# THE EVALUATION OF THE STEREO II PROGRAMME

**STEREO** Team

BEODAY – Lier 20 November 2014



### STEREO II: Resources and Output

#### Resources

- Budget: 25,85 m€ (2006 2014)
- STEREO team: 4,5 persons

#### Output

- 6 calls for proposals
- 104 proposals submitted
- 63 projects of which:
  - 11 big thematic projects
  - 27 small `satellite' projects
  - 12 Development of products and services in public/private partnership
  - 10 shared cost projects (call + no call)



### STEREO II Output (cont'd)

#### Output

- 126 project promotors
- 120 international STCom members
- 378 peer reviewed papers thus far and counting
- Acquisition of almost 300 satellite images
- Organisation of 5 dedicated airborne campaigns
- Promotion and valorisation
  - Websites <u>eo.belspo.be</u> and <u>eoedu.belspo.be/</u>
  - 8 Beodays
  - Exhibitions + Posters



#### Objectives of the evaluation

- Assess the performance of STEREO II
- Transversal analysis of the programme (best practices, international visibility, partnerships, SWOT, ...)
- Provide recommendations for SRIII



### **KEY CONCLUSIONS**

- Programme relevance
- Programme implementation (efficiency)
- Programme output (effectiveness)
- Longer term impacts



#### **PROGRAMME RELEVANCE**

(Societal significance of programme)

- + Programme and activities highly relevant
- + Right form of support for research community
- + Four thematic areas: relevant
- Lack of support for applications and exploitation of results
- No Belgian niche
- Weak coherence and linkage between projects



#### PROGRAMME RELEVANCE cont'd

- + SRII covers broad spread of competences
- + SRII complements other EO programmes in Belgium and abroad
- Added value STEREO over other programmes:

   +Lower administrative burden
   +Higher degree of flexibility
   +Relevance of topics
  - Not enough links with other programmes and international EO activities



#### PROGRAMME RELEVANCE cont'd

#### EODesk

- +activities relevant and effective
- +services good quality
- +BEODay efficient to bring community together
- Need for educational activities?
- More focus on uptake of research results by public or private sector



### PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (Efficiency)

(Management processes + ratio effects/costs)

- + Efficient management
- + Relationship between BELSPO and stakeholders
- + Cost/benefit ratio of participation
- + Strong networking and support
- + Chances for young talents
- Other activities by STEREO members
- Factors for project's success
  - + 2 step selection process
  - + International steering committee
  - + Possibility for international partners



### EFFECTIVENESS OF PROGRAMME

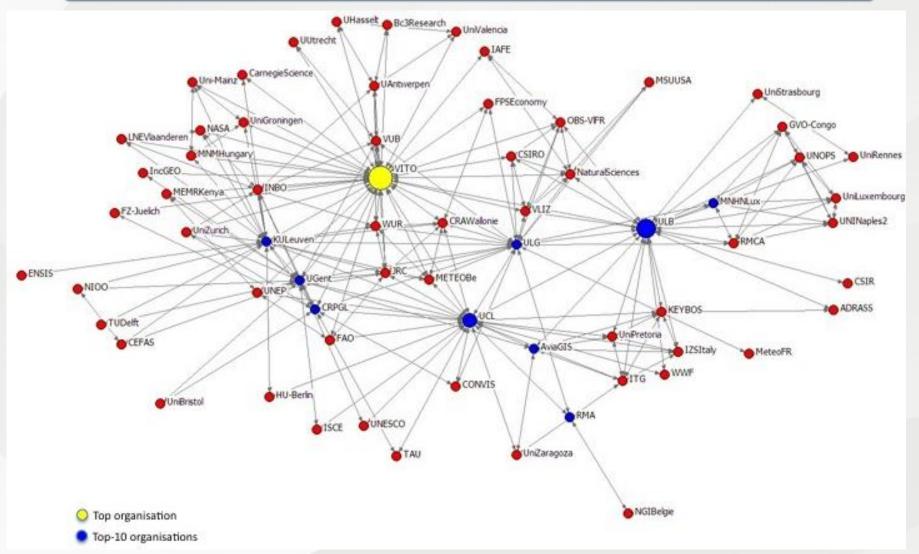
(to what extent the programme achieved its objectives)

- + Support of scientific output
  - + direct scientific results
  - + PhD theses
  - + Training
  - + Publications
  - + Successful networking both nationally and abroad
- STEREO network
  - + dense and effective
  - + most prolific scientists involved

+ reinforcement of key researchers + participation in international projects



### Social network analysis research projects





#### EFFECTIVENESS OF PROGRAMME

- + International visibility
- Practical applications and exploitation of research results
- EODesk
- + Contribution to knowledge of RS



#### LONGER TERM IMPACT

+ Knowledge, expertise and scientific capabilities in new and familiar research fields
+ Improved network and enhanced visibility
+ Collaborative research benefits new research
+ Improved access to further funding (more chances in international programmes)



#### LONGER TERM IMPACT

- + Steering committee catalyst for international projects
- + Share of Belgian STEREO publications in field of remote sensing: from 20 % in 2007 to 72% in 2011
- + STEREO publications more than twice as much cited than field average
- + Quality of the journals above the field average
- Little impact on improvement of business opportunities
- Results projects insufficiently turned into applications



### SWOT ANALYSIS: STRENGTHS

- Objectives achieved
- Excellent scientific results
- Freedom in scientific focus
- Support of young scientists
- Effective management
- Improved international reputation
- International partnering
- Steering committee



#### SWOT ANALYSIS: WEAKNESSES

- Development of applications
- Link with other programmes and int. activities
- Information sharing between projects limited
- No explicit Belgian niche
- Career opportunities PhD students



### SWOT ANALYSIS: OPPORTUNITIES

- Setting more strategic research priorities
- Facilitate partnerships research industry
- Adapt BEODays
  - More active participation of stakeholders
  - Connect industry with graduate students job market
- Stimulate toolbox
- International branding
- External links (Horizon 2020)
- (Facilitate creation of spin-offs)



### SWOT ANALYSIS: THREATS

- Belgian political situation
- Victim of own success if complacent
- Job opportunities researchers



### RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. DEVELOP STRATEGIC ROADMAP
  - Formulate long-term targets based on needs
- 2. ALLOW FOR MORE FLEXIBILITY AS REGARDS TYPE OF PROJECTS SUPPORTED
- 3. BETTER INTEGRATE USERS AND STAKEHOLDERS
- 4. IMPROVE DISSEMINATION AND BRANDING
- 5. DEVELOP STRATEGY FOR EODESK



## Thank you for your attention

