

# The GEO Dialogue Method

*A community format for knowledge exchange in the Earth observation ecosystem*

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## Purpose

The **GEO Dialogue Method** is an interactive online engagement format designed to support knowledge exchange across the **Group on Earth Observations (GEO)** community.

The dialogues promote awareness and implementation of the **GEO Data Sharing and Data Management Principles** and the **GEO Open Knowledge Statement**, while strengthening collaboration between data providers, scientists, service developers, policymakers, and other users of Earth observation information from the different GEO Regions.

Through structured discussions and shared experiences, the dialogues help capture **user needs, lessons learned, and emerging practices** related to the use of Earth observations for science, policy, monitoring, and decision-making.

## What Makes GEO Dialogues Different

Unlike traditional webinars or lectures, **GEO Dialogues prioritize interaction and collective learning.**

The format is designed to:

- Stimulate **brainstorming**
- Encourage **two-way communication** between speakers and participants
- Capture **community perspectives and experiences**
- Support **cross-disciplinary learning** within the Earth observation ecosystem
- Strengthen collaboration across GEO initiatives and partner organizations

## Key Design Principles

### 1. Short, focused presentations

Speakers present their insights in **7–10 minute presentations**, focusing on key messages, lessons learned, or practical experiences.

## 2. Diverse perspectives

Each dialogue typically includes **3–5 speakers** representing different disciplines, regions, or roles in the Earth observation value chain.

## 3. A clear storyline

Each session follows a narrative that explores different dimensions of a topic—from foundational concepts to real-world applications and user perspectives.

## 4. Active audience engagement

Simple **polls, questions, and moderated discussion** are integrated throughout the session to encourage participation and gather feedback.

## 5. Knowledge sharing

Relevant **resources, documents, and links** are shared during the session to support further exploration and collaboration.

## 6 Create Open Knowledge Resources

The recordings and presentations are made accessible from the GEO Knowledge Hub.

# Typical Dialogue Structure

**Total duration:** ~90 minutes

1. Introduction and context setting
2. 3–5 short presentations (7–10 minutes each)
3. Audience polls and interaction during presentations
4. Moderated discussion with speakers and participants
5. Closing reflections and next steps

# Benefits for the GEO Community

The GEO Dialogue Method supports:

- **Advocacy and education** around GEO principles and open knowledge
- **Community building and networking** across disciplines and regions

- **Exchange of practical experiences** in using Earth observation data
- **Better understanding of user needs** and implementation challenges
- **Stronger collaboration** across GEO initiatives and partner organizations

By creating a space for open exchange and reflection, the GEO Dialogue Series contributes to strengthening the **global ecosystem for Earth intelligence**.