



A QUALITY ASSURANCE
FRAMEWORK FOR
EARTH OBSERVATION

QA4EO Teleconference 1: Minutes

12th February 2013

Teleconference synopsis:

The purpose of this teleconference was to discuss how QA4EO should be taken forward; this was in regards to the agenda set out in the invitation letter sent to attendees. The next teleconference has been scheduled for the 26th February 2013 at 15:00-17:00 UTC.

Discussion points:

Objectives of implementation team and mode of operation

- Greg Stensaas and Satish Srivastava described the context of QA4EO
 - QA4EO came out of GEO task DA-06-02 and follow-on task DA-09-01a: GEOSS Quality Assurance Strategy and now moves forward in the GEO 2012-2015 work plan under the infrastructure area (IN-02-C1 – Advances in Life-cycle data management) – information on how QA4EO task relates to the GEO work plan can be found at http://www.earthobservations.org/geoss_imp.php
 - The QA4EO effort has been promoted and reviewed via 4 previous workshops, with the most recent being at Harwell, UK.
 - Information and presentations from these workshops is provided at www.qa4eo.org.
- Greg Stensaas and Satish Srivastava detailed the current status of QA4EO
 - Revamp of QA4EO has included restructuring of the leadership into three groups: the CEOS Implementation Taskforce – the core group looking at detailed implementation, the CEOS QA4EO Management team – interfacing at the CEOS plenary level, and the GEO Implementation Taskforce – responsible for the implementation of QA4EO at the GEO level.
 - GEOSS QA strategy is required and is well embedded in the workplan.
 - CEOS SIT has strongly encouraged that QA4EO move forward within and through CEOS.
 - Draft implementation plan (which came out of last workshop in Harwell) needs updating with details of QA4EOs forward plan.
 - Enthusiasm within CEOS for QA4EO buy-in.
 - The overall objective for the implementation team is to provide focus within CEOS (at Secretariat level).
 - Information concerning previous workshops (including presentations) can be found at QA4EO.org.

Membership

- Involvement of IEEE and ISPRS should be considered but it was suggested that the priority should be to show them what we are doing first in order to get them on board in an enthusiastic manner.
- Action was created for members to send the contact details of people or organisational representatives who are relevant to QA4EO who have not already been included.
- Jan-Peter Muller suggested Hannes Reuter be included – he will become the chair of the WGCV Terrain Mapping subgroup shortly.

Current related activities

- George Percivall suggested that QA4EO should give consideration to how it could interact with the IN-05 architecture implementation pilot.
- Related GEO and CEOS tasks:
 - IN-02-C1_1
 - IN-02-C1_2
 - IN-02-C1_3
 - IN-02-C1_4
 - IN-02-C1_5
 - IN-02-C2_1
 - IN-05-C1_1
 - Click [here](#) for link to tasks
- The following tasks have been identified as having some overlap/complementarity with QA4EO activities or objectives:
 - NASA Earth Science Data System Working Groups (ESDSWG)
 - Earth Science Information Partners (ESIP) Information Quality Cluster
 - ISO standards
 - ESA LTDP
 - PROV-ES (Provenance Earth Science) – Hook Hua key member in this.
 - Any others to be proposed to the QA4EO sec.
- Membership to be extended to representatives from these organisations/groups. The purpose of this is to tie it to one entity including possibility of sharing resources, etc. They would be considered as part of the implementation taskforce.
- NOAAs climate maturity matrix holds potential as an initial template for assessing the QA status of a project/product/mission and this should be reviewed for its suitability to aid the QA4EO process/principles.
- This review (through CEOS WGCV) should consider the maturity matrix and its adequacy for two distinct functions: internal review by an organisation of its own processes and external publishing as documentary evidence of the QA status of a particular product or output.
- It was also noted that the completion of the maturity matrix should be done by the owner of the data/project – rather than an external group.

Review and prioritisation of implementation plan

- It was noted that the implementation plan, which took on the outputs of the Harwell workshop, is out of date and that a team should be assembled to undertake this procedure. This team is to be decided at the next teleconference.

- Greg Stensaas took an action to do an initial review of the implementation plan and highlight known flaws to be completed by Tuesday 19th February in preparation for the updating exercise.

Outreach

- The status of the website was described as being a static entity which currently serves as an information repository rather than a dynamic piece.
- It was suggested that the website be used as a location for all information on the subject of QA in EO activities.
- It was suggested that case studies be included for the user level to serve as examples of the implementation of QA4EO procedure and protocol.
- An action was drawn up to send ideas for how the website should be exploited to Niall Origo for circulation with the invitation email to the next teleconference.

Case studies

- It was suggested that case studies and quick wins should be encapsulated in short summaries and posted on the website (QA4EO.org).
- Collation of case studies to be done by Niall Origo with input provided by QA4EO team members.
- Bojan Bojkov suggested using ESA Sentinel 2 radiometric calibration tool as an example.

Actions:

- Niall Origo to organise and send out invitation for next teleconference.
- Niall Origo to circulate minutes of meeting to members and include minutes on QA4EO.org.
- Bojan Bojkov to provide an example of the maturity matrix & talk to John Bates (vice chair WGC)
- Bojan Bojkov to look at any ESA QA4EO related tasks and discuss with members at the next telecom.
- Greg Stensaas to capture list of related GEO tasks for inclusion in the minutes.
- Greg Stensaas to highlight areas of implementation plan with known flaws/need changes.
- Greg Stensaas to send this revised implementation plan to Niall Origo.
- Niall Origo to circulate implementation plan prior to next teleconference.
- All participants with ideas for how the QA4EO website should be used to promote QA4EO beyond what it is currently doing should contact Niall Origo with details of these ideas.
- All participants who have knowledge of people who are tied in to QA4EO type activities that should be included at the next teleconference to send contact details of those person/s to Niall Origo.
- All participants who have knowledge of case studies that may be used (either good or bad) to illustrate QA4EO/QA4EO philosophy should send details to Niall Origo before the next teleconference.
- Niall Origo to locate implementation plan on QA4EO and circulate link to members.
- Action for next teleconference: Create team to update implementation plan.

Attendees:

Name	Organisation
Bojan Bojkov	ESA
Gabriela Schaepman-Strub	University of Zurich
George Percivall	Open Geospatial
Gregory Stensaas	USGS (WGCV Past Chair)
Gyanesh Chander	USGS
Jan-Peter Muller	UCL
Ken Holman	EUMETSAT
Bertrice Moura	EUMETSAT
Joerg Schultz	EUMETSAT
Nigel Fox	NPL
Niall Origo	NPL
Satish Srivastava	CSA (WGCV Chair)
Eric Arsenault	CSA (WGCV Secretariat)