

What is the Working Group on Capacity Building and Data Democracy?

Created in 2011, WGCapD undertakes activities based on the four pillars of the Data Democracy Initiative Mission and aims to unify CEOS efforts toward:

- Providing wider and easier access to Earth Observation data
- Increasing the sharing of software tools such as the use of open source software and open systems interface
- Increasing data dissemination capabilities and transferring relevant technologies to end users
- Providing intensive capacity building, education, and training (including awareness and outreach) for enabling end users to gather the information they need and for increasing communication on achieved results

What is the Sustainable Development Goals Ad Hoc Team?

CEOS establishment of this ad hoc team in 2016 to coordinate and drive activities in support of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), through the intergovernmental Group on Earth Observations (GEO) and other pathways. The SDG AHT objectives are to:

- Coordinate the efforts of CEOS agencies and communicate CEOS support to the SDG processes, by undertaking a number of activities, including those promoted by GEO, that showcase the important role of satellite Earth observation for the full realization of the SDGs:
 - Generating, exploring and promoting use cases, including those from existing GEO flagships and initiatives where CEOS is a partner or a leader.
 - Coordinating the production of communication materials on EO best practices in support to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a means to engage and mobilize SDG stakeholders around the use of EO data, products and tools.
- Provide a forum for sharing/communicating EO best practices in support to the SDGs, providing easy access to methodological development, tools and platforms, and discoverability of global/regional data sets.
- Analyze new opportunities for satellite-based EO to support SDGs targets and indicators, e.g., new methods, new data, new indicators.
- Engage with relevant authoritative stakeholders outside the UN system that also support the SDG realization (e.g. the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data, Green Climate Fund, World Bank Group, etc.).
- Use CEOS assets and bodies to build user capacity at all levels of the SDG implementation.

Past collaborations between the two working groups include:

- (support) Awareness webinars on the importance of EO for the SDG targets and indicators.
- (support) Capacity Building webinars/training on advanced satellite-based methodologies for SDG indicators.
 - Capacity Building webinars/training on advanced satellite-based methodologies for SDG indicators, including the use of EO enabling infrastructures (one webinar per SDG indicator).
 - CB-29-2019-4: Webinar: Introduction to SDGs and progress in using EO to address them
 - CB-27: Provide CB support to regional and thematic AOGEOSS initiative
 - CB-41: Collaboration between AHT-SDG and WGCapD – Webinar Dec 2018 (<http://ceos.org/meetings/wgcapd-sdg-aht-sdg-awareness-webinar/>)
 - Contribution to GEO Massive Open On-line Courses (MOOCs) on EO for SDG indicators (material for GEO MOOCs on SDGs/one MOOC per SDG goal).

Opportunities for current and future collaborations include:

- CB-42 Deliverable: SDG Training on Land Use Efficiency (11.3.1): EO Data, Indicator Methodology, and Tool Training Webinar
- Space Capacity Development Advisory Board (SCDAB) creation