

Brussels, 24 August 2018

Our reference: 2018/1756

Dr Peter Bauer
Deputy Director
Research Department
European Centre for Medium-Range Weather
Forecasts
Shinfield Park, Reading RG2 9AX, UK

Subject: Endorsement letter

Dear Dr Peter Bauer,

I am pleased to provide you with EuroGeoSurveys endorsement for the Extreme Earth Initiative, a proposed FET Flagship Programme FETFLAG-01-2018 of the European Commission (EC) that starts with a CSA proposal ExtremeEarth-PP as its preparatory project.

EuroGeoSurveys (EGS), The Geological Surveys of Europe, is a not-for-profit organisation representing 37 National Geological Surveys and some regional Surveys in Europe. EGS members, the National Geological Surveys, are public sector institutions carrying out operations and research in the field of geosciences by conducting research focused on their national subsurface.

EuroGeoSurveys and its members provides expert, neutral, balanced and practical pan-European advice and information as an aid to problem-solving, policy, regulatory and programme formulation in areas of (a) the use and the management of on- and off-shore natural resources related to the subsurface of the Earth, (b) the identification of natural hazards of geological origin, their monitoring and the mitigation of their impacts, (c) the environmental management, sustainable urban development and safe construction, and (d) e- government and the access to geoscientific metadata / data and the development of interoperable and harmonised geoscientific data at the European scale.

Two areas of EGS research background are perfectly aligned with ExtremeEarth Initiative, firstly in the identification and understanding of natural hazards of geological origin (deficit or excess of trace elements in soils and waters, earthquakes, natural emissions of hazardous gases, landslides and rockfalls, land heave and subsidence, shrinking and swelling clays), and secondly facilitating the access to geoscientific metadata and data and developing interoperable and harmonised geoscientific data at the European scale. Understanding the past extreme natural phenomena (earthquakes, volcanoes, floods) and the impact of climate change (desertification, glacier melting or growing ...) assists in better understating, predicting and mitigating environmental pressures on the human population in the modern world.

The ExtremeEarth project's scientific, technological and programmatic objectives are aligned with the future directions of EGS. Therefore, EGS supports the mission of ExtremeEarth that will revolutionize Europe's capability to predict and monitor environmental extremes and their impacts on the society.

This endorsement does not imply any legal or financial commitments towards the ExtremeEarth project. Support will imply that statements and logos of supporters may be shown on the ExtremeEarth website.

We are looking forward to future interactions.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Teresa Ponce de Leão". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T' and a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Prof Teresa Ponce de Leão
EuroGeoSurveys - President