



Acronym: GMES

Full Name: Global Monitoring for Environment and Security

Website: <http://www.gmes.info>

Established: 1998

Location: n/a

Areas of expertise: Mapping, Support, Forecasting

Main partners and collaborations: European Commission (EC) and the European Space Agency (ESA)

Short Description:

GMES (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security) is a European initiative for the implementation of information services dealing with environment and security. GMES is based on observation data received from Earth Observation satellites and ground based information. These data will be coordinated, analysed and prepared for end-users. Through GMES the state of our environment and its short, medium and long-term evolution will be monitored to support policy decisions or investments. GMES is a set of services for European citizens helping to improve their quality of life regarding environment and security. GMES is the European solution to respond to the needs of citizens in Europe to access reliable information on the status of their environment. GMES will mainly support decision-making by both institutional and private actors. Decisions could concern either new regulations to preserve our environment or urgent measures in case of a natural or man-made catastrophes (i.e. floods, forest fires, water pollution). But to take decisions, it is necessary to anticipate, intervene and control. GMES will integrate these functions by assembling the information acquired in a reliable, valid and compatible manner and make them available for user friendly exploitation. The progressive implementation of GMES is made possible by the activities and investments of European Union and ESA Member States. These and other public and private contributions are jointly supported by the European Commission (EC) and the European Space Agency (ESA).

Main activities:

The services provided by GMES can be classified in three major categories:

Mapping, including topography or road maps but also land-use and harvest, forestry monitoring, mineral and water resources that do contribute to short and long-term management of territories and natural resources.

Support for emergency management in case of natural hazards and particularly civil protection institutions responsible for the security of people and property.

Forecasting is applied for marine zones, air quality or crop yields.

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