



## AfriGEO Virtual Symposium, 2021

**Dates: 17-19 Nov, 2021**

**Time: 13:00-16:30 EAT**

**Registration**

*Click on Button to Register*

### **Theme: “Open Science for growing African Industries in Earth Observation”**

The theme is strategic to catalyze conversations leading to partnerships, sustainable economic growth and enhancing utilization of EO data in supporting economic development in Africa.

#### **Background:**

The Africa Space has significantly grown in the last 10 years. The value of EO in addressing many development agendas is undoubted. The SDGS Vision 2030, Africa Space Policy and strategy as well national development agendas are all aligned to spur sustainable economic development that is inclusive and leaves no one behind. We want to see that African EO industries are also rising to the occasion to fill in the gaps in addressing these development challenges. Africa Agenda 2063 reflects the African desire for shared prosperity, unity and integration. Key to providing support to the agenda was also the formulation of science, technology and innovation strategy which is an important intervention for using science and technology in responding to key priorities of the continent.

Key objectives to be addressed and achieved by the space policy includes:

- **Addressing user needs** (“*To harness the potential benefits of space science and technology in addressing Africa’s socio-economic opportunities and challenges.*”)
- **Addressing space services** (“*To strengthen space mission technology on the continent in order to ensure optimal access to space-derived data, information services and products.*”)

- **Developing the regional Market** (“*To develop a sustainable and vibrant indigenous space industry that responds to the needs of the African continent.*”)
- **Coordinating the African Space** (“*To maximize the benefit of, current and planned, space activities, and avoid or minimize the du-plication of resources and efforts.*”)
- **Promoting intra-Africa & other international** cooperation (“*To promote the African-led space agenda through mutually beneficial partnerships.*”)
- **Adopting good governance and management** (“*To adopt good corporate governance and best practices for the coordinated management of continental space activities.*”)

A prerequisite to achieving all the above objectives is collaboration and integration (*amalgamating systems, people, policies, parts together to improve productivity and quality of operations.*). A backbone to this approach already provided for in the Africa Space Policy which aims to create a well-coordinated and integrated African Outer space Programme that is responsive to the aforementioned spheres (technological, social, political, economic, legal and environmental).

AfriGEO symposium 2021 therefore aims at providing a platform to begin enhance collaboration and integration by bringing together experts from the aforementioned spheres to discuss, unlock and activate use of open science for growing African Industries in EO.

This year’s virtual symposium shall focus on how partners are working with African Institutions and people in addressing development challenges in 5 focus areas:

- Climate Change
- Agriculture and Food Security
- Industry (SMME) focus
- EO for Health
- Disaster Risk Reductions
- *Data and Infrastructure (Cross cutting)*

We are developing the agenda and sharing more soon. Please register to reserve this event in your calendar.