

Ad Hoc Team on SDG: Updates

March 2018 (Q1)

Prepared by Flora Kerblat (CSIRO) with contributions from AHT SDG co-leads & members

1. COMPENDIUM STATUS

As of today, the AHT SDG is aware¹ of those SDG-related activities within CEOS (Agency's alphabetical order):

CEOS AGENCY	ACTIVITY'S TITLE	STATUS (ongoing or planned)	CONTACT NAME	COMMENTS/BRIEF DESCRIPTION (1 or 2 sentences)
CSIRO	CEOS AHT SDG co-lead	Ongoing	Alex Held; Flora Kerblat	Co-leads the Ad Hoc Team on SDGs , and actively supports the GEO EO4SDG initiative. Secretariat of the AHT SDG (coordination, meetings' organisation including agenda drafting, regular global conference calls) CEOS handbook on SDG: contributor & member of the editorial team with Symbios (Flora) + support for distribution list. The report contributes to promote the value of Earth observation satellite data in the SDG process, while providing some case studies. The Report is available here Communications support (Flora): with Kim (NASA), for the AHT SDG and GEO EO4SDG: training material, website content (calendar, highlights, etc), flyer & other communications material
	Report for Official Statistics, led by ABS, the Australian Bureau of Statistics, for the Task team of the UN Big Data GWG on Satellite Imagery)		Arnold Dekker, Flora Kerblat	Now available here : CSIRO actively contributed and especially provided a whole chapter on EO data sources to be used by statisticians
	International report on methods for reporting on	Ongoing (Version 1.0 completed)	Neil Sims	Contract from the UNCCD (UN custodian agency responsible for the indicator) on 15.3.1 "Proportion of

¹ Inputs from the survey and emailing (late 2017). Other activities are probably ongoing within CEOS but we still need to collect the relevant information

	land degradation (for UNCCD)	and under review)		land that is degraded over total land area' to develop methodologies and guidance for use of remote sensing (and modelling) methods to track SDG indicators under SDG15 in particular the ones associated with desertification (15.3.1). The report is now available here
	Data Cube and SDG	Ongoing	Alex Held, Neil Sims, Flora Kerblat	Data Cube infrastructure: to help official statistics to monitor SDG and/or help achieve some targets (esp. land cover, water quality, urbanization, forest monitoring, drought & other disaster risk management). Eg already Open Data Cube in Colombia (forest monitoring), project in South Africa and other African countries (land degradation, urbanisation development and others), or water quality (Vietnam) New proposed project in the Pacific region (Data Cube for Samoa?)
	Development of an external website on SDG	Ongoing (just started)	Flora Kerblat, Daroczy, Jenna (Comms)	Website showcasing CSIRO's work on SDG and case studies (incl. EO activities)
	Special Edition in the Remote Sensing of Environment (RSE) Journal on EO & SDG	Ongoing	Alex Held, Flora Kerblat (guest editors)	Working closely with Prof. Graciela Metternicht (UNSW) who is managing guest-editors' team (Alex, Flora, Argie (NASA/EO4SDG), Lawrence (NASA/EO4SDG), William Sonntag (GEO Sec): will gather ~15-20 relevant articles from abstracts' submission to create a whole Special Issue on EO and SDG focused on Environmental measurements/indicators (e.g. Goals 6, 14, 15)
DLR	Strategic cooperation with GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit)		Michael Nyenhuis	To elaborate potential use of Earth observation data and services in international development cooperation activities of GIZ.
	Several projects funded: - Demowetlands: - EVIDENZ: - Sentinel4REDD; - GEKKO	Ongoing	Michael Nyenhuis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demowetlands: Copernicus-based Detection and Monitoring of tropical Wetlands – RAMSAR Convention of Wetlands / Global Wetland Observation System / GEOBON; • EVIDENZ: National Earth observation based information system for drought risk reduction – Sendai Framework Disaster Risk

				<p>Reduction (GEO-DARMA, GEOGLAM);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentinel4REDD: Development of integrated multi-temporal processing chains using Sentinel data to support UNFCCC REDD+ MRV systems – REDD/GFOI; • GEKKO: Assessment of essential climate variables – Observation of glacier changes in the tropical Andes GCOS/ECVs, World Glacier Monitoring Service (WGMS)"
ESA	CEOS AHT SDG co-lead	Ongoing	Marc Paganini	Co-leads the Ad Hoc Team on SDGs , and actively supports the GEO EO4SDG initiative
	CEOS EO Handbook on SDGs	Completed (Feb 2018)	Marc Paganini	Coordinated the production of the CEOS EO Handbook on SDGs to promote and showcase the contribution of Earth observation to the realization of the 2030 Agenda on sustainable development, to its goals and targets, and to the SDG Global Indicator Framework. Official release at UNSC-49 in NYC (March 2018). The Report is available here
	IAEG SDGs WGGI	Ongoing	Marc Paganini	Expert member of the WGGI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ad-hoc support to WGGI task teams • contribute to the WGGI Task Stream on Analysis-Ready Earth Observation Data for the SDGs
	Thematic Exploitation Platforms (TEPs)	Ongoing	Marc Paganini	Development of EO Exploitation Platforms on cloud computing infrastructures (https://tep.eo.esa.int) to provide collaborative environments for access to EO data, on-line processing capacities and data analytics. Customisation of the Thematic Exploitation Platforms for SDG monitoring and reporting, starting with the Urban TEP (U-TEP) as pilot.
	Several projects funded by ESA and 3 rd Parties: 1) ESA newly-funded 400K "EO for the SDGs" project 2) GlobWetland Africa 3) SAR4URBAN / World Settlement Footprint (WSF)	Ongoing	Marc Paganini	1) EO4SDGs : in-depth analysis of EO contribution to the SDG Targets and Indicators; Review of detailed monitoring guidelines for better EO uptake; Country demonstration (Uganda) in collaboration with NSO and line ministries; Analysis of Big Data processing & analysis tools to serve EO information needs on SDGs. Project Kick-off in April 2018. 2) GlobWetland Africa : Development of a free-of-charge and open-source S/W toolbox for wetlands inventory, monitoring and assessment, with use

				<p>cases demonstration on African sites and capacity building. The project budget (1,5 MEUR) was completed with a 200K US\$ fund from GPSDD to develop, with the Ministry of Water and Environment and NSO from Uganda, a user friendly EO system to support the production of a national wetland inventory, as a pilot country case for monitoring SDG Indicator 6.6.1. The project will produce a roadmap for scaling the approach to other countries of East Africa. Delivery expected at the end of 2018</p> <p>3) SAR4URBAN: development of a fully automatic processing chain to extract built-up areas from the joint use of radar and optical data, and production of the first global mapping of human settlements generated from the processing of Sentinel-1 and Landsat-8 imagery (WSF 2015).</p>
JAXA	GEO EO4SDG Co-chair	Ongoing	Chu Ishida	Co-lead and contribute to EO4SDG activities
	<p>Member of GFOI; GEOGLAM; GEO Carbon & GHGs; CEOS AHT SDG</p> <p>Participation in WGGI meetings.</p> <p>Closely communicating with the International Statistical Affairs Division, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan.</p>		Mariko Harada	
	Global Satellite Precipitation Map (GSMaP) (SDG 6 Indicator 6.5.1)	Ongoing		JAXA has implemented flood prediction systems using the Global Satellite Precipitation Map (GSMaP) in Bangladesh, the Philippines, Vietnam, and Pakistan in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and UNESCO.
NASA	GEO EO4SDG Co-chair	Ongoing	Argyro (Argie) Kavvada, Lawrence Friedl	Since Earth observations can play a key role in supporting this process, GEO created the 'Earth Observations in Service of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (EO4SDG)' initiative to enable and extend uses of EO and geospatial data to advance the Agenda and enable societal

				benefits through achievement of the SDGs.
	Open Data Cube activities (ODC)	Ongoing	Brian Killough	Some countries will use ODC to monitor SDG or help better achieve them collecting various sources of data (eg Colombia on forest? Samoa tbd?) African Regional Data Cube
	Communication support	Ongoing	Kim Holloway	Support for the AHT SDG and GEO EO4SDG: Training material, website content (calendar, highlights, etc.), flyer & other communications material
NOAA	Co-chair of Ocean & Society, Blue Planet		Paul DiGiacomo	<i>Awaiting for more inputs (specific activities)</i>
	CEOS AHT SDG; GEO Coastal Zone;		Satya Kalluri	<i>Awaiting for more inputs (specific activities)</i>
	Cryosphere (WMO Polar Space Task Group)		Jeff Key	<i>Awaiting for more inputs (specific activities)</i>
USGS	CEOS AHT SDG co-lead	Ongoing	Eric Wood	<i>Awaiting for more inputs (specific activities)</i>

If your agency is not listed here, or if it is involved in other/new activities, please get in touch with us (sdg-leads@lists.ceos.org, flora.kerblat@csiro.au, kim.e.holloway@nasa.gov) so we can include them in the next edition and we stay up to date.

2. GLOBAL or NATIONAL SDG UPDATES

- **49th Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission 6-9 March 2018** (NYC) with side-events, including a Statistical-Geospatial Integration Forum (integrating statistical, geospatial, and other Big Data to leave no one behind) – CEOS/GEO was represented (<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/49th-session/side-events/>)
+ CEOS EO HB on SDG was officially released and distributed there (~300 hard copies via UNGGIM)
- **IAEG SDG meetings** are regularly happening to review/discuss:
 - the Tier classification: e.g. the indicator 15.3.1 (proportion of land degraded has been reclassified as Tier II from Tier III)
 - the proposed guidelines on data flows and global data reporting
 - progress made on the methodological development of tier III indicators
 - issues related to the work stream on data disaggregation
 - progress made on the data reporting calendar
 - When:
 - Last one 11-14 Nov 2017 (Bahrein),
 - Next one 9-12 April (Vienna)
 - More information : <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/>
- **Voluntary National Review (VNR)**: Countries to provide a VNR in July 2018: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/vnrs/> including Australia, Canada, Colombia, Egypt, Greece, Ireland, Kiribati (Pacific island), Mexico, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Vietnam...
 - => If your country is listed, your agency may be approached or willing to contact your National Statistical Office to showcase how EO satellite data could be used
 - E.g. CSIRO (Australia) has been requested to provide inputs on SDG (incl. EO)
- **Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (GPSDD) and World Bank call**: last round of World Bank investments (not loans) with some EO projects and involvement from the GEO community: <http://www.data4sdgs.org/news/announcing-funding-12-development-data-innovation-projects>
- **NASA solicitation**: a [NASA solicitation](#) in support of the implementation of selected targets under the Sustainable Development Goals 14 "Life Below Water" and 15 "Life on Land", within the context of climate variability and change, taking into account the implications of climate variability and change on species and ecosystems.
- **Open Data Cube (ODC) week** in Canberra (12-16 Feb): opportunities discussed around setting up a Data Cube in SAMOA (Pacific Island) – with Neil Sims (CSIRO)
- **CEOS SIT-33 meeting in Boulder (Colorado)**: AHT SDG will have a side-meeting on Monday 23rd April (~2h): an agenda will be circulated before the event: please join us!
- **ODC and SDG**: African Regional Data Cube (ARDC) workshop in Nairobi (Kenya), jointly organized with the GEOGLAM RAPP annual workshop (invitations have been sent), 7-11 May (contacts: Brian Killough (SEO) for ODC, Flora Kerblat (RAPP/SDG), Argie Kavvada (SDG))

If your agency is planning a new initiative, if you heard about any SDG news, recent call for proposals or key meetings' outcomes, please contact us so we can share it with the group.

3. KEY EVENTS related to SDG and Earth Observation, Big Data, Official Statistics, etc.

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION	WEBSITE	CEOS participation
49th Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC 49)	6-9 March 2018	NYC, USA	https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/49th-session/side-events/	Argie Kavvada (NASA), Christoph Aubrecht (ESA)
GPSDD Data for Development Festival	21-23 March 2018	Bristol, UK	http://www.data4sdgs.org/news/data-development-festival	Argie Kavvada and Brian Killough (NASA)
CEOS SIT-33 meeting	23-25 April 2018	Boulder, USA	http://ceos.org/meetings/sit-33/	Alex Held, Flora Kerblat (CSIRO), Eric Wood (USGS)
GEOGLAM RAPP/SDG/ODC workshop	7-11 May 2018	Nairobi, Kenya	http://www.georapp.org/event/6th-geoglam-rapp-workshop-in-kenya/	Alex Held, Flora Kerblat, Neil Sims (CSIRO), Argie Kavvada and Brian Killough (NASA)
UN High Level Political Forum (HLPF) on sustainable development	9-18 July 2018	NYC, USA	https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2018	To be decided (Australia to lead a "team effort" to showcase value of EO) – Jonathon Ross (GA)
UN World Data Forum	22-24 Oct 2018	Dubai, UAE	https://undataforum.org	Argie Kavvada (NASA), Marc Paganini (ESA)

If your agency has been or will be represented at a meeting/conference/seminar related to SDG and EO data, please let us know so we can share the information in the next edition.

APPENDIX - List of our members (AHT SDG mailing list) – March 2018

First name	Surname	CEOS Agency
Marie-Josée	Bourassa	CSA
Paul	Briand	CSA
Alex	Held	CSIRO
Flora	Kerblat	CSIRO
Neil	Sims	CSIRO
Michael	Nyenhuis	DLR
Klaus	Schmidt	DLR
Mark	Dowell	EC
Astrid-Christina	Koch	EC
Maurice	Borgeaud	ESA
Marc	Paganini	ESA
Ivan	Petiteville	ESA
Steven	Hosford	ESA/CNES CEO
Jonathon (Jono)	Ross	GA
Tapan	Misra	ISRO
Chu	Ishida	JAXA
Mariko	Harada	JAXA
Takanori	Miyoshi	JAXA
Yuko	Nakamura	JAXA
Allison	Craddock	NASA
Kim	Holloway	NASA
Argie	Kavvada	NASA
Brian	Killough	NASA
Paul	Digiacomo	NOAA
Satya	Kalluri	NOAA
Kerry	Sawyer	NOAA
Jie	Liu	RADI/CAS
Paida	Mangara	SANSA
Nale	Mudau	SANSA
Imraan	Salooji	SANSA
George	Dyke	Symbios
Matt	Steventon	Symbios
Stephen	Ward	Symbios
Fernando	Echavarria	USDOS
Eric	Wood	USGS