

# **THE EVALUATION OF THE STEREO II PROGRAMME**

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# Outlook of the Presentation

- STEREO II
  - *Objectives*
  - *Output*
- Evaluation of the STEREO II programme
  - *Objectives*
  - *Execution*
  - *Criteria*
  - *Methodology*
  - *Expected Results*

# Looking back: the objectives of the STEREO II programme

## Strategic goal

- Develop an autonomous Belgian EO expertise of international standard as a contribution to the knowledge economy

## Specific objectives

- Strengthen Belgium's EO potential
- Stimulate innovation in the field of EO
- Build necessary capacity for participation by Belgian EO actors in international programmes and projects
- Support Belgium's EO infrastructure
- Develop extensive interaction with users of EO data

# STEREO II: Resources and Output

## Resources

- Budget: 25,85 m€ (2006 – 2013)
- STEREO – team: 5 persons

## Output

- 97 DOIs
- 59 projects of which:
  - 11 big thematic projects (53% of budget) – success rate 32 %
  - 36 small 'satellite' projects (34%)
    - ❖ Innovation projects – success rate 55 %
    - ❖ Spin-off projects – success rate 70 %
  - 12 Development of products and services in public/private partnership (13%) – success rate 43 %

# STEREO II Output (cont'd)

## Output

- 126 project promoters
- 120 international STCom members
- 378 peer reviewed papers thus far and counting
- Acquisition of almost 300 satellite images
- Organisation of 5 dedicated airborne APEX campaigns
- Promotion and valorisation
  - Websites [eo.belspo.be](http://eo.belspo.be) and [eoedu.belspo.be/](http://eoedu.belspo.be/)
  - 8 Beodays
  - Exhibitions + Posters
  - ...

# Objectives of the evaluation

- Assess the performance of the STEREO II programme – were the initial objectives met?
- Assess the performance of the individual parts of the STEREO II programme
- Provide recommendations on the structure, management and thematic research priorities for phase III of the STEREO programme
- Analysis and assessment of the scientific scholarly and societal impacts of the programme
- Inventory of the R&D competences within the STEREO teams
- Transversal analysis of the programme (best practices, international position and visibility, partnerships, strengths and weaknesses, ...)
- Recommendations for the new phase

# Execution

- Delayed start of evaluation procedure because of budgetary constraints
- Evaluation carried out by Technopolis
- Start evaluation: July 2013
- Duration: 9 months
- Final evaluation report : March 2014

# Evaluation Criteria

**SOCIETY  
PUBLIC  
POLICIES**

**OTHER RS  
PROGRAMMES**

International

Bilateral

Federal

**COHERENCE**

**NEEDS  
PROBLEMS  
CHALLENGES**

**IMPACTS**

**OUTCOMES**

**OBJECTIVES**

**RESOURCES**

**OUTPUTS**

**RELEVANCE**

**EFFICIENCY**

**EFFECTIVENESS**

**SUSTAINABILITY**

**IMPACT, VISIBILITY**

*STEREO II*

**EVALUATION**



# Evaluation tools

## ○ Inception phase

- Data and document analysis
- Interview programme governance and management
- Logical framework analysis: Reconstruction of the programme intervention logic

## ○ Desk and field research

- Comparative mapping of R&D competences
- On-line survey
  - STEREO II Participants
  - STEREO II Non-participants (but applicants)
  - EODesk users: in three languages

## Evaluation tools (2)

- Bibliometric analysis
  - Scopus as source database.
  - Analysis of publication patterns of types of projects and organisations
  - Comparison of publication track record and impact of individual STEREO II researchers with the rest of Belgian
  - The scientific impact of publications will be measured by the citations based on publication year + two year citations

# Evaluation tools (3)

## ■ Social network analysis

- Gives a picture of collaboration dynamics in the programme
- Pictures how networks differ in size and scope across different types of projects.
- Allows identification of the most connected and influential participants in the network
- Identifies internal and external perturbations including policy changes and leadership changes.
- Devises ways to promote effective networks

# Evaluation tools (4)

- Interviews with project coordinators and other stakeholders
  - Evaluation of the reasons and benefits for participating in STEREO
  - Analysis of the programme:
    - initial rationale
    - the implementation
    - the main achievements / impact
    - Benefits to the participants' organisation and society at large
    - challenges.
  - Collection and analysis of ideas for areas for improvement and suggestions for good practices

# Evaluation tools (5)

- Good practices
  - 6 projects described in detail
  - Illustrate the path of STEREO II projects and the different types of results and impacts obtained
  - Focus on the ability of the programme to generate benefits for the participants and for society and the facilitators and barriers to the full realisation of impacts.

# Evaluation tools (6)

- Synthesis, conclusions and recommendations
  - Peer review
    - Panel composed of 6 international experts
    - Objective:
      - assess the scientific output and impact of the programme
      - identify specific strengths and weaknesses of the programme
      - Assess the degree of innovation in the research
      - Discuss the competitive position of Belgium in the field of RS
      - Formulate possible recommendations for SR III in terms of thematic priorities, governance, objectives and dissemination strategies
    - Inputs
      - Preliminary report by Technopolis
      - Self-reflection on the programme by STEREO team
      - Group discussion with selected STEREO II promoters

# Expected results

- Cross-cutting analysis of the programme's achievements
  - Differentiation between programme's components (R&D projects; dissemination/communication actions), types of projects and fields of research
  - Analysis of drivers and barriers for full achievement of impact for each objective
- Assessment of the scientific impact of the programme
- Assessment of societal impact (in particular impact of EODesk activities)

## Expected results (2)

- Good practices put forward to illustrate how different types of impacts are achieved in specific projects/activities
- Informed recommendations for the future of the programme, both as regards its implementation and its thematic coverage



*Thank you for your attention*

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