



Ideas Wanted for Satellite-Supported Energy Turnaround

07 September 2012

As part of the GMES Masters innovation competition, the German Aerospace Center (DLR) rewards ideas for applications which use Earth observation data to monitor climate change and provide access to sustainable energy. You are invited to submit your proposals at www.gmes-masters.com by 16 September 2012.

The GMES (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security) Earth observation programme is one of the flagships of European space policy. Data and applications emerging from Earth observation, such as measurements carried out on board satellites, aircraft or using ground- or sea-based monitoring infrastructure, are the driving force of GMES services. These services are of great interest to companies, government authorities and citizens alike. Satellite-supported Earth observation aims at collecting sea and land data, as well as data on the atmosphere and on climate change, and making it available to the general public as soon as possible in cases of natural disaster or security threats. At the same time, satellite data can also be used to monitor air and water quality, as well as changes in ice sheets, forests, and sea temperatures. Today's weather forecasts are already based on data transmitted by satellites providing real-time monitoring of meteorological events on earth. DLR's German Remote Sensing Data Center (DFD) based in Oberpfaffenhofen is Germany's Centre of Excellence in the field of Earth Observation and about to become the European data centre for the GMES Sentinel-1 and Sentinel-3 satellites.

As part of GMES Masters, DLR will be awarding a prize for the best application or service idea focusing on highly precise monitoring of environmental data. The "Environmental Challenge" is especially interested in ideas centring around climate change or sustainable energy supply. Applications are meant to benefit the general population, in particular. The German Aerospace Center will assist the winner with advice, support the implementation of the idea, and is ready to provide first-hand advice on all matters concerning Earth Observation and data processing. Additionally, the winner has a chance of winning the EUR 20,000 prize reserved for the overall winner of GMES Masters.

About the GMES Masters competition

The GMES Masters began in 2011 as an annual competition that awards prizes for the best projects and business ideas involving commercial GMES applications. Its purpose is to support the development of market-oriented applications that use data from the European Union's GMES (Global Monitoring of Environment and Security) programme. Created by the European Space Agency (ESA); the Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs, Infrastructure, Transport and Technology; the German Aerospace Center (DLR); and T-Systems, this competition for Earth observation ideas also has the support of the European Commission, European Space Imaging GmbH, and Astrium GEO-Services in 2012. GMES Masters invites researchers, developers, entrepreneurs, and students to enter their application ideas into the competition between 1 June and 16 September 2012.

Contacts

Robert Klärner
German Aerospace Center (DLR)
Technology Marketing
Tel.: +49 8153 28-1782
Fax: +49 8153 28-1780
Robert.Klaerner@dlr.de



Global Monitoring for Environment and Security - GMES.

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