Digital Earth Africa

Investment Logic

Contents

Introduction

Digital Earth (DE) Africa aims to improve the lives of Africans through access to tailored information for better decision making. Digital Earth Africa will deliver decision-ready products enabling policy makers, scientists, the private sector, and civil society to address social, environmental and economic changes on the continent and develop an ecosystem for innovation across sectors.

DE Africa Phase II is an $AUD 24 million investment over 3 years (2019-22) funded by the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAT) and the Helmsley Charitable Trust to support the establishment of the DE Africa platform; support uptake and application; and establish DE Africa as a trusted Earth Observation (EO) infrastructure and capability for the continent.

Purpose

This Investment Logic was developed for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Australian Government) as part of its funding conditions.

The framework plays a key role in guiding:

- DE Africa Phase II funding partner reporting requirements
- DE Africa Phase II adaptive management and planning cycles
- DE Africa's Monitoring Evaluation and Learning framework, which guides the collection, evaluation and use of data and information about DE Africa Phase II progress and results

Key Stakeholders

The **primary users of this Investment Logic** are the **DE Africa Establishment Team** who require this to underpin Phase II Investment reporting to **Phase II donors.**

In addition, this framework is being used to guide Phase II Investment reporting to:

- The **DE Africa Governing Board** – who will review and endorse Outcomes (and Indicators) on an annual basis to ensure it reflects their priorities.
- The **Technical Advisory Committee**, **Institutional hosts and partners** – who require visibility of the Investment Logic to ensure effective work program alignment.

Beyond Phase II Investment, this Investment Logic provides a starting point for DE Africa governing groups to develop a broader Investment Logic for the longer term program.

Long-term Goal

The long-term goal for DE Africa Phase II is to improve the lives of Africans through access to tailored information for decision making. In line with the DE Africa Governance Framework adopted by the interim Governing Board; this overarching Goal encompasses inter-connected components:

1. Countries are empowered, with national data and information relating to challenges of land, water, the environment, resources, and human population.

2. Lives are improved, through access to information that empowers governments, individuals and communities to make informed decisions and choices.

3. Development activities are more effective, through access to and use of information that improves the understanding of issues and solutions. Continental assessments, reporting, and responses are advanced through access to continental scale data and information products relevant to Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

4. Digital transformation is advanced, through industry uptake and innovation using products and services from DE Africa.

5. Economic development and job creation are increased, through access to data for commercial products and services development.

DE Africa End of Phase (II) Outcomes

DE Africa Phase II has three **End of Program Outcomes (EOPOs**) that are expected to be achieved by the end of Phase II and contribute to the Long-Term Goal of DE Africa. EOPOs will be used to frame all DE Africa work (including planning, Monitoring Evolution and Learning).

- **EOPO 1:** *DE Africa is an operationally, technically, and financially sustainable, and inclusive entity in Africa*

  EOPO 1 will ensure EO data, information, and products are established to support development outcomes beyond the Phase II investment. Robust and inclusive governance arrangements, a skilled and experienced (Africa based) DE Africa Team, well run, inclusive management and operations, and an effective technical platform will be established. Funding for Phase III will be secured.

  This will be achieved through the following **Intermediate Outcomes (IO):**
    - IO1: DE Africa has attracted additional investment
    - IO2: DE Africa has established a range of enabling partnerships
    - IO3: DE Africa institutional, management and staffing capacity is established
    - IO4: DE Africa's technical platform is established and delivers credible and free EO data and products.

  Achievement of these Intermediate Outcomes will be underpinned by one **Immediate Outcome**:
    - O1: The DE Africa Governance Framework is operational and effective, and African owned

- **EOPO 2:** *DE Africa is demonstrating environmental and development impact*

EOPO 2 is about the uptake of EO data and products to achieve positive environmental and development impacts. Progress will demonstrate how DE Africa products have been used in and effectively influenced decision making for inclusive benefits and impact.

This will be achieved through the following **Intermediate Outcomes (IO):**
- IO5: DE Africa benefits are recognised by a growing user base, including women, across public and private sectors
- IO6: DE Africa is used to support development of innovative applications
- IO7: DE Africa products are used to inform decision making
- IO8: Increasing capability across a diversity of users to engage with and apply DE Africa data and products

Achievement of these Intermediate Outcomes will be underpinned by one **Immediate Outcome**:
- O2: Intermediary and end-users are identified and their needs are understood

- **EOPO 3** *DE Africa is a flagship initiative that promotes the benefits of open and free earth observation data*

  EOPO 3 recognises that the potential impact of DE Africa will not be achieved in isolation from broader EO and development policy and programming in Africa, or globally. Beyond supporting the uptake of EO in decision making, DE Africa has the potential to positively influence the course of EO policy and practice, as well as approaches to inclusive development at national, regional, and international levels.

  This will be achieved through the following **Intermediate Outcomes (IO):**
  - IO9: DE Africa supports development partner and bilateral engagement and exchange
  - IO10: DE Africa supports increased consistency in application and analysis of EO data
  - IO11: DE Africa is increasingly recognised as a preeminent EO data platform

  Achievement of these Intermediate Outcomes will be underpinned by one **Immediate Outcome**:
  - O3: DE Africa is promoted throughout Africa and internationally

Long-term Goal	**Digital Earth Africa improves the lives of Africans through access to tailored information for decision making**		
Phase II Components	**Sustainable Supply**	**Demand and Uptake**	**Regional and Global Engagement**
End of Phase II Outcomes (EOPO)	**EOPO 1: DE Africa is an operationally, technically, and financially sustainable, and inclusive entity in Africa**	**EOPO2: DE Africa is demonstrating environmental and development impact**	**EOPO3: DE Africa is a flagship initiative that promotes the benefits of open and free earth observation data**
Intermediate (IO) & Immediate (O) Outcomes	**IO1:** DE Africa has attracted additional investment **IO2:** DE Africa has established a range of enabling partnerships **IO3:** DE Africa institutional, management and staffing capacity is established **IO4:** DE Africa's technical capacity is established and delivers credible and free EO data and products **O1**: DE Africa's Governance Framework is operational, effective, and African owned	**IO5:** DE Africa benefits are recognised by a growing user base, including women across public and private sectors **IO6:** DE Africa is used to support development of innovative applications **IO7:** DE Africa products are used to inform decision making **IO8:** Increasing capability across a diversity of users to engage with and apply DE Africa data and products **O2:** Intermediary and end-users are identified, and their needs are understood	**IO9:** DE Africa supports development partner and bilateral engagement and exchange **IO10**: DE Africa supports increased consistency in application and analysis of EO data **IO11:** DE Africa is increasingly recognised as a preeminent EO data platform **O3:** DE Africa is promoted throughout Africa and internationally

DE Africa Investment Logic

Figure 1 - Investment Logic (Digital Earth Africa Phase II)