

EEOBSS: EDUCATION IN EARTH OBSERVATION FOR BULGARIAN SECONDARY SCHOOLS*

The need for education and training of young generation for the utilization of space data and products, in view of their use for the needs of the economy and society, were highlighted at recent meetings of the EU Council on Competitiveness (26/27 May 2016) and during the European week for space solutions (European space solutions) held in the Hague, the Netherlands. Bulgaria, as 18th Space country, continuing its way in space exploration also has ambitions to develop its space economy. To this end April 8, 2015 the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria made a historic step in our cooperation with the European Space Agency (ESA), joining the Plan for European Cooperating States (PECS).



As a result of submitted project proposal in the first PECS tender for Bulgaria (AO/1-8268/15/NL/NDe) announced on May 11, 2015, the EEOBSS: Education in Earth observation for Bulgarian secondary schools project was approved for implementation. The project will be implemented for two years (07.2016-07.2018). In the tasks of the project includes a number of educational, communication and media events aimed at reaching a wider audience of students and their teachers. At the mid of 2017 will hold a workshop on the project, at which will be presented and discussed current trends in training in Earth Observation in secondary education both in Europe and nationwide. Within the project will be developed, adapted to Bulgarian educational standards, and issued (online and in print) a modern textbook on Earth observation for Bulgarian secondary schools. The textbook will be available for download upon registration at the project site in the second half of 2017 for the six partner schools participating in the project and for all stakeholders and interested parties. In the Summer of 2017 will be held a summer school aimed at familiarizing students from Bulgarian secondary schools with the theoretical and practical aspects of Earth Observation. All participants will receive Certificates for Attendance. The concluding event of the EEOBSS project (an Exhibition and an Open Day) will celebrate the completion of the project with various activities. On this event will be awarded prizes and certificates to all project partners (students, teachers, school leadership, and media partners). More information on upcoming events can be found on:

- 1) **Project web-site:** <http://eeobss.space>
- 2) **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/eeobss>

3) **Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/eeobss>

Partners:



Space Research and Technology Institute – Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (SRTI-BAS) – leading partner



Information Technologies Institute (ITI), Centre for Research and Technology Hellas (CERTH) – Thessaloniki, Greece (sub-contractor)

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