Linked Open Data Tools Bring Victory for Space App Camp

The European Space Agency (ESA) Space App Camp 2017 – the event where coding meets big data from space – awarded on 18 September in Frascati, Italy, ESA's centre for EO, the winning team: Limoncello and their app AiR that uses satellite imagery to give flight travellers an interactive, bird's-eye view of their routes. The developer team makes use of augmented reality and the Copernicus programme to display an interactive projection of the world for users to see information about cities and landmarks they fly over, without disruptions like clouds or the plane itself getting in the way.

Their application for iOS devices won the sixth edition of the ESA event, supported by AZO Anwendungszentrum GmbH Oberpfaffenhofen and RAMANI. The Space App Camp also set the environment for the beta-phase of the Copernicus App Lab powered by unique tools provided by the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

Merging Earth Observation and Mobile Developers Applications

The overall objective of the Copernicus App Lab data access platform is to merge the scientific EO community and mobile developers' applications. Its core assets include data from the Copernicus Land -, Marine Environment -, and Atmosphere Monitoring Services as linked open data to promote the inclusion of EO data into value-added services and/or applications. Thereby, the incorporation of Copernicus data in mobile applications and the use of proper tools will drive future linkage efforts of the Copernicus Services and developers. In order to create tools that meet user needs, the Copernicus App Lab directly involves users in the development process.

During the ESA Space App Camp, 24 developers coming from 14 European countries competed in developing the best mobile app using Copernicus data for eight days. For the first time, participants were able to use the tools that are being developed in the Copernicus App Lab, the Copernicus App Lab Linked Open Data Tools.

After assessing the feedback of the beta-phase, the Copernicus App Lab consortium will improve detected challenges and further drive the platform to foster the Copernicus User Uptake in the mobile developer community and push added-value services for business and society. The international Copernicus App Lab consortium consists of the following partners contributing their high-level of expertise and experience in national and/or European and industrial projects: AZO, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (UoA), Terradue Srl, RAMANI and VITO.