



International Development Hackathon & Workshop

Rules of participation

20 September 2022



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Preamble

International Hackathon and Workshop is part of an innovative project called SnapEarth. **SnapEarth** is an EU H2020-funded project that aims to facilitate the access to Earth Observation (EO) data both for EO service creators and for the general public thanks to EO data labelling and indexation innovations. Today, EO data are freely available in large quantities. However, the main obstacle to their use by the public is that these data are sometimes hard to access, as they are not currently highlighted by search engines and their retrieval is mainly addressed to experienced professionals.

Within SnapEarth, a platform is developed that operates in a cloud environment and is designed to address the huge volume of data issues, produced from EO satellite missions, to process them and extract useful information, and make this data easily accessible. This platform supports the retrieval and processing of EO data by performing segmentation on EO images to provide semantic maps for land cover classification and features description, enabling thus service creators to take advantage of highly scalable cloud environments for the analysis, visualization and production of EO value-added services. The SnapEarth project aims to bring out new values through large-scale earth observation data services and to anticipate future priorities by leveraging artificial intelligence and cloud computing technologies and tools.

The event is divided into two parts, where the first part concerns the International Development Workshop that aims to present the main assumptions of the project and a discussion about the possibilities of the platform's international development. The second part is the Hackathon, where SME units, or individuals, will have the ability to test the **EarthSignature platform** and then take part in the Hackathon's challenges. **The aim of the Hackathon** is to discuss the possibilities of using EO data processed by the EarthSignature platform and allow the participants to present their ideas on how the EarthSignature platform could be used in existing or new services in order to provide additional added-value solutions to the public.

Most of the Hackathon tasks will be focused on the EarthSignature platform. **EarthSignature platform** is based on Artificial Intelligence (deep learning models) designed to extract biophysical land cover semantic information from satellite imagery. It automatically and accurately maps the images provided by satellites for indexation. All data produced by EarthSignature dataset, including satellite images and metadata from several areas, are automatically indexed and accessible with the EarthSearch Portal.

The organizer of the International Hackathon and Workshop is a consortium made up of members of the SnapEarth project¹ (hereinafter "Organizers"). More general information about the project can be found at <https://snapearth.eu/>

The organizers planned both the workshop and the hackathon as an **online event**.

¹ SnapEarth is an innovative project financed by the European Commission and run by a consortium consisting of CS GROUP, CERTH, Qwant, IsardSAT, Middle East Technical University (METU) and Absiskey Polska.



Event's Objectives

- Increase the number of service users in the SnapEarth project
- Generate and disseminate new business ideas from SnapEarth project data and services
- Raise awareness of the opportunities offered by Earth Observation data
- Train potential users in accessing and using the services of the SnapEarth project² (e.g. EarthSignature, EarthSelf & EarthSearch)
- Disseminate the pilot services that have been implemented throughout the SnapEarth project (i.e. EarthPress, EarthClimate, EarthAgriculture, EarthFoodSecurity)
- Disseminate information about the SnapEarth project

Challenges

- These challenges are based on the scope of the hackathon and of the SnapEarth project. Through these challenges, the participants shall use the EarthSignature platform and propose the corresponding ideas, based on the scope of each challenge. Additional information are available in the next section.
- This **hackathon** is comprised of two challenges that will be presented in the form of a short presentation. The topics of the challenges are:
 - [1] Presentations of ideas on how the EarthSignature platform can be used for the development of a new service/platform that could add value to the EO data community and in general public
 - [2] Presentations of ideas on how the EarthSignature platform can be used in already developed services

Rules

- Registration for the event will open on 05 September 2022: [link](#)
- **Registered participants** will receive access to the EarthSignature platform (06/September/2022) via email from Qwant company, along with the prepared guidelines on how to use the EarthSignature platform. By using the given guidelines, participants will be able to test this platform and prepare their ideas.
 - The aforementioned guideline include information on how to use the EarthSignature platform and how to contact with the Organizers and the corresponding person in case of an issue or questions about using the platform.
 - For the preparation of the presentation, a template is available here: [link](#)
- Both challenges will be presented during the “International Development Hackathon & Workshop” in the corresponding slot (information on the agenda of the event)
 - The presentation of the ideas should be presented in the form of a short presentation (using a .ppt file) of **10-15 minutes**, during the pitching session (see below in the agenda).

² <https://snapearth.eu/about/what-is-snapearth>

- A draft template of the ideas' presentation will be sent to the registered participants on the event.
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- The presented **ideas will be assessed** by a group of experts in the field formed for the scope of the evaluation in the hackathon (hereinafter "Experts").
 - The presentations will be presented to the experts and assessed within the set criteria (see Assessment and results).
 - The best **3 solutions will be awarded**.

Event plan (agenda)

The event will take place on September 20, 2020 on the teams platform.

The event is scheduled for 6 hours (10AM – 5 PM).

<h1>SnapEarth</h1> <h2>International Development Hackathon & Workshop</h2> <h3><i>Enabling Artificial Intelligence (AI) for providing added-value Earth Observation (EO) services</i></h3> <h3>20 September 2022</h3>		
Time	Topic	Presenter
06/09/22 – 19/09/22	Time for test the EarthSignature platform and time to consult CS Group France and Qwant	-
20/09/22- Event Day		
10:00 - 10:10	Welcome	Absiskey Polska
10:10 - 10:30	About SnapEarth project - Introduction to the project's scope	CERTH
10:30 – 10:50	What are the EO data and how to make practical use of them	Absiskey Polska
10:50 - 11:20	<u>Session #1</u> - Use of semantic segmentation technology in your work - Presentation of the EarthSignature, EarthSearch platforms	Qwant
11:20 -11:50	<u>Session #2</u> - AI and EO ready Cloud agnostic and highly scalable environments for service development and/or exploitation - Presentation of EarthSelf & Safe Scale services	CS Group France

11:50 - 12:30	Lunch break	
12:30 - 14:30	<u>Session #3</u> - How to use EO data at the European and international level for different solutions on the example of the SnapEarth project (i.e. EarthPress, EarthClimate, EarthAgriculture, EarthFoodSecurity)	Absiskey Polska, CERTH, CS Group Romania, isardSAT
14:30 - 15:30	<u>Hackathon: Pitching session</u> - Presentations of the hackathon's participant's ideas about new solutions using the EarthSignature platform	Event participants
15:30 - 16:00	Final comments & Discussion	Absiskey Polska
16:00 - 17:00	Experts deliberations and announcement of the winners	Experts

Who can participate

The event is aimed at companies, SMEs, start-ups, individuals who want to use EarthSignature from both Europe and beyond.

A specific number of participants representing a company is not required, however, for the optimal provision of good business and technical support, the formation of teams including from 3 to 5 participants per unit is recommended.

Event logistics and associated costs

- International Hackathon and Workshop participation is free.
- Participants (individuals or teams) should be available online during the entire duration of the Hackathon.
- Teams can decide on their own how they will cooperate in order to form their idea/presentation.
- All participants will have to complete a short questionnaire at the end of the International Hackathon and Workshop.

Registration

Registration will be open no later than two weeks before the date of the Hackathon (06/09/2022) and it will close two days before the event (18/09/2022 at 11.59 pm CEST)

The link to the event on Teams will be sent only to registered people. The registration link is available at the link: <https://snapearth.eu/idwh2>



Assessment and results

International Hackathon and Workshop is an event for companies and start-ups, during which the EarthSignature platform will be used. Therefore, the result should include at least the concept of the idea that will be related to the theme of the Hackathon that is, with the opportunity to grow the business using the EarthSignature platform and other SnapEarth services.

The result will be a short presentation (10-15 min) created by the participants and presented during the Pitching session.

A few days before the start of the event, participants will receive a presentation draft along with the necessary information on what should be included in it.

After presenting the solution to the experts, they will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

- Relevance to the Hackathon's theme. Weight: 25%
- The attractiveness of the idea in technical, innovation, usability and feasibility terms. Weight: 40%
- Business potential 25%
- Idea's advancement level. Weight: 10%

The task of the organizers will be to appoint a committee of experts that will select the best idea.

All experts appointed to evaluate the ideas will sign a declaration with the Organizer about keeping secret and selflessness.

Awards

The competition committee will announce the results for the prize's winners at the end of the Hackathon.

Teams from 1st 2nd and 3rd place will be awarded. Information about the prizes will be posted on the official website www.snapearth.eu

Confidentiality and Ownership of Results

Participants will own the intellectual property rights to all their contributions made during the International Hackathon and Workshop. Responsibility for team performance rests with the team members who will jointly own the concept / design of the application.

Teams are responsible for protecting their solutions within the framework of applicable law, as long as the applications are in a state of development that allows such protection.

Relevant teams are responsible for protecting changes to relevant regulations, as long as the applications are in a state of development that allows such protection.

Participants must ensure that the group work results in an application or idea related to the EarthSignature platform or EarthSelf and EarthSearch services.



The organizer ensures that it does not disclose to third parties any confidential information obtained at the International Hackathon and Workshop. The organizer also guarantees that all experts and mentors involved in the International Hackathon and Workshop undertake to conclude a confidentiality agreement.

Data protection

The Organizers will process and protect the personal data of all Participants under the Data Protection Act in the EU - General Data Protection Regulation - GDPR. Personal data of all participants are processed only in the Member States of the European Union or in countries bound by the agreement on the European Economic Area. Any transfer of personal data to other countries is excluded.

The Participant allows the Organizer to send his contact details to the EC and the Coordinator in order to inform them about all matters related to the International Hackathon and Workshop Program and about any other matters that the Coordinator and the European Commission consider relevant and appropriate.

By taking part in the International Hackathon and Workshop, all participants acknowledge that the EC, Coordinator and Organizer may use their names, country of origin information, comments, comparisons, photos and videos (including photos / videos taken during the International Hackathon and Workshop) and undisclosed descriptions of their applications developed during the International Hackathon and Workshop for advertising and other purposes on any medium / medium (Internet, other interactive networks) at any place and time without additional compensation or the right to view and agree to the waiver of your rights in with regard to this type of publishing and advertising.

Obligations related to the protection of personal data apply for an indefinite period or as long as it is provided for by applicable law.

Chat Rules and Guidelines (Possible)

In the event of violations, the organizers will warn or block users who repeatedly or grossly violate the rules.

The organizers have the final say in modifying, interpreting and enforcing these rules.

If participants notice that someone is breaking the rules or behaving in a questionable manner, they should notify the chat moderator immediately.

Chat entries must contain questions related to the event topic. Users who post off-topic posts will be redirected to an alternate discussion chat or other source if necessary, and the question will be marked as "off topic."

During the event, you will be able to ask questions in the "ask a question" section. Experts reserve the right to answer chat questions directly or to keep a response to a live debrief session.

The posts of users who publish spam will be deleted. If a post that is otherwise relevant contains links deemed spammy, those links will be removed.



Participants can add images such as a "screenshot" of the computer screen. Images or other media added to the support question must help clarify the problem related to the content of the online training workshop or problem resolution. Unsuitable media will be deleted.

Other

Decisions to award prizes are not open to legal challenge. The decisions of the expert appointed by the Organizer are final and binding for all participants of the International Hackathon and Workshop. Participants are not entitled to justify such decisions.

The European Commission, the Coordinator and the Organizer reserve the right to change these terms and conditions, including any of the dates set out in this document, at any time.

By participating in the Hackathon, you accept the provisions of the Regulations.

Contact

If you have any additional questions, please send them to: d.olszewski@absiskey.pl and p.kwiatkowski@absiskey.com or to the phone number +48 664 911 677.