

SCIENCE DAY 2014 of GRID-GENEVA and the CH-FOEN / UNEP / UNIGE PARTNERSHIP

- UniGe Battelle 8 May 2014 -

Open Data in support of the UN Open Working Group and the future Sustainable Development Goals

Introduction

During this fourth annual "Science Day", the application of *Open Data in support of the UN Open Working Group/SDGs* will be featured through a series of presentations by the partners, as well as a keynote address by UNEP's Chief Scientist and acting Director of UNEP's Division of Early Warning and Assessment (DEWA), Dr. Jacqueline McGlade. These talks will be followed by a brown-bag lunch, during which all of the participants will be able to relate their personal experiences - negative and positive - in using innovative technology and cutting-edge tools to share data.

The concept "open data" refers to data being freely and openly available for any and all users, and is at the core of many efforts to discover and employ data for broad societal benefits - from local to global scales. The fourth Science Day will explore why "open data" are a means-to-the-end of environmentally sustainable development, and the future SDGs under discussion in the UN Open Working Group in New York.

The Science Day will allow for an exchange of views between the science community and the policy sector, focusing on the current negotiations on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and the role open data can and should play in these discussions.

The concept of the "Science Day" is to highlight the wide range of activities engaged in by GRID-Geneva and its supporting Partnership, consisting of the Swiss Federal Office for Environment (CH-FOEN), UNEP and Univ. of Geneva (UniGe).

Location

Battelle [Unige building]
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Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Office for the Environment FOEN

Programme

- 09:00 **Welcome and Introduction/Overview on the Partnership** (incl. highlighting the 5th Partnership Agreement)
Jan Dusik and Ron Witt
- 09:15 **The crucial role of data and indicators for ensuring the environmental aspects of future Sustainable Development Goals**
15 min. presentation by Luca Arnold (CH-FOEN) and reflections by GRID-Geneva & Unige
- 09:45 **Planetary Boundaries – the Swiss share of a “Safe Operating Space”**
15 min. presentation by Hy Dao (GRID-Geneva/Unige), 5min reflections by FOEN et al., followed by a 10 min. Q&A
- 10:15 **GRID-Geneva’s contribution to open data solutions**
15 min. presentation by Pascal Peduzzi (UNEP), 5 min reflections by FOEN/Unige, followed by a 10 min. Q&A
- 10:45 **Coffee Break & Snacks**
- 11:15 **How an Open Data Approach is helping to address environmental problems and Supporting the UN Open Working Group Discussions on SDGs** (incl. citizen science and eco-education, SDI, UNEP-Live)
Presentation by Dr. Jacqueline McGlade, (UNEP-DEWA) followed by a 30 min Q&A
- 12:15 **Conclusions**
- 12:30 **The World Café at Unige (brown bag lunch)**
Debate/eschange of personal experiences on the use of cutting-edge tools to share and process data.
(including high-lighting the 5th Partnership Agreement)
Jan Dusik and Ron Witt
- 14:00 **Closure of Science Day**

