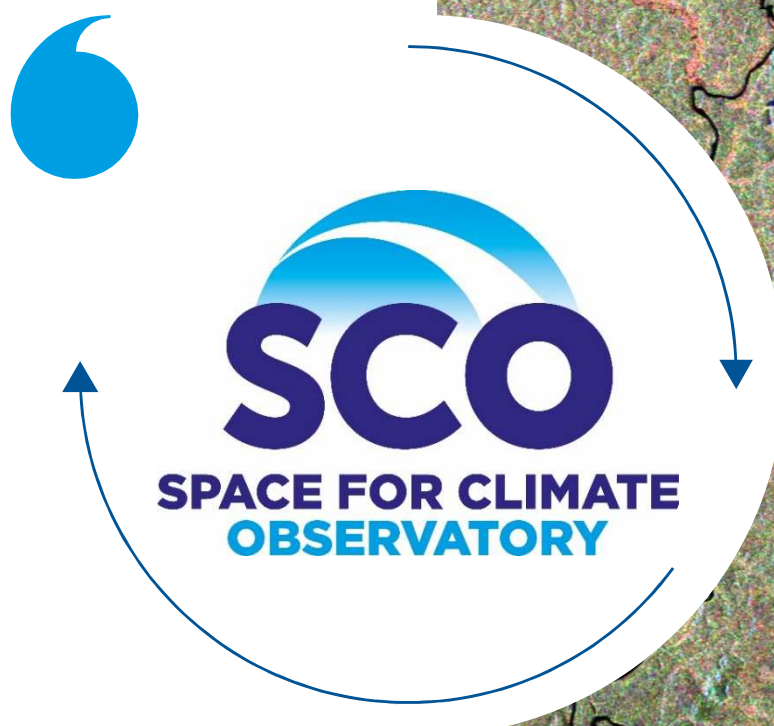


WORK PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

November 2025 – November 2027



@ESA, 2025, Biomass, Gabon topography.

Submitted to the 16th Steering Committee
on November 20th, 2025

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN 2025



Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (CNES)



China National Space Administration (CNSA)



European Space Agency (ESA)



Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (GISTDA)



Monaco Space Office (MSO)



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)



South African National Space Agency (SANSa)



Swedish National Space Agency (SNSA)



United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)

PREFACE

In 2017, during the first One Planet Summit, the Space for Climate Observatory (SCO) initiative was born to fully leverage the potential of Earth observation data in the adaptation and fight against climate change. Two years later, the French President officially announced its launch during the Paris Air Show, where twenty-three space agencies and international organizations met to sign the Joint Declaration of Interest.

Today, with almost sixty Signatories and more than one hundred and twenty projects around the world, the network is structured around an international Charter and is recognized as a major player relying on increasingly available satellite data to contribute to the climate effort.

Thanks to the mobilization of numerous scientific organizations alongside public institutions and private companies, the general public and local decision-makers are gradually gaining access to crucial tools to better understand and anticipate present and future climate challenges.

Whether it is a question of monitoring extreme weather events, water and forest management policies, biodiversity protection or prospects for adapting our cities and countryside, the services and platforms of the SCO provide essential decision-making tools for stakeholders. These projects now allow many regions to move forward with resilient actions that are essential to fight global warming.

From **2023 to 2025**, the SCO entered its **construction phase**, focused on consolidating its foundations and implementing the governance model defined by the International Charter. This period also saw the **establishment of the Global Awareness Working Group**, the **implementation of key processes** such as project accreditation, and a steady **increase in the number of Signatories**, reflecting the growing global interest in the initiative.

As we transition from this construction phase to a new **era of extension (2025–2027)**, the SCO will focus on **scaling proven solutions, broadening its impact, and deepening engagement with diverse stakeholders worldwide**. This phase aims to **support projects on successful trajectories, intensify communication efforts, and strengthen ties with national and regional focal points** to amplify the SCO's impact at the international level. It will also focus on the **consolidation of existing partnerships** - notably with GEO and others - and on enhancing the **visibility of the SCO within international commitments**.

The 2025–2027 Work Programme marks a **pivotal step to scale up innovative Earth observation solutions through coordinated global and local actions**. By strengthening cooperation among diverse stakeholders, the SCO aims to deploy effective tools that enhance climate adaptation and resilience, particularly for vulnerable populations.

The Work Programme will run for the next two years (2025-2027). It includes sections on previous activities, objectives and corresponding activities with a schedule. It encompasses SCO Project activities, Working Group activities, Secretariat activities and national activities of the Signatories whenever possible. The Work Programme is prepared by the Secretariat, reviewed by the Programme Committee and approved by the Steering Committee. Work Programmes are made public by the Secretariat.

The present Work Programme is submitted for the approval of the Steering Committee at its 16th meeting held remotely, on November 20th, 2025.

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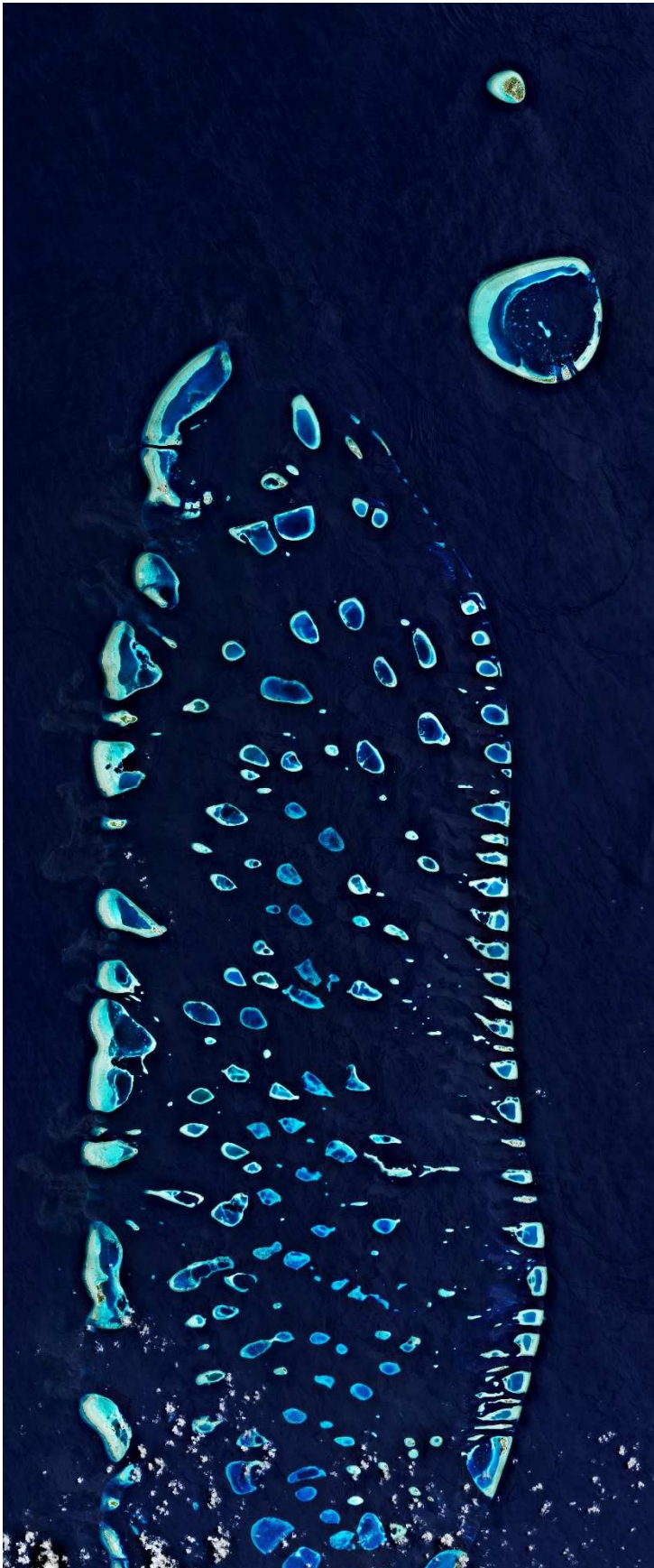
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1. Programme Committee



Recalling Article 6.2 of the Charter,

The Programme Committee is in charge of overseeing the implementation of SCO activities, with the support of the Secretariat. In particular, it is responsible for:

- drafting the Work Programme (Article 7.1);
- ensuring that SCO Projects match the required criteria (Article 7.2);
- monitoring work within dedicated Working Groups (Article 7.3).
- tracking the progress of SCO Project and Working Group activities towards the achievement of the objectives defined in Article 3 and detailed in the Work Programme;

The Programme Committee is composed of a restricted number of Focal Points and oversees the implementation of SCO activities.

The main ambition of the Programme Committee is to encourage, stimulate and replicate SCO projects, to strengthen the involvement of focal points in the creation of national and regional SCOs, and to raise global awareness of SCO activities and lead the international network.

In the long term, the ambition is that each focal point will be able to foster its national ecosystem and bring forward accredited projects at the international level.

For this purpose, the Programme Committee is mainly in charge of drafting the Work Programme on a biannual basis with the support of the Secretariat.

Therefore, the Programme Committee, with the support of the Secretariat, is responsible for drafting and publishing reports to assess the progress of Work Programmes activities and their results as they reach conclusion. These reports will be presented to the Steering Committee and made publicly available.

2. Work Programme

The Work Programme is the primary instrument used by SCO to facilitate collaboration among its members and with other partners in application of the Charter and the Rules of Procedure.

The Work Programme provides structure and guidance for pragmatic and result-oriented cooperation in mutually agreed thematic fields. With respect to the expected governance outcomes within SCO activities, it is to be executed in the period 2025-2027. The Work Programme summarizes anticipated activities for subsequent years, to be overseen by the Programme Committee. As stated by the Rules of Procedure, it will be updated yearly.

Its aim is threefold:

- to define common objectives and set out a plan for implementation of SCO activities, making the initiative an active and wide forum for all entities using EO for concrete climate applications;
- **to foster and replicate SCO projects;**
- **to increase global awareness of SCO activities, using relevant communication relays, among worldwide stakeholders involved in public decision-making on the impacts of climate change.**

SCO Work Programme activities are largely funded through in-kind contributions from SCO Members, on a voluntary, best-effort basis, supplemented by financial contributions where possible or appropriate.



3. Work Programme overview

Governance and Secretariat activities

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	LEAD	CONTRIBUTORS
Execute SCO Governance	Prepare and organize SCO governance meetings	SCO Secretariat	Programme Committee
	Provide oversight of Working Groups	Programme Committee	-Programme Committee
	Review and update the governance documents if applicable		-Steering Committee
	Ensure the renewal of governance bodies with new entry actors		-Working Group Chairs
Enhance the SCO's visibility in international climate commitments	Promote the SCO within global climate governance frameworks	SCO Secretariat	Steering Committee

Working Group activities related to the development of the SCO community

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	LEAD	CONTRIBUTORS
Increase the number of Signatories and strengthen the actions with the current Signatories	Set up one-to-one meetings with non-signatories' national agencies	-SCO Secretariat -Global awareness working group	-Steering Committee -SCO Signatories
	Set up one-to-one meetings with current Signatories who wish to further develop SCO activities	-SCO Secretariat	-SCO Signatories

Ensure SCO representation/participation within global groups/communities involved in EO sector and/or in climate change impacts	Identify EO and/or Climate Change initiatives and international coordination groups	Global Awareness Working Group	Steering Committee
	Coordinate SCO participation in identified and selected initiatives' working groups	Programme Committee	Steering Committee
Further develop the Working Group Global Awareness actions	Follow the Global Awareness raising strategy plan and update it to reflect extension goals	Global Awareness Working Group	SCO Secretariat
	Update consistent awareness raising material and language		
	Develop new communication actions to showcase the SCO activities and their impact		
Maintain and update SCO Website	Enhance website functionality and add new features	SCO Secretariat	-SCO Secretariat (in-kind contributions from members are welcomed)
	Increase the international partners presence		

In-house activities of the Signatories addressing SCO objectives and implementing SCO core functions

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	LEAD	CONTRIBUTORS
Support national and regional SCOs	Assist Signatories in scaling up their SCO implementations	SCO Secretariat	Steering Committee
	Provide resources and best practices to develop national SCOs		

SCO project-related activities: the accreditation process

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	LEAD	CONTRIBUTORS
Manage the international accreditation process	Update the international panel of reviewers	Programme Committee	- SCO Secretariat - National and regional SCOs
	Launch and manage the international call for projects (reviews, accreditation)		
	Stimulate national and regional call for projects		

SCO project-related activities: scale up SCO solutions

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	LEAD	CONTRIBUTORS
Disseminate projects content/ results and facilitate their transfer to additional use cases	Facilitate user-oriented access to the SCO project portfolio.	-SCO Secretariat -Global Awareness Working Group	-Steering Committee -SCO Signatories
	Strengthen dissemination through the SCO communication channels and international networks.		
Facilitate projects transfer to additional use cases	Promote the replication and adaptation of SCO project solutions in new geographic or thematic contexts through dedicated workshops.	-SCO Secretariat -SCO Signatories	
Encourage all SCO members to propose solutions during the call for projects	Disseminate call information, organize information webinars, and provide guidance to members.	-SCO Secretariat -SCO Signatories	

Reporting and evaluation

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	LEAD	CONTRIBUTORS
Provide SCO activities overview	Provide an annual activity report for Signatories	Programme Committee	SCO Secretariat
	Ensure the SCO Portfolio management		

Annex 1 – Governance and Secretariat activities

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS
Execute SCO Governance	Prepare and organize SCO governance meetings <u>Steering Committee:</u> Secretariat will organize all Steering Committee meetings in accordance with the present Work Programme. <u>Programme Committee:</u> Secretariat will organize Programme Committee meetings at least four (4) times a year. <u>International Panel of reviewers in charge of reviewing SCO calls:</u> Secretariat will organize the coordination meeting of the panel as well as SCO project applicant pitches prior to accreditation. This panel will be reviewed annually. <u>Working Groups</u> The Secretariat will assist Working Group Chairs in their activities to the greatest extent feasible.
	Provide oversight of Working Group The Secretariat will provide overall oversight of the Working Groups to ensure alignment with the SCO objectives and consistency across activities. The Secretariat will monitor the functioning of each Working Group, including their objectives, work plans and deliverables, and will facilitate coordination between Working Groups where relevant. This oversight aims to maintain quality, foster coherence, and support the effective dissemination of outcomes and best practices across the SCO community.
	Review and update the governance documents if applicable The Secretariat will periodically review the governance documents, including the Rules of Procedure and, if necessary, the Charter, to ensure that they remain consistent with the evolving structure and objectives of the SCO. Proposed updates will be developed in consultation with the Programme Committee and submitted to the Steering Committee for endorsement.
	Ensure the renewal of governance bodies with new entry actors The Secretariat will facilitate the regular renewal of governance bodies to ensure balanced representation and the inclusion of new actors joining the SCO. This process will involve identifying opportunities for participation by newly engaged Focal Points, while maintaining continuity within existing structures. The objective is to strengthen diversity, inclusiveness, and the dynamic engagement of the SCO community within its governance framework.
Enhance the SCO's visibility in international climate commitments	Promote the SCO within global climate governance frameworks The Secretariat will actively promote the recognition of the SCO within international climate frameworks and high-level events, such as those under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) or other global environmental initiatives. This includes highlighting SCO contributions to the implementation of international commitments on climate adaptation and

	mitigation, showcasing project outcomes and best practices, and ensuring the SCO's participation in relevant global dialogues and partnerships. The Secretariat will also work to strengthen collaboration with key international organizations to position the SCO as a reference initiative linking space data to climate action.
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Annex 2 - Working Group activities related to the development of the SCO community

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS
Increase the number of Signatories and strengthen the actions with the current Signatories	Set up one-to-one meetings with non-signatories' national agencies and other organizations The objective for this mandate is to strengthen existing international as well as local partnerships, and to forge new ones, such as the existing partnership with the Group on Earth Observations (GEO). Formal relationships are envisioned with climate-related institutions and initiatives. In terms of geographical reach, South America and Africa are priorities. Alongside local, national, regional and international policies, the scientific community, space agencies and civil society, new stakeholders are targeted as future partners. New Space companies focused on Earth-observation satellite data and climate services are identified as crucial partners both in Europe and globally. With the adoption of the SCO due diligence process, private companies can now become official Signatories of the SCO. Efforts will focus on identifying opportunities for these companies to take an active role within the SCO, ensuring they are fully integrated and can contribute effectively. Their involvement will drive innovation, respond to the growing demand for climate monitoring solutions, and support the long-term sustainability of SCO projects. The SCO envisions coordinating with major international conferences (Conference of the Parties, for instance) and congresses (International Astronautical Congress, for instance) to organize SCO Charter signing ceremonies. Accordingly, the Working Group dedicated to SCO global awareness, steered by UNOOSA, is particularly identified as an enabling tool for extending SCO partnerships. Set up one-to-one meetings with current Signatories who wish to further develop SCO activities To strengthen the engagement of current Signatories and support the development of SCO activities, one-to-one meetings will be proposed to interested members. These meetings will provide an opportunity to discuss their needs and projects and, if desired, to jointly define a tailored action plan to maximize their contribution and impact within the SCO.
Ensure SCO representation/participation within global groups/communities involved in EO sector	Identify EO and/or Climate Change initiatives and international coordination groups Coordinate SCO participation in identified and selected initiatives' working groups These objectives are to be pursued by the Working Group dedicated to SCO global awareness steered by UNOOSA and Focal Points more broadly.

and/or in climate change impacts	
Further develop the Working Group Global Awareness actions in collaboration with UNOOSA	Follow the Global Awareness raising strategy plan and update it to reflect extension goals The Global Awareness Working Group will implement the Global Awareness Raising Strategy Plan and ensure its regular update to reflect the SCO's evolving priorities and extension goals. Updates will be prepared in consultation with relevant governance bodies and partners, ensuring coherence with the overall communication objectives of the SCO. This process aims to maintain strategic alignment and enhance the visibility of the SCO at global, regional, and national levels.
	Update consistent awareness raising material and language The Global Awareness Working Group will ensure that all awareness raising materials and communication tools remain consistent, accurate, and aligned with the SCO's identity and objectives. This includes the regular revision of key messages, visual elements, and terminology to maintain a coherent and unified communication approach across all platforms and stakeholders.
	Implement current communication action and develop new ones to showcase the SCO activities and their impact The Global Awareness Working Group will design and implement new communication actions to highlight SCO activities, achievements, and their impact. These actions may include publications such as the annual report, events such as webinars, or web communication, developed in collaboration with Focal Points and Signatories. The objective is to strengthen outreach, promote success stories, and enhance the visibility and credibility of the SCO at international level.
Maintain and update SCO Website	Enhance website functionality and add new features and increase the international partners presence The Secretariat, hosted by CNES, is in charge of maintaining and updating the SCO website. SCO members are encouraged to share, with the Secretariat, information on their actions within the initiative and their climate-related national actions.

Annex 3 – In-house activities of the Signatories addressing SCO objectives and implementing SCO core functions

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS
Support national and regional SCOs	Assist Signatories in scaling up their SCO implementations The Secretariat will support Signatories and their Focal Points in the expansion and consolidation of their SCO implementations at national and regional levels. Upon request, the Secretariat may provide assistance to: · establish and strengthen communities of stakeholders; · facilitate dialogue through dedicated discussion forums; · mobilize and adapt appropriate communication and visibility tools. National and regional Focal Points are encouraged to coordinate and promote the active involvement of their ecosystems in the SCO initiative, fostering collaboration between science, industry, and end-users. This approach aims to enable the development and replication of SCO project solutions. Whenever relevant and feasible, national and regional actors are invited to participate in the international SCO calls and to consider launching dedicated national or regional calls. They are also encouraged to use relevant communication channels — such as national events, webinars, or workshops — to promote SCO activities and raise awareness of their outcomes.
	Provide resources and best practices to develop national SCOs The Secretariat will facilitate the development of national SCOs by providing guidance materials, and examples of best practices drawn from existing SCO implementations. These resources will support Focal Points and national actors in designing, adapting, and managing SCO initiatives in line with the global SCO framework. The Secretariat will also promote the exchange of knowledge and experience among Signatories through dedicated workshops, and documentation of successful approaches. This process aims to strengthen local capacities and ensure coherence between national SCOs and the overall objectives of the initiative.

Annex 4 – SCO project-related activities: the accreditation process

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS
Manage the international accreditation process	Update the international panel of reviewers The Secretariat will maintain and regularly update the international panel of reviewers established to support the accreditation of SCO projects through international calls. This includes the periodic renewal of experts to ensure balanced representation across regions and disciplines, and the inclusion of new members. The Secretariat will coordinate with Focal Points to identify and nominate qualified reviewers. The Programme Committee will oversee the updated panel annually.
	Launch and manage the international call for projects (reviews, accreditation) The Secretariat will organize and manage the international calls for projects in line with the SCO accreditation process. These calls are open to all Focal Points and aim to foster the development and replication of SCO projects that deliver operational Earth Observation-based tools for climate adaptation, mitigation, and monitoring. The Secretariat will coordinate the review and evaluation process in collaboration with the international panel of reviewers, and will submit the proposed projects for accreditation to the Programme Committee. This process will be conducted on a regular basis to sustain the growth and impact of the SCO network.
	Stimulate national and regional call for projects The Secretariat will encourage and support the organization of national and regional calls for SCO projects by interested Signatories and Focal Points. These calls, financed and managed at the national or regional level, should align with SCO principles and accreditation criteria. The Secretariat will provide methodological guidance and communication support to facilitate their implementation and promote visibility within the broader SCO network. Accredited projects resulting from national and regional calls will be presented to the Programme Committee for acknowledgment and integration into the global SCO portfolio.

Annex 5 – SCO project-related activities: scale-up SCO solutions

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS
Disseminate projects' content and results	Facilitate user-oriented access to the SCO project portfolio. The Secretariat will ensure that SCO project outcomes are accessible and understandable from a user perspective. This includes organizing and maintaining the project portfolio in a way that highlights the practical relevance of each solution and supports potential users in identifying the most suitable tools for their specific challenges.
	Strengthen dissemination through the SCO communication channels and international networks. The Secretariat will amplify the visibility of SCO projects by leveraging the initiative's communication tools — such as the website, newsletters, social media, and events — and by collaborating with international partners and networks, including the Group on Earth Observations (GEO). These joint communication efforts will help reach a broader audience, showcase project impacts, and promote the replication and upscaling of successful SCO solutions worldwide. This action will also be developed in close connection with the Global Awareness Working Group, ensuring alignment with ongoing awareness and outreach activities such as ClimateSCOpe webinars and other thematic communication events.
Facilitate projects transfer to additional use cases	Promote the replication and adaptation of SCO project solutions in new geographic or thematic contexts through dedicated workshops. The Secretariat will support the transfer and replication of SCO project solutions to additional use cases at national, regional, or international levels. This will include organizing and coordinating technical workshops aimed at identifying opportunities for replication, connecting project teams with potential new users with the Focal Points' support, and fostering collaboration between countries or institutions facing similar climate-related challenges. During these workshops, project leaders will be encouraged to share methodologies, technical documentation, and best practices to ease the adaptation of existing tools and approaches. The Secretariat will ensure that outcomes and lessons learnt are disseminated to the broader SCO community.
Encourage all SCO members to propose solutions during the call for projects	Disseminate call information, organize information webinars, and provide guidance to members. The Secretariat will encourage all SCO members and Focal Points to actively participate in the international calls for projects by sharing information widely through official channels and communication platforms. Dedicated information sessions and webinars could be organized to explain the objectives, eligibility criteria, and submission procedures, and to answer potential applicants' questions. The Secretariat can also provide guidance and technical support to help members identify suitable project ideas and align their proposals with SCO objectives and evaluation criteria. This proactive approach aims to ensure inclusive participation across all regions, stimulate the

	submission of innovative solutions, and strengthen the collective contribution of the SCO community.
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Annex 6 – Reporting and Evaluation

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS
Provide SCO activities overview	Provide an annual activity report for Signatories The Programme Committee tracks progress of SCO Project and Working Group activities towards the achievement of the objectives defined in Article 3 of the Charter. SCO project applicants and Working Group Chairs are thus required to report on their activities on a yearly basis. A progress report on SCO activities overseen by the Programme Committee aims to be presented to the Steering Committee on a yearly basis. Ensure the SCO Portfolio management The SCO Portfolio serves as a showcase of the SCO initiative, highlighting its overall impact, individual projects, and developed tools. It enhances the visibility and value of the SCO by illustrating achievements and best practices across all activities. Regular updates ensure that the Portfolio reflects the continuous progress within the SCO community.

