



## Press Release

### European Environment Agency awards 3 million Euro contract to Planetek Italia for the new Copernicus Land product on Coastal Zones

Innsbruck, Austria, 17 September 2019 – Following the successful Kick-off Meeting held in Copenhagen, an industrial consortium of European Earth Observation (EO) service providers led by Planetek Italia will work for the European Environment Agency (EEA) to implement the new product on Coastal Zones that will enrich the Thematic Hotspot Mapping category of the COPERNICUS Land Monitoring Service (CLMS).

The new products will cover a 10 km broad coastal fringe of land with a total area of approximately 730 000 km<sup>2</sup> throughout European territory. A LC/LU status layer for the year 2012, a LC/LU change layer for the years 2012 to 2018 and a LC/LU status map for the year 2018 are planned.

The industrial consortium headed by Planetek Italia (Italy), is made up of three other European EO service providers with vast experience and knowledge on the Copernicus programme, namely GeoVille GmbH (Austria), Telespazio Ibérica (Spain) and Planetek Hellas (Greece).

*“Due to the complexity of interests, directives and natural dynamics in the coastal zones, the EEA has planned the present activity to be implemented by the contractor in close contact with the national stakeholders over the entire project duration”* said Hans Dufourmont, of the EEA.

Giovanni Sylos Labini, CEO of Planetek Italia stated: *“In Planetek, ever since the company was founded, we have tried to build our offer around a user centric approach which, combined with our continuous effort to innovate, has given us a leading position in the provision of EO based services in the coastal domain. This proposal gave Planetek group the opportunity of partnering with European excellence in the sector such as Geoville and Telespazio Ibérica. We are glad that our attitude has been also recognised by the EEA, and we look forward to producing this new Copernicus product together with our partners. We are confident that the final result will provide robust support for Coastal Users in their monitoring, analysis and reporting duties, and will also support decision makers on policy implementation, in line with the Copernicus programme’s main objective”.*

To develop a product which fulfils needs and expectations from end users, the involvement of those users is very important. Especially in the first phase of the production when nomenclature, mapping specifications and the areas of interest are elaborated and defined, input from users is essential. Interested users can visit our website where all facts and goals of this project are presented: <https://land.copernicus.eu/user-corner/technical-library/coastal-zone-monitoring>

To enable the participation we would advise to take part in the online surveys on the nomenclature and the assessment of current and future user needs:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/CZNomenclatureQuestionnaire>

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/CZEvolutionQuestionnaire>

Interested stakeholders are also very welcome to participate in our User Consultation meeting, which will be held on 3 October 2019 in Brussels. Additional information is found on above mentioned webpage.

## **About EEA**

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The European Environment Agency (EEA) is an EU agency tasked with providing sound, independent information on the environment. It operates as a major information source for those involved in developing, adopting, implementing and evaluating environmental policy, and also the general public. The EEA currently has 33 member countries and six cooperating countries.

For more information visit [www.eea.europa.eu](http://www.eea.europa.eu)

## **About GeoVille**

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GeoVille is a private sector enterprise, founded with the vision to remap the unknowns of human activities around the world. During its operational period, GeoVille has established a broad international client base and successfully participated in more than 440 national and international projects. GeoVille is dedicated to providing a wide range of value-added services for Earth observation data and GIS applications.

GeoVille is one of the most experienced service providers in the European Commission Copernicus Programme and has been playing a key role in the development and implementation of Copernicus services for land applications, related to both land cover production and downstream services in the land monitoring domain.

For more information visit [www.geoville.com](http://www.geoville.com)

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