



GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION TO SUPPORT DECISION-MAKING IN OPERATIONS (GISMO)

Geospatial Information to Support decision-Making in Operations (GISMO) is a project initiated in 2014 in response to EDA Member States' need to promote the use of Geospatial Information (GI) as a key enabler for EU-led missions and operations. The project is a joint venture between EDA and the EU Satellite Centre (EU SatCen) and also a vehicle to strengthening EDA's cooperation with the EU's European External Action Service (EEAS) and the EU Military Staff (EUMS) on Geospatial matters.

The initiative was sequenced in several phases:

- » A landscaping study (phase 1) was launched which identified GI capabilities and resources required at EU level to support decision-making in the framework of CSDP operations. It also proposed solutions to improve existing capacities to access GI at Operational Headquarters (OHQ), Force Headquarters (FHQ) and Member States level.
- » In 2015, GISMO's phase 2 developed an application named Geospatial Information Hub ("GeohuB") to support the sharing of GI in mission headquarters (HQ). The GeohuB is a viewer and a content management system installed inside the operational network of an HQ that supports the sharing of GI among HQ staff. It enables users to create, edit and share all information with a geospatial component.
- » In 2016, GISMO's phase 3 was initiated with the objective of transitioning the GeohuB application from the operational prototype to a fielded operational capability. In November 2017 GISMO's phase 3 reached its objective, being the GeohuB fielded within the mission network supporting the EUNAVFOR MED Operation Sophia Operational Headquarters in Rome (IT OHQ).

- » GISMO's phase 4 brought the project to a Full Operational Capability (FOC) within the IT OHQ and the European Union Monitoring Mission (EUMM) Georgia, including the development of service components such as training material and an operational service desk.

GISMO's phase 4 extension

The extension of GISMO's phase 4 started in 2020 and is focused on enhancing the GeohuB functionalities and facilitating its effective implementation in EU Headquarters. To achieve this, several objectives are pursued to:

- » provide support to new deployments of the GeohuB tool at EU Headquarters (hardware equipment and software);
- » maintain a helpdesk service to the existing GeohuB implementations (EUMM in Georgia and IT OHQ);
- » promote the use of the GeohuB in other networks and platforms such as Member States' geospatial centres and in fora or via relevant exercises in the EU;

- » enhance functionalities of the Geohub;
- » develop standard training for Geohub which would include basic users training, expert users training and Geohub administrators training.

The Geohub tool will also be used in EDA's GEONAW project, which has the objective to create a tool that manages Positioning, Navigation and Timing (PNT) threats in a geospatial environment to support mission planning and operations in NAVWAR scenarios. GEONAW is assessing the technical feasibility of adding PNT threats assessment layers/functions to the existent Geohub tool.

Way ahead

EDA is exploring with contributing Member States the possibility to establish an ad-hoc project to sustain a life cycle of the Geohub tool which comprises the maintenance, development of new required features and the continuation of its implementation in national geospatial centres or other EU OHQ. EDA serves as the interface with wider EU policies in the area of Geospatial Information in order to maximise potential synergies and make the best use of existing instruments, notably by participating in discussions of the EUMS' Geospatial Capability Board.