

August 2015

Research Success Story



K N O W I N G Y O U R P A R T N E R S
I S D E C I S I V E F O R S U C C E S S

Earth observation satellites collect a wealth of data on the redistribution of environmental mass. The Horizon 2020 project EGSiEM (European Gravity Service for Improved Emergency Management) aims to deliver innovative approaches to flood and drought monitoring and to improve the timely awareness of potentially evolving hydrological extremes. EGSiEM is coordinated by Adrian Jäggi, Director of the Astronomical Institute at the University of Bern.

Having submitted an unsuccessful FP7 project proposal, Adrian Jäggi was determined to try again under Horizon 2020. "The first attempt was a good exercise and beneficial for the second attempt. The reviews gave us the motivation to further improve the proposal. I was convinced that adding partners to the consortium with experience in running the actual satellite mission would increase the chances of success".

Advantageous coordination

For Jäggi, it is his first time as a coordinator. He sees several advantages in this role: "Being the initiator of the project gave us the opportunity to select partners with shared interests. Another advantage is that we are able to influence the direction of the project directly. These projects are also a great opportunity for young postdoc and PhD students, not only

to perform their research but also to have regular exchange with other partners and gain first-hand experience with organisational details". For Jäggi, beyond satisfying his scientific curiosity, being a coordinator means gaining further experience in managing multi-stakeholder projects and in topics outside his own area of expertise.

"Being the initiator of the project gave us the opportunity to select partners with shared interests"

International collaboration

Although the project has just started, Jäggi is very positive about the collaboration so far and is looking forward to the next General Assembly to discuss their progress. "Only by working together internationally is it possible to carry out

projects like these. Knowing your partners is decisive, in particular their approach and interests". In addition, Jäggi adds that coordinating can be an enjoyable experience and that some partners become close friends.

Crucial Euresearch support

Turning once more to the application process, Adrian Jäggi remarks: "Without Euresearch's help this would not have been possible. It is an absolute no-go to not contact them if you want to succeed". In particular, Euresearch's support on how to structure a proposal and what to focus on was crucial for the submission process, as well as their advice on how to organise the management of the project and its reporting activities.

About EGSiEM



“These projects are a great opportunity for young postdoc and PhD students, not only to perform their research but also to have regular exchange with other partners and gain first-hand experience with organisational details”

Prof. Adrian Jäggi
Astronomical Institute,
University of Bern

CONTENT SUMMARY

Data on the global water cycle, collected by earth observation satellites, provides fundamental insights into changes in continental water storage levels. The EGSiEM consortium aims to use gravity field analysis to estimate and map hydrological extremes like large-scale droughts and flood events by increasing the timeliness and reliability of gravity field information. The new service will thereby provide emergency management authorities with new monitoring services and rapid awareness of potential hydrological extremes.

Euresearch is the Swiss network mandated by the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation providing targeted information, hands-on advice and transnational partnering related to European research and innovation programmes.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Project Name
EGSiEM – European Gravity Service for Improved Emergency Management

Research Area
Earth Observation

Organisations
University of Bern, Switzerland (Coordinator) and 7 partners

Start Date – End Date
01.01.2015 – 31.12.2017

Duration
3 years

Project Cost
€2.5 million

Project Funding
€2.5 million

Programme
Horizon 2020 Industrial Leadership: LEIT Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies – Space

More Information
www.egsiem.eu

EEN supports you in finding the right partners for innovation and business across academia and industry in over 50 countries in Europe and beyond. In Switzerland, access to EEN services is provided free of charge by Euresearch and Switzerland Global Enterprise.

