



3 SEP 2018

Endorsement of the ExtremeEarth Flagship proposal

Dear Mr Bauer,

It is our pleasure to endorse the European Commission's ExtremeEarth Flagship proposal "Tackling Grand Interdisciplinary Science and Technology Challenges".

The proposed Flagship aligns closely with key areas prioritised by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). To meet the demands posed by major global trends in agricultural development and challenges faced by member nations, FAO has identified five key priorities on which it is best placed to intervene. One of these areas is to increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises, including by using early warnings to protect people from disaster impact ahead of time. If implemented, the Flagship programme will be a critical step towards improving the quality and accessibility of scientific and technological forecasting mechanisms to support quality early warnings for agriculture and food security.

FAO can contribute to the Flagship through its Early Warning Early Action (EWEA) initiative, which translates early warnings into anticipatory actions to reduce the impact of disaster events on vulnerable agriculture-based communities. FAO will be able to provide highly relevant EWEA expertise to the project design, in addition to the agency's broader technical expertise in agriculture and food security.

FAO fully endorses the ExtremeEarth initiative, with its scientific, technological and programmatic objectives. While this endorsement does not imply any legal or financial commitments towards the ExtremeEarth project, we endorse our statement and logo to be shown on the website.

We look forward to close interactions in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Daniel Gustafson
Deputy Director-General (Programmes)
and Officer-in-Charge, Technical Cooperation Department

Mr Peter Bauer
Deputy Director
Research Department
European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts
Reading