

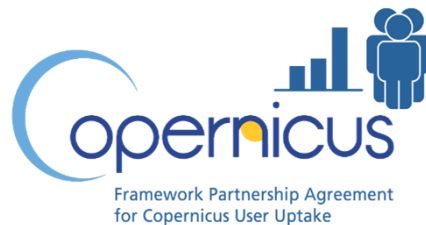
ESA Living Planet Symposium

24/06/2025

Advancing Earth Observation in Africa : Mid-term achievements of the WG Africa Copernicus Training of trainers program in three languages

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Organisation(s): 1: CNES, France; 2: FMI, Finland; 3: CIRAD, France; 4: ISPRA, Italy; 5: Air Centre, Portugal; 6: ASI, Italy; 7: IRD, France; 8: VisioTerra, France; 9: University of Turku, Finland; 10: ISSEP, Belgium; 11: CBK PAN, Poland; 12: IDGEO, France; 13: Space4Dev, France; 14: NOA, Greece; 15: University of Lisbon, Portugal; 16: PT Space, Portugal; 17: PRAXI Network, Greece



WORKING
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AFRICA

FPCUP

The FPCUP Caroline Herschel Program

- **Framework Partnership Agreement on Copernicus User Uptake**
- **Funded** by EU/DG DEFIS and co-funded by the partners
- **Consortium:** 50 partners from 23 European countries



- **Bottom-up approach** → consortium suggests user uptake actions in annual work programmes
- <https://www.copernicus-user-uptake.eu>

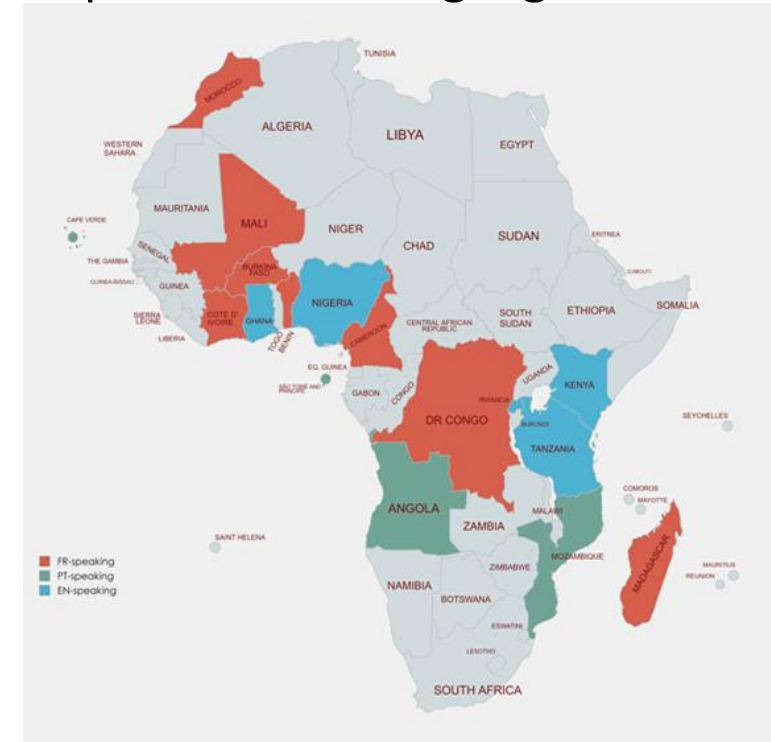


Funded by European Commission under FPCUP

Objectives:

- To Train at least 20 African Trainers to the use of Copernicus in **3 languages** (PT, EN, FR) in **17 African Countries**
- To **Co-develop** and Implement Copernicus Local Training Sessions
- To Train in total 300 local trainees and Integrate Copernicus Modules into existing local Curricula and Training Catalogues
- To Develop the **network of Copernicus Relays and Academies in Africa**
- To Raise awareness regarding Copernicus in Africa (through webinars in 3 languages)

Planning : from October 2022 to October 2025





WG Africa Advisory Committee

- Dr. Bachir Mahaman Saley, GMES & Africa Program, African Union Commission
- Dr. Mariane Diop Kane, Programme Manager, WMO Regional Office for Africa
- Dr. Jane Olwoch, Executive Director, SASSCAL
- Dr. Vincent Gabaglio, International Relations Officer, EUMETSAT
- Dr. Catherine Ghyoot, DG INTPA
- Dr. Benjamin Koetz, Head of Sustainable Initiatives Office, ESA
- Dr. Michel Massart, DG DEFIS, European Commission

1st phase : Future trainers selection and training (2023)

- Constitution of **3 groups of Future Trainers** (10/language)
- Development and implementation of an **advanced training program** (10 weeks)

Mod. 1 • Trainer pedagogical methods and techniques

Mod. 2 • **GIS** basics

Mod. 3 • **Remote Sensing** and Optical data basics

Mod. 4 • **European Union Copernicus Program**

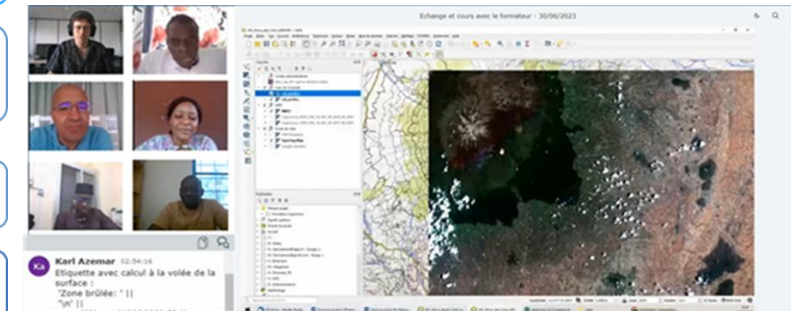
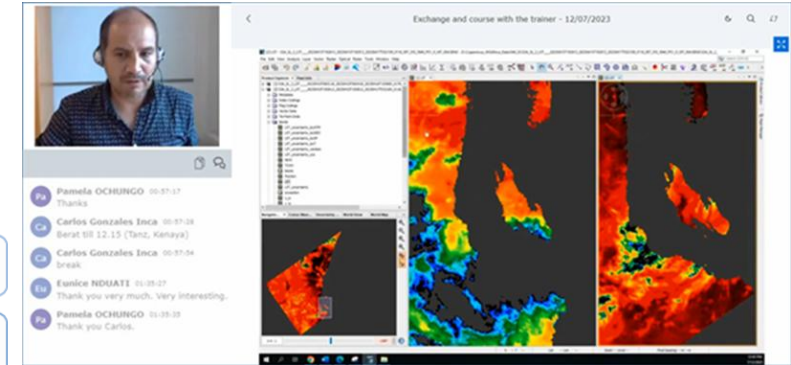
Mod. 5 • **Python** scripting, Jupyter notebook/JupyterLab

Mod. 6 • **SAR** Basics ; Data and Processing tools

Mod. 7 • **Artificial Intelligence** for Earth Observation data analysis

Mod. 8 • **Webmapping** and geo-data visualisation

Mod. 9 • **Thematic** trainings with the support of Entrusted Entities




Development of a Digital Learning Platform

Training materials

- Course material
- Exercises
- Answers to exercises
- Training recordings
- Resources
- Recordings

Used by

- **WG Africa trainers for self-training and training development-implementation**
- **New Users (on demand / motivation letter) for self-training**



Home Dashboard My courses Site administration

Copernicus Working Group Africa













KNOW MORE >

Training of Trainers Programme

The WG Africa Training of Trainers Programme is a joint effort of 11 national institutions of 8 European Countries, in the framework of the European Framework Partnership Agreement on Copernicus User Uptake (FPCUP), a project aiming at enhancing the user uptake of Copernicus data and products. The main objective of the Programme is to enhance capacities in Africa in the sector of Earth Observation (EO) from Space, in complement to other institutional efforts such as GMES & Africa.

[Read more >](#)

Available courses

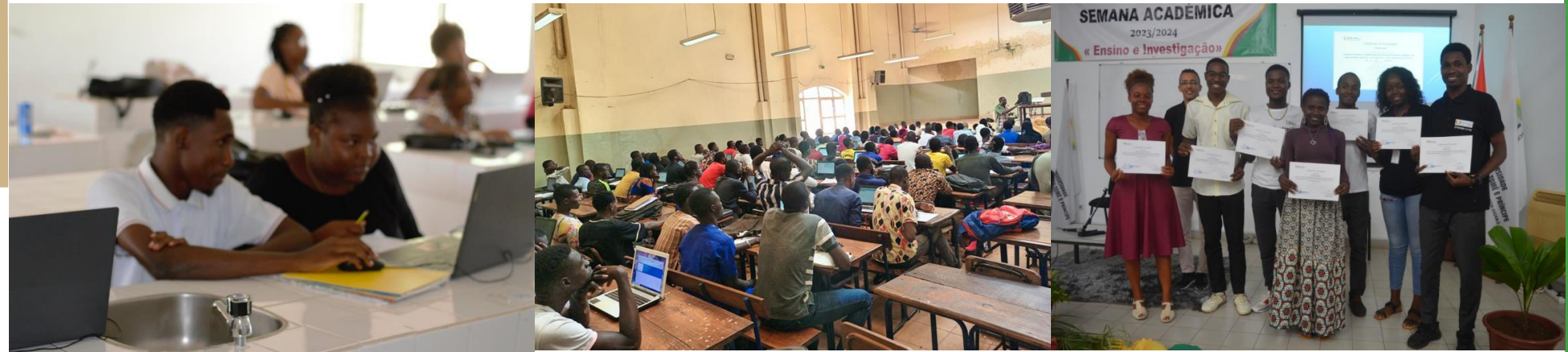
 Module 4 - Forum ReadMore >	 Module 4 - EN - Copernicus ReadMore >	 Module 4 - FR - Copernicus ReadMore >	 Module 4 - PT - Copernicus ReadMore >
 Health_FR ReadMore >	 Health_PT ReadMore >	 Health_EN ReadMore >	 Marine Pollution_Link to video ReadMore >
 Marine Pollution_FR ReadMore >	 Marine Pollution_PT ReadMore >	 Marine Pollution_EN ReadMore >	 Natural hazards_Link to video ReadMore >



WG Africa 2nd phase: Local Training sessions 2024-25

Objectives:

- Support the African Trainers in the development and implementation of local Training sessions on Copernicus applied to Local thematic
- Communicate, disseminate and exploit their training events
- Build long-term partnership relationships





Overview of local training sessions in 2024-25

Thematics :

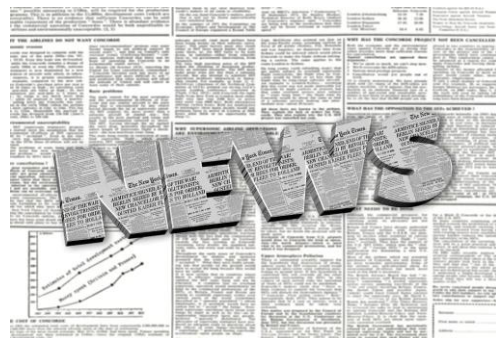
- Landscape and landcover monitoring; Forest monitoring, agriculture, water and environment management, Hydrology, Urban and risks management, Health
- Access to Copernicus data and services
- Python for geospatial data analysis, semi-automatic classification with QGIS

25 local training sessions in 15 Countries : Sao Tome e Principe, Mozambique, Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania, Madagascar, Mali, DRC, Benin, Morocco, Cameroon, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Rwanda, Angola

Nb of trainees : around 1800



WG Africa Outreach and Communication activities



Newsletters introducing the African Trainers and their activities

➤ How to read the NL:



Webinars on Copernicus related topics : Copernicus Services and GMES & Africa

➤ How to watch the replay:



Participation to international events and conferences

- ✓ EO4Africa
- ✓ CLMS General Assembly
- ✓ GEO Week

➤ *Living Planet Symposium, Vienna, June 2025*



WGA African Trainers feedback and expectations

“The WG Africa project has been highly beneficial, particularly in its provision of comprehensive training materials and resources that enhanced the skills and knowledge of local trainers. It also fostered valuable networking opportunities, laying the groundwork for future cooperation among researchers, institutions, and professionals across the continent.”

Prof. Ernest Mauya, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania.



WGA African Trainers feedback and expectations

- **High demand for Copernicus Training** (recurring request), especially in non-English languages
- Develop and **maintain** an Africa-dedicated Copernicus **Digital Learning Platform**.
- Issues with internet connection ☐ Need for **face-to-face training** that would gather trainers and trainees, foster networking and structuring a community of Copernicus experts in Africa
- Need for budget to support **local events, logistics and travels**
- Demands for **networking**
- **Capacity building** requires a continuous support and collaboration
- **Continuity of activities** and collaboration is essential to build sustainable Copernicus User Uptake in Africa



Propositions for way forward

How to continue the activities of WG Africa harnessing the partnerships and assets that were developed under FPCUP with EU funding ?

- Develop new capacity building activities in support of the Africa Europe Space Partnership Program
- Expand and animate a network of Copernicus Trainers in Africa and European partners
- Reinforce capacity building of the institutions
- Maintain and expand a Copernicus digital learning platform
- Organize face-to face events allowing networking and overcoming internet connection problems
- Way forward is being discussed with the advisory committee (ESA, DG INTPA, AUC,...)

Thanks for your attention

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Consortium Partners & Affiliated Entities



With the collaboration of



Social Media



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Thank you!
Obrigado !
Merci !