**Toulouse Space Show 2010.**

**NEREUS Workshop.**

**Earth Observation/GMES Round Table**

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At the launch of the EO/GMES working group in March 2009, two questions set the agenda for the subsequent work of the Group.

**What can NEREUS do for public sector bodies and regional policy makers that they cannot do**

**themselves?**

**What can NEREUS do for enterprises that they cannot do themselves?**

The EO/GMES Round Table is an opportunity for the wider GMES community from the regions and involved enterprises to revisit these questions against the background of outcomes from the work of the working group since its launch.

It has become increasingly apparent that GMES systems and services from service providers do not always meet the needs of regional and local administrations and potential end-users. Also, regional/local administrations and commercial enterprises, as potential end users, are often unfamiliar with existing EO/GMES data systems and services and their potential use outside the space sector. Facing this conclusion, the EO/GMES working group decided to produce a NEREUS publication-“25 Uses of GMES in the NEREUS Regions”-to show some good examples of how GMES is already being used at regional level and how such uses are contributing benefits to citizens, enterprises and economies in the regions. “25 Uses” is being launched at the Toulouse Space Show.

Through its regular meetings, the working group has also made progress with mapping the capabilities and expertise in GMES end user applications in the regions. We have two active sub-groups, working in the Land and Maritime sectors, but there is more work to do especially with regard to Atmosphere, Civil Emergencies and Security. Interim reports will be presented at the Round Table.

One of NEREUS’ strengths is its closeness to the regions. NEREUS can serve as a communication channel to potential end-users and businesses more directly than is possible for the EU or national bodies. DORIS\_NET is a NEREUS flagship project specifically set up engage the regions in future added value end-user applications of GMES. DORIS\_NET will be discussed in this Round Table both in terms of its own merits and as a model for future inter-regional collaborations for GMES regional end-user applications.

Against this background participants in the Round Table will be invited to consider future priorities for the working group. The following action areas could be opened up for discussion:

How to identify and promote GMES related priorities in the participating regions?

How to serve as an information source for GMES- related Commission Programmes?

How to facilitate inter-regional cooperation in joint proposals?

How to communicate regional interests in dialogue with the Commission. NEREUS cannot be seen as a commercial lobby?

What issues need to be addressed regarding GMES data access for the public and private sectors respectively?