Forestry Thematic Exploitation Platform

Earth Observation Open Science 2.0

Tuomas Häme VTT Technical Research of Finland Ltd and the Forestry TEP Team



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Objective

- One-stop shop for forestry remote sensing services for the academic, operational public and commercial sectors
- Move away from model where each user works in their own 'silo'
- Reduce the costs of data acquisition from miscellaneous sources with varying formats and processing levels
- Self-service environment with support
- 30 months from March 2015 Definition Phase 1 being completed





Our team







Serving foresters, administration, scientists, service providers, NGO's globally















Technical Solution - Design Drivers

- Community & impact driven
- Deliver a smart ICT-based solution in a user-friendly environment
- Enable infrastructure independence
- Scalable as per usage, cost effective solution
- Open Source Software driven
- Standards based (e.g. OGC Web Services)
- EO-SSO integration
- Integrated accounting & quota management
- Implements data access policies







Forestry-TEP Service Layers

SaaS	 F-TEP platform end users relies on this layer to deliver EO applications over the web End-users focus on data exploitation and collaboration activities
PaaS	 F-TEP platform expert users rely on this layer to develop and test their applications and to deploy it for the benefit of forestry community Service providers access this layer to integrate their services (data, software etc.)
laaS	 This layer comprises of the hardware and software that constitute the F- TEP platform This layer provides the complete platform infrastructure including the underlying hardware and software





F-TEP Building Blocks



- 1. User Interface (UI): Front-end of TEP system; allows data selection, data processing, collaboration activities
- 2. Workflow Management (WM): Provides access to various workflows and its management
- 3. Data Store Management (DSM): Provides access to EO data abstracting different repositories
- 4. Data Ingestion (DI): Enables populating data storage and catalogue
- Accounting & Quota Management (AQM): Tracks resources (data, ICT, software) usage and enables pay-per-use model
- 6. Resource Management (RM): Allocates ICT resources as per demand, supports cloud bursting
- 7. User Access (UA): Provides user authentication & authorisation
- 8. Product Management (PDM): EO data visualization and data dissemination tools
- 9. Catalogue (Cat.): OpenSearch based Metadata catalogue for data discovery
- **10. Processing Management (PM):** Provides access to WPS for processing needs





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Geobrowser slide here



European Space Agency











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User Type	What they do	Key user needs
Forest and climate research community	Varies from developing own products to using existing products	Multi temporal & multi-sensor data, ability to tweak algorithms
Forest owners and managers	Monitor forest state and plans	Accurate and timely products (resource pool, damage, accessibility, etc.)
Forest certification organisations	Granting certificates of sustainable forestry	Information on good and sustainable forest management
Regional/national forest administration	Collect information on national forest resources to support forest planning and management	Timely information on forest status of forest (clear cuts, shrub abundance, etc.)
International Initiatives, research programmes and panels	Coordination of satellite image acquisition, pre- processing and delivery	Support to coordination activities
International development banks	Evaluation of forest state and resources; establishing markets for forest ecosystem services	Timely and accurate information forest resources and their dynamics including deforestation and forest degradation
Sustainable development NGOs	Economic and policy decisions affecting forests	Reliable and easy-to use products on forest cover, degradation, fragmentation, etc. (requiring also historical data)
UN organisations	Capacity building for the UN member countries on national forest inventories and REDD	Easy-to-use and freely distributable image analysis tools; access to pre-processed low-level products
Value adding (SME) industries	Collect and refine satellite and ancillary data for value added products to satisfy customer needs	Information on the amount and location of forest resources, monitoring of change



User scenarios 1 - EO Data Exploitation

- Products for the user himself
- Non-experienced user, e.g. state government, forest administration
- Looking for available data, products, services, push button functionality
- E.g forest cover map, change map, vegetation index





User scenarios 2 - New EO Service Development

- Service for others to use
- Service company, institutional user
- Looking for versatile tools, computing power, simple charging model
- E.g. forest cover and biomass mapping service, change mapping service, degradation mapping service





User scenarios - New EO Product Development

- Products for himself or for selling
- Academic user, value adding 'factory', institutional user
- Looking for versatile tools, computing power, simple charging model in case of commercial activity
- e.g. forest cover and biomass maps, change maps, degradation maps, primary productivity





User geographic area of interest

- From continental to local
- Academic research community operates often over smaller areas than the research centers or administrations
- Radar community with continental to global focus an exception





What do the users want? 1/2

Data, Data & Data

- Also preprocessed data download a common interest
- High expectations for Sentinels
- Many academic users do not mind downloading large data volumes
- One stop-shop-for data, services development, products
- All academic users are not necessarily experts in EO data analysis
- Most users did not consider own algorithm implementation a central requirement – exceptions being candidate giant users UN-REDD and the Joint Research Centre





What do the users want? 2/2

- Use of in-situ data important
- Functionality to compute confusion matrices and root mean square errors for assessing accuracy
- User privacy very important for most users, including academics
- Very simple user interface commonly required but the academics not so concerned about it
- Willingness to pay higher with the private and administrative users than with the academic sector – expectations for public funding
- Communication network and even internet connection an issue outside Europe





Target communities and their needs

- Primary user communities identified
 - Close collaboration users
 - Key users
 - ESA will define additional users during the project
- Diversity in user requirements
 - *E.g.* spatial resolution, processing levels, source data, geographic area
- Similar requirements
 - Easy access to a range of specific products
 - Timely access to data
 - Access to wide set of data types
- Key challenge to encourage the user community to use the TEP





Pilots in Mexico and Finland



Monitoring of forest carbon in Mexico



Mapping of harmful broadleaved shrubs on regeneration areas





Pilot projects

	Pilot 1 (Mexico)	Pilot 2 (Finland)
Region	Mexico: Chiapas and Durango states	Finland
Area covered	73,311 km ² (Chiapas) and 123,317 km ² (Durango)	338,424 km ²
Key outputs	Forest cover mapping and change detection Carbon accumulation: AccuCarbon DUE Innovator III	Forest cover mapping and change detection
Key data used	Sentinel-1 SAR, Sentinel-2 Optical	Sentinel-2 Optical
In-situ data	1: Durango university ground sample network 2: from ESA pilot project EducEO	Collected by forestry centre during standard field work
Key users involved	Ministry of Environment and Natural History of the state government of Chiapas University of Durango	Finnish Forest Centre (part of Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry)











Tornator stands



0.075 0.15 0.3 Kilometers

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Summary

- As a whole, user needs are similar
- High user expectations (unrealistic taken project volume into consideration?)
- Single platform for all forestry EO services from data access to product download required
- Capability for data download requested more than expected
- IT capability can vary a lot, in particular lack of fast communication networks outside Europe
- Other platforms of national authorities should be considered
- Project progressing as planned





<u>Contact</u>

OTA.

http://forestry-tep.eo.esa.int/

Tuomas Häme <u>Tuomas.Hame@vtt.fi</u> +358 40 587 0631

Renne Tergujeff <u>Renne.Tergujeff@vtt.fi</u> +358 40 501 7057