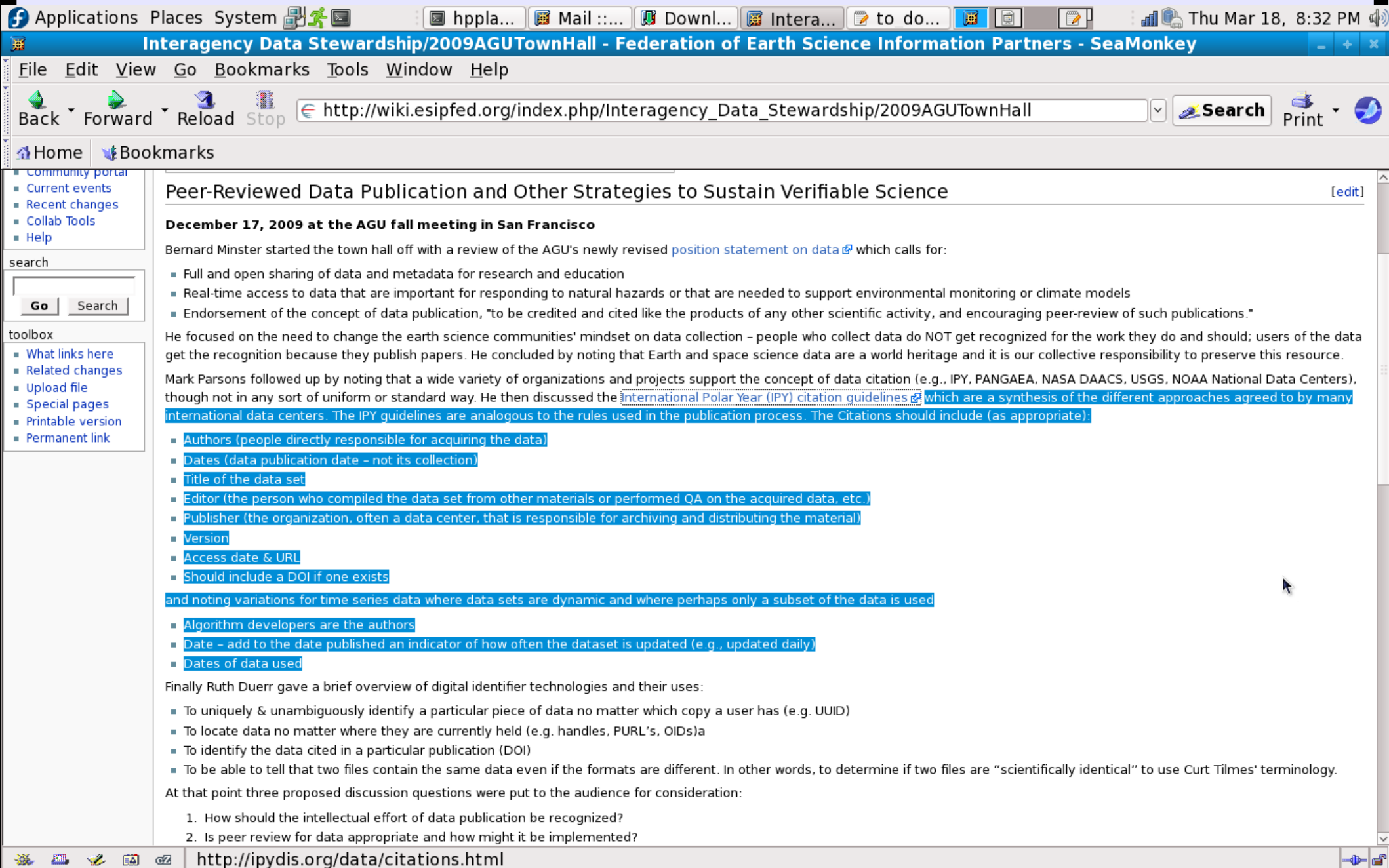
Activity 2.1: Getting GEOSS acknowledged among scientists; a GEOSS citation



Activity 2

Activity 2.1: Getting GEOSS acknowledged among scientists; a GEOSS citation standard

Questions to STC :

- Should we align the GEOSS Citation Standard to IPY/(future) ESIP data citation rules?
- Should we at task level engage in the ESIP Preservation and Stewardship Cluster discussion on citation rules?
- Should we at task level link to the ESIP and explore whether there are mutual interests between GEO and ESIP or should this be done at higher level (if not already done)?

Proposed Action:

We provide a proposal for GEOSS Citation Rules for consideration by STC-14.

Activity 2

Activity 2: Encourage scientists and technical experts to contribute to GEOSS (continued)

2.2 Develop concept for a "GEO label" related to the scientific relevance, quality, acceptance and societal needs for activities in support of GEOSS as an attractive incentive for involvement of the S&T communities.

Action Item ST2-KO-3: All Task Team members will gather information on best practices in quality assurance and quality assessments for data sets and products made available through relevant organizations they are linked to, for example, the world space agencies (CEOS), ICSU World data centers, global observing systems, etc., and they will submit this information to Hans-Peter Plag for the preparation of a summary report. Responsible: ALL, Deadline: 2009-10-31.

Pending

Action Item ST2-KO-4: Hans-Peter Plag and Douglas Cripe will ensure that there is coordination of the Task Activity 2.2 and relevant tasks in the GEO Work Plan, in particular, DA-09-01a (PoC: Pascal Lecomte). Responsible: Hans-Peter Plag, Douglas Cripe, Deadline: 2009-11-30.

Pending

Activity 2

Activity 2: Encourage scientists and technical experts to contribute to GEOSS (continued)

2.2 Develop concept for a "GEO label" related to the scientific relevance, quality, acceptance and societal needs for activities in support of GEOSS as an attractive incentive for involvement of the S&T communities.

Although a GEO Label would have some relations to **data quality** (and therefore needs to be discussed with the relevant tasks), the GEO Label could **also be based on other 'values'**, e.g., relevance of a data set/service for Millennium Development Goals, sustainability, ...

Could the STC nominate two or three people to develop the idea of what a GEO label should be in more detail (very brief paper)?
- What do we want to achieve with the label?
- What values should be connected to the label? Only data quality or other values?
- How do we think the label should be implemented?

Activity 2

Activity 2: Encourage scientists and technical experts to contribute to GEOSS (continued)

2.3 Increase relevance and benefits of GEOSS registries (GCI) for scientific communities through enhanced registration of relevant scientific data sets.

Action Item ST2-KO-5: Hans-Peter Plag and Douglas Cripe will explore potential synergies between Activity 2.3 of ST-09-02 and the GEO Work Plan task DA-09-02a "Data Integration and Analysis Systems" by contacting the PoC Ryosuke Shibasaki, shiba@csis.u-tokyo.ac.jp. Responsible: Hans-Peter Plag, Douglas Cripe, Deadline: 2009-10-31.

Pending; needs a lead.

Obstacle:
There are problems with registration of data sets/services and problems with retrieval of information from registries.

Questions:
- Should an educational tool be developed to support those who want to register something?
- Should ST-09-02 coordinate this with ADC/GCI-Team?

Activity 3

Activity 3: Outreach to diverse scientific and technological communities in order to make GEOSS more visible and attractive

3.1 Production of promotion material, including but not limited to scientific publications on GEOSS products and services

Pending. However, the proposed showcases for the ministerial summit and the presentations at the GEOSS Session at AGU, Dec. 2009 provide a good basis to start this activity.

Proposed Action:

Format of promotion material will be discussed during Task Team meeting.

Activity 3

Activity 3: Outreach to diverse scientific and technological communities in order to make GEOSS more visible and attractive

3.2 Support outreach of GEO Principals, Committee members and other delegates to S and T communities by the provision of a slide library (ppt)

Action Item ST2-KO-6: Douglas Cripe will work with the GEO Secretariat to get a web-based slide library with high-level slides about GEO and GEOSS started for free down-load by those who would like to compile a presentation including information about GEO or GEOSS. Responsible: Douglas Cripe, Deadline: 2009-10-31.

After the GEO Director vetoed a public slide library maintained by the GEO Secretariat, the Task Team has to decide how to proceed.

Proposed Actions:

- An option could be to set up the slide library without the support from the GEO Secretariat.
- Will be discussed at the Task Team meeting.

Activity 3

Activity 3: Outreach to diverse scientific and technological communities in order to make GEOSS more visible and attractive (cont)

Activity 3.3: Compile a set of compelling examples showing how GEOSS serves S and T communities in their work.

Action Item ST2-KO-7 to Action Item ST2-KO-16: ... will identify one or two compelling examples in the ... SBA that would show how GEOSS works and supports or benefits from science and technology communities, and he will report these examples to Hans-Peter Plag using the agreed upon template. Responsible: ..., Deadline: 2009-08-31.

Action Item ST2-KO-17: Hans-Peter Plag will compile all examples showing how GEOSS works and distribute these to the Task Team for a brief iteration and comments, and he will submit these examples afterwards for a review by the STC during the STC meeting in Melbourne. Responsible: Hans-Peter Plag, Deadline: 2009-09-07.

Up to now, four examples, available that the Task Web page:

Water SBA, Russel Lefevre: Pilot Projects for Improved Water Discovery and Quality Assessments

Climate SBA, Jun She: Capacity building of operational oceanography and climate adaptation

Ecopsystems: Vojko Bratina: enviroGRIDS Building Capacity for a Black Sea Catchment Observation and Assessment System supporting Sustainable Development

Biodiversity, Bob Scholes: Protected Areas Monitoring Pilot

Activity 3

Activity 3: Outreach to diverse scientific and technological communities in order to make GEOSS more visible and attractive (cont)

Activity 3.3: Compile a set of compelling examples showing how GEOSS serves S and T communities in their work.

Also: Some of the showcases submitted for the Ministerial Summit can be developed into Compelling Examples.

Next Steps:

- Review of proposals (both compelling examples and showcases) by Task Team;
- Contact to proposers.

Question to STC:

- How should the “compelling examples” be published? Options include central web page, individual web pages, book;
- Would there be resources to support publication?

Activity 4

Activity 4: Specific efforts to contact universities and research laboratories with the goal to involve them in GEOSS activities.

Activity 4.1: Outreach to major university cooperation programs and research network.

Action Item ST2-KO-19: Douglas Cripe will discuss with the Director of the GEO Secretariat to possibility to have the Director give a presentation at the 2009 Conference of the International Association of Universities (IAU). Responsible: Douglas Cripe, Deadline: 2009-08-30.

The 2010 Conference of the IAU will take place at Mykolas Romeris University, Vilnius, Lithuania on June 24 to 26, 2010. It is hoped that the Director of the GEO Secretariat will be able to give a presentation there.

However, it may be a challenge to fit this into the program under the title “Ethics and Values in Higher Education in the Era of Globalisation: What Role for the Disciplines?”

Activity 4

7 Review of Activity 4: Specific efforts to contact universities and research laboratories with the goal to involve them in GEOSS activities.

Activity 4.2: Proactive collaboration between GEO Tasks and S&T activities at universities and labs.

Pending. Could be discussed at the Work Plan Symposium.

Activity 4.3: Transition from research to operational.

Action Item ST2-KO-20: Steffen Fritz and Stuart Marsh will develop proposals for an approach to identify candidates for activities that should be transitioned from a research stage to a more operational stage and provide these proposals to the task team. Responsible: Steffen Fritz, Stuart Marsh, Deadline: 2009-09-30.

Notes from a discussion between Steffen Fritz and Stuart Marsh are available and will be discussed further at the Task Team meeting.

Activity 4

7 Review of Activity 4: Specific efforts to contact universities and research laboratories with the goal to involve them in GEOSS activities.

Activity 4.3: Transition from research to operational.

Marsh/Fritz:
- How can we identify candidates of current observational datasets to become operational observing systems
- How can we identify current data gaps in the registry and future needs of data and operational systems.

Options for candidates:
- STC web site for candidates
- Include this in other tasks

Options for gaps:
- Create a “Gap Web Page” for user feedback and gap registration

Other approach: Look for “high-profile” cases:
Available: a proposal for the transition of ARGO from “research” to a “sustained operation” (Josh Willis et al.).

Proposed Action: Discussion of objectives and level of Activity 4.3 at Task Team meeting

Activity 5

Activity 5: Presence of GEO at major symposiums and other meetings on different levels.

Activity 5.1: Plenary presentations on GEO and GEOSS in relevant sessions at major science events

A number of presentations have been given. Initial list of presentations has been started and will soon be extended. Where should this list be published?

Activity 5.2: Organize specific session on GEOSS-related topics at major scientific meetings.

- Union Session at Fall AGU 2009 (Kathy Fontaine, Nadine Gabron, Hans-Peter Plag; 18 submitted abstracts, some good examples of how GEOSS works; however, most known GEO activists).
- EGU Session 2010 with focus on Water SBA accepted (Kathy Fontaine, Hans-Peter Plag): No papers submitted.
- No proposal was prepared for AOGS, India.
- GEO Session at COSPAR Assembly in Bremen on July 21 (Nadine Gabron, Gilles Ollier)
- Two GEO Sessions at the ISPRS Commission VIII Symposium in Kyoto, Japan, August 2010 (Wu Bingfang, Hans-Peter Plag).

Activity 5

Activity 5: Presence of GEO at major symposiums and other meetings on different levels (cont).

Activity 5.3: Side events at major scientific meetings.

Several events have been organized...

Activity 5.4: Prospectus for a series of SBA-specific major conferences to be convened before 2015.

Action Item ST2-KO-21: Stuart Marsh will ensure that the question of a series of GEO/STC conferences focused on scientific issues is considered at the GEO/IGOS-P Symposium in November as a possible way of progressing the IGOS-P approach in the frame of GEO. Responsible: Stuart Marsh, Deadline: 2009-11-30.

Was discussed informally at the IGOS-GEO Symposium in Washington;
- Is the GEO Work Plan meeting going to be comparable to a GEO/STC conference?
- Should there still be a GEO series of S&T Conferences?

Issues to be Addressed

Sub-Activity 2.1 (Roadmap Activity 2a; a GEOSS citation standard):
- Should we at task level link to the ESIP and explore whether there are mutual interests between GEO and ESIP or should this be done at higher level (in not already done)?
- Should we at task level engage in the ESIP Preservation and Stewardship Cluster discussion on citation rules?
- Should we align the GEOSS Citation Standard to IYP/(future) ESIP data citation rules?

Sub-Activity 2.2 (Roadmap Activity 2b; establishing a "GEO label"):
- Should we leave this to relevant GEO Tasks?
- Should we develop an independent concept?
- How could this be implemented? Would need considerable resources.
- Can the STC identify two or three people to clarify the idea behind the "GEO label"?

Sub-Activity 2.3 (Roadmap Activity 2e; enhancing registration of relevant scientific data sets):
- Need to find a lead for this activity.

Sub-Activity 3.3 (Roadmap activity Showing GEOSS at work: compelling examples):
- Needs coordination with the way the showcases are developed and published.

Issues to be Addressed

Sub-Activity 4.3 (Transition from research to sustained operation):
- Could we start to discuss in the STC the process how to handle proposals/candidates?
- Task Team could develop a proposal for STC-14

Sub-Activity 5.1 (Identify major scientific conference and facilitate plenary presentations on GEO and GEOSS):
Sub-Activity 5.2 (Session on GEOSS-related topics at major scientific meetings):
Sub-Activity 5.3 (Organize/promote side events at major scientific meetings):
- What is the most appropriate way to reach out to the science communities?
- Dedicated sessions are likely to end up with an audience well accustomed to GEO/GEOSS.
- Side events have the same problem.
- Science presentations in other sessions illustrating the benefits of GEOSS for science reach many scientists who do not know GEOSS.

Membership and Resources

Contributors:
- Unchanged
- Activity biased towards North-Atlantic (Europe, North America)
- Who can be a Task Team member? Only representatives of MCs and POs or also independent individuals and representatives of other groups?

Leads:
- IEEE new co-lead with COSPAR and IAG;
- H.-P. Plag PoC (for IEEE)
- IAG will announce a new representative

Resources:
- Still no dedicated resources
- Hopefully some resources through FP7:
  EGIDA proposal submitted; would put significant resources behind several ST-09-02 activities.