

PRESS RELEASE

Tunis hosts the kick-off workshop of the project: "Earth Observation for Sustainable Land and Water Management in North Africa" - GMES & Africa Programme

Tunis, October 9, 2018 - The Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS), an African-based intergovernmental organization based in Tunis, is organizing the launching workshop of the project "Earth Observation for Sustainable Land and Water Management in North Africa - EO- SLWM / North Africa"- as part of the GMES & AFRICA program, from 10 to 11 October 2018 at El Mouradi Hotel (Gammarth).

The workshop aims to introduce the project approach, planned activities and expected results. It will allow broader stakeholders to establish operational planning for national and regional activities, and to agree on technical approaches and implementation strategies for project activities.

It will bring together the representatives of the project's partner institutions for the national level, namely ASAL (Algeria), DRC (Egypt), LCRSSS (Libya), CRTS (Morocco), University of Nouakchott (Mauritania) and the CNCT (Tunisia), as well as CRTEAN and CRASTE-LF for the sub-regional level.

The OTGDTE / North Africa project, coordinated by OSS, aims to provide Earth Observation data and technology-based products and services to support decision-making in the field of sustainable management of natural resources and water.

More specifically, it aims to:

- Develop and sustain decision support services
- Boost regional cooperation and promote the exchange of know-how
- Build capacity and raise awareness among all partners and users.

The GMES and Africa is the crystallization of the longstanding cooperation between the European Commission and the African Union Commission. The Programme uses and adapts the Copernicus Programme data and services to the African context. Its overall objective is to promote more sustainable management of natural resources by building technical and institutional capacity in Africa to use Earth Observation data for policy-making. In the implementation agreement, the African Union Commission is the 'delegated authority' responsible for the management of the programme.

It includes 13 consortia of institutions representing all regions from Africa: North Africa, Central Africa, West Africa, East Africa, and South Africa.

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