

## CEOS SEC-273 Report

**Entity:** SIT Chair Team

**Prepared By:** J. Ross (GA) & CSIRO

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### **Updates on issues raised during the last CEOS SEC teleconference**

- In relation to Action 272-01 (half-page guideline on the use of the condensed version of the CEOS ARD logo), work has commenced but has not yet been completed.

### **Issues requiring discussion/decision during current CEOS SEC teleconference**

#### SIT-36

- Confirmed for the week of 22nd March.
- Detailed planning for SIT-36 will start early in the new year. CEOS Secretariat are invited to provide their initial thoughts on content to the SIT Chair Team **prior to SEC-274.**
- A similar virtual format and structure to SIT-35 is foreseen, with lessons learnt from SIT-35, the 2020 Technical Workshop and the 2020 CEOS Plenary to be taken into account.

#### GEO Executive Committee

- CEOS serves on the GEO Programme Board. CEOS's principal representative to the GEO Programme Board is from the SIT Chair Team with alternates being the CEOS Executive Officer and a second member of the SIT Chair Team.
- Participating Organisations (like CEOS) that serve on the Programme Board are eligible to nominate for one of the three Observer seats on the GEO Executive Committee. Nominations are now open for the Observer seats in 2021. Should there be more nominations than seats the Participating Organisations serving on the Programme Board will vote to determine which nominees will fill the seats for the year. In 2020, one of the Observer seats remained vacant.
- CEOS has served in an Observer seat since they were first established as a result of the decisions of the 2015 GEO Ministerial Summit in Mexico City. The SIT Chair has represented CEOS at the Executive Committee meetings, with support from the CEOS Executive Officer. In 2020, Alex Held and/or Adam Lewis participated in all Executive Committee meetings on behalf of CEOS, with support from Kerry Sawyer as CEO.
- The SIT Co-Chairs, via CEOS's representative to the GEO Programme Board, intend to re-nominate CEOS for one of the 2021 Executive Committee Observer seats. The SIT Co-Chairs will participate in the meetings on behalf of CEOS, with support from the CEOS Executive Officer.

#### GEO Week 2020

- GEO did not meet in Plenary this year due to COVID-19.
- The CEOS Statement to GEO Week 2020, as endorsed at the CEOS Plenary, was available during the week on a dedicated website.
- Two members of the CEOS Family were granted Individual Excellence Awards during GEO Week 2020:
  - o Chu Ishida (JAXA)
  - o Nancy Searby (NASA)

- GEO launched a 'pledge campaign' to attract contributions to the GEO Trust Fund from Member governments, Participating Organizations and Associates. The target for pledges is 5.5 million CHF. As of 17 November approximately 2.25 million CHF had been pledged.
- CEOS participated in meetings of the GEO Executive Committee as an Observer. CEOS was elected by other Participating Organization members of the GEO Programme Board to serve in this capacity. The SIT Co-Chairs, supported by the CEO Team and SIT Chair Team, attended both the Virtual Executive Committee meeting and the Virtual Special Executive Committee meeting.
  - o The special session was open to all GEO Member governments to attend, with at least 10 additional Member governments joining. It focussed on endorsing key documents such as the budget and changes to the GEO Work Programme, given there is no Plenary meeting taking place in 2020.
  - o The European Commission will be the "Lead Co-Chair" during 2021. Their priorities have a strong degree of continuity with those of previous Lead Co-Chairs, aligning with the GEO Strategic Plan and the Canberra Declaration. Engagement with the Pacific and with SMMEs was explicitly highlighted.
  - o Ms Yana Gevorgyan from the United States was announced as the next GEO Director, with a one month 'overlap' period with the current Director (Gilberto Camara) scheduled in mid-2021. Ms Gevorgyan is currently employed by NOAA.
  - o The SIT Co-Chairs still expect to present on the CEOS ARD Strategy at the March Executive Committee meeting.
- The 'virtual panel' sessions of GEO Week covered two topics: "A conversation with GEO Principals: Deriving value from GEO" and "Challenges and approaches to data sharing: The future of open data". The panels included presentations from a number of members of the CEOS Family including Dr Adam Lewis (SIT Co-Chair) and Dr Trevor Dhu (Geoscience Australia Principal). The representative from Switzerland also extensively highlighted the Swiss Data Cube, a very successful initiative supported by the GEO over many years. Live viewer numbers were in the order of around 30-40 per session. The recordings of the four sessions appear to have attracted around 100 views each (as at 17 November).
- The virtual Industry Track was a very interesting series of events, with some interesting formats (including an ideation session) to help connect different parts of the GEO community with industry. Attendee numbers seemed solid with several hundred registered attendees.

#### CEOS-GEO Bilateral

- The annual CEOS-GEO bilateral meeting will be held in early February 2021 as a virtual meeting. The SIT Chair Team, CEOS Chair Team, CEO Team, SEO and SIT Vice-Chair Team are collaborating on preparations.
- The CEOS Secretariat is invited to identify any issues or topics they would like raised at the meeting **prior to SEC-274**.

#### AFOLU Roadmap

- Plenary discussions highlighted the support and enthusiasm for the development of an AFOLU Roadmap. This is a new area where CEOS has great potential to enhance its support for implementation of the Paris Agreement. The Plenary discussion highlighted

the need to ensure all the different parts of the CEOS family are appropriately connected to this work, as well as a need to ensure this effort is as complementary as possible with the GHG Roadmap activity (noting also the differences).

- The SIT Chair proposes to convene a small team to work through the way forward, including organisational issues and alignment with other activities such as the GHG Roadmap. The team will include representatives from all the relevant parts of the CEOS family (AFOLU contributors, LSI-VC agriculture and forests/biomass teams, WGCV, WGClimate, etc). The SIT Chair will kick start this activity in the next few weeks, with the intention of reporting back at the January SEC meeting.

#### Working Team All Hands Call

- The next Working Team All Hands Call will take place on 8/9 December at the times listed below. A timeslot friendlier for US West Coast and Australian participants has been selected, although the SIT Chair Team does note this may be less friendly for European attendees.
- Working Teams have been invited to suggest topics, which typically focus on areas that would benefit from cross-Working Team information sharing and collaboration. Possible topics so far include follow-on discussions from Plenary discussions/actions:
  - o SIT Tech Workshop/CEOS Plenary Debrief.
  - o CEOS Engagement with Decade of Ocean Science (COVERAGE, COASTS, ...)
  - o CEOS Carbon Strategy
  - o Updates on the EASI interoperability laboratory discussed at CEOS Plenary.
  - o Extension of the CEOS ARD Framework 'beyond land'
- The CEOS Secretariat is also invited to suggest topics, preferably by close of business on November 20.

#### Informal Discussions with Virtual Constellations

- The SIT Chair Team is scheduling the next round of these discussions for late November/early December. Focus will be on follow-up from the SIT TW and Plenary, identifying areas where the SIT Co-Chairs/SIT Chair Team can support VCs to achieve their goals, and preparing for the next CEOS Work Plan update.

#### **Other highlights, activities, actions, projects, collaborations**

##### Carbon & Biomass

- CEOS Plenary confirmed good progress on the Carbon and Biomass thread, with concrete plans for the GHG Task Team to deliver prototype products in support of GST1;
- the CEOS AFOLU Roadmap team Leads confirmed they they will proceed in 2021 with their activities with a likely emphasis on the deliverables for GST1; the team is prioritising the requirements and definition of these deliverables in the months ahead and will provide an update to the LSI-VC telcon in a few weeks and sound out the key agencies on dataset production possibilities. Consultation is also underway with AFOLU experts, GCOS Terrestrial Panel, and with national inventory users identified by our GFOI partners;
- SIT Chair team is updating the Carbon and Biomass prospectus for 2021 with our main stakeholders internally and externally and will aim to make the best use of the SIT and TW meetings in 2021 to advance our agendas as we did in 2020;
- WGClimate and our new CEOS focal points (Dave Crisp, Osamu Ochiai, Jorg Schulz) for the UNFCCC GST process have all been invited to provide inputs on the UNFCCC [Earth](#)

[Information Day](#) on 30 November. WGClimate Chair can no doubt say more on the SEC call.

### SDGs

- Last SDG AHT meeting held 14th October just before the Plenary: AHT renewed at the Plenary, starting to work on a Synthesis Paper and plan workshop early next year.
  - o Sub teams continue to work and develop their deliverables.
  - o More algorithm developments to be expected related to SDG (incl links to DE Africa)
- GEO week (2-6 Nov), virtual event: [2020 GEO EO4SDG Awards](#) were announced, noting additional categories compared to last year. Also congratulating one of our key AHT members, Chu Ishida (JAXA) who received a [GEO 2020 Individual Excellence Award](#) as he demonstrated exceptional personal commitment to the GEO mission and vision.
- Next SDG AHT meeting on Monday 23rd to discuss: Outcomes of the EO4SDG meeting (17th and 18th), the Future options workshop (to be planned late Jan 2021), and Options synthesis paper v1 draft. Sub-teams co-leads will also be invited to update their plans/priorities for their deliverables in 2021.
- Transition made to cover Flora's absence (maternity leave from 16th November): Flora has prepared a handover document for Andreia Siqueira who will support AHT coordination - catch-ups with her and co-leads as well. From the SIT Chair team's perspective, George will also help on the SDG theme when possible (eg. workshop to be planned early next year, advice on strategic issues)

### ARD

- The CEOS Analysis Ready Data – Involving the Private Sector paper and CEOS Interoperability Terminology Report were endorsed by CEOS Principals at the 34th CEOS Plenary.
- CEOS Principals gave their support at CEOS Plenary to form a small team to review the CEOS ARD framework and consider making it amenable to additional PFS for other domains.
- CEOS successfully presented papers on SAR Product Specifications and CEOS ARD at the ARD20 Satellite Data Interoperability Workshop, November 2-6, 2020.
- A CEOS ARD invited session has been accepted at IGARSS 2021 (July 11-16 2021). The session is entitled: *'CEOS and the Private Sector: interactions and early progress on Analysis Ready Data'*.
- The next CEOS ARD webinar series is currently being planned and the expectation is that it will be held early February.
- Good progress by Zoltan Szantoi, Brian Killough, and Jonathon Ross on the guidelines for the use of the condensed version of the CEOS ARD logo.

### **Upcoming meetings or events**

- [Working Team All Hands Call](#). Virtual.
  - o Tuesday 8th December 5pm US East
  - o Tuesday 8th 11pm Europe
  - o Wednesday 9th 7am Tokyo
  - o Wednesday 9th 9am Canberra
- [SIT-36](#). Virtual. Week of March 22, 2021.

## CEOS SEC-273 Report

**Entity:** SDG AHT

**Prepared By:** F. Kerblat (CSIRO), A. Siqueira (GA) on behalf of SDG co-leads

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### Updates on issues raised during the last CEOS SEC teleconference

- N/A

### Issues requiring discussion/decision during current CEOS SEC teleconference

- As we are in the middle of preparing a paper on potential permanent options, we might reach out directly to Agencies to secure resources for most scenarios.

### Other highlights, activities, actions, projects, collaborations

- Last SDG AHT meeting held 14th October just before the Plenary: AHT renewed at the Plenary, starting to work on a Synthesis Paper and plan workshop early next year.
  - o Sub teams continue to work and develop their deliverables.
  - o More algorithm developments to be expected related to SDG (incl links to DE Africa)
  - o Outcomes communicated to the AHT + SDG web pages UPDATED (CEOS website)
- GEO week (2-6 Nov), virtual event: [2020 GEO EO4SDG Awards](#) were announced, noting additional categories compared to last year. Also congratulating one of our key AHT members, Chu Ishida (JAXA) who received a [GEO 2020 Individual Excellence Award](#) as he demonstrated exceptional personal commitment to the GEO mission and vision.
- Next SDG AHT meeting on Monday 23rd to discuss:
  - o Outcomes of the EO4SDG meeting (17th and 18th),
  - o Future options workshop (to be planned late Jan 2021),
  - o Options synthesis paper v1 draft.
  - o Sub-teams co-leads will also be invited to update their plans/priorities for their deliverables in 2021.
- Transition made to cover Flora's absence (maternity leave from 16th November): Flora has prepared a handover document for Andreia Siqueira who will support AHT coordination. George (SIT Chair team) will also help on the SDG theme when possible (eg. workshop to be planned early next year, advice on strategic issues, meetings notes)

### Upcoming meetings or events

- Next SDG AHT meeting on Monday 23rd (Noon CET, 10pm Sydney)

# CEOS SEC Report

**Entity:** WGDisasters Chair Team

**Prepared By:** NASA

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## **Updates on issues raised during the last CEOS SEC teleconference (Dot points)**

- No updates

## **Issues requiring discussion/decision during current CEOS SEC teleconference (Dot points)**

- No issues

## **Other highlights, activities, actions, projects, collaborations**

**(Dot points, e.g. outputs, new products, papers, technical reports, media, pipeline and new projects, interactions, project status changes, new opportunities)**

- WGDisasters Wildfire Pilot Scoping Team is meeting regularly and developing an Implementation Plan. Pilot IP expected to be shared before CEOS SIT-36 for review and endorsement.
- EGU-GA 2021 Session NH6.7 “Application of remote sensing and Earth-observation data in natural hazard and risk studies” shared with WGDisasters on behalf of Antonio Montuori, ASI.

## **Upcoming meetings or events**

**(Dot points, e.g. meetings, conferences of relevance, visits)**

- WGDisasters Flood Pilot Workshop
  - Virtual, 19 November 2020
- WGDisasters Telecon #28
  - Virtual, 25 November 2020

# CEOS SEC Report

**Entity:** WGClimate

**Prepared By:** Albrecht von Bargaen (DLR)

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## **Updates on issues raised during the last CEOS SEC teleconference**

### **(Dot points)**

- n/a

## **Issues requiring discussion/decision during current CEOS SEC teleconference**

### **(Dot points)**

- n/a

## **Other highlights, activities, actions, projects, collaborations**

**(Dot points, e.g. outputs, new products, papers, technical reports, media, pipeline and new projects, interactions, project status changes, new opportunities)**

- UNFCCC Earth Information Day:
  - The panel discussion about adaptation measures includes the support of CEOS / CGMS to the Global Stocktake through the Atmospheric Greenhouse Gas inventory; panellist will be David Crisp (NASA)
  - WGClimate in cooperation with the AFOLU team lead drafted together the information note distributed during Earth Information day highlighting the contributions of CEOS/CGMS WGClimate to UNFCCC.
  - The final version had been submitted including the several poster contributions of WGClimate for the EID (Use cases, ECV inventory, and GHG inventory contributions to the GST) given virtually/remotely.
- Number of use cases show a slight increase but there is a need to further encourage agencies and others for contributions.
- Update of membership: SANSa announced a new member to WGClimate
- Gap analysis on ECV inventory is ongoing

## **Upcoming meetings or events**

**(Dot points, e.g. meetings, conferences of relevance, visits)**

- UNFCCC Earth Information Day 2020: November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 (virtual)
- Coming WGClimate meeting is under discussion for beginning next year

## **Attachments**

**(e.g. pictures, figures, graphs, links – for use in overall CEOS reporting and as website resources etc.)**

# CEOS SEC Report

**Entity:** WGISS (Working Group on Information System and Services)

**Prepared By:** Robert Woodcock – Chair (CSIRO)

## **Updates on issues raised during the last CEOS SEC teleconference**

**(Dot points)**

- N/A

## **Issues requiring discussion/decision during current CEOS SEC teleconference**

**(Dot points)**

- N/A

## **Other highlights, activities, actions, projects, collaborations**

**(Dot points, e.g. outputs, new products, papers, technical reports, media, pipeline and new projects, interactions, project status changes, new opportunities)**

- CSIRO Australia, CSIRO Chile and NASA have confirmed the CEOS Earth Analytics Interoperability Lab will have a production deployment complete by the end of 2020. CSIRO Australia and Chile have been collaborating on a Chilean Open Data Cube deployment as part of a project under the [Chile Data Observatory](#) CSIRO Chile under a collaboration agreement with CEOS SEO will use their experience to provide additional operational support to the CEOS EAIL jointly managed by CSIRO Australia and CEOS SEO. In a significant turn of events the Chile Data Observatory, which has AWS as a collaborator, has provided a significant amount of AWS credits for use by the CEOS EAIL during 2021.
- WGISS has been invited to present on the CEOS EAIL at the November 19th WGDIsasters Flood Pilot Workshop to answer technical questions on the potential use of the CEOS EAIL for the Flow Pilot activities.

## **Upcoming meetings or events**

**(Dot points, e.g. meetings, conferences of relevance, visits)**

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## **Attachments**

**(e.g. pictures, figures, graphs, links – for use in overall CEOS reporting and as website resources etc.)**



# CEOS SEC Report

**Entity:** WGCapD

**Prepared By:** Nancy Searby (Chair/NASA) & Pham Thy (Vice Chair/VNSC)

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## **Updates on issues raised during the last CEOS SEC teleconference**

### **(Dot points)**

- None

## **Issues requiring discussion/decision during current CEOS SEC teleconference**

### **(Dot points)**

- None

## **Other highlights, activities, actions, projects, collaborations**

### **(Dot points, e.g. outputs, new products, papers, technical reports, media, pipeline and new projects, interactions, project status changes, new opportunities)**

- Continuing to work on WGCapD deliverables as defined in the work plan and tracking changes to scheduling resulting from COVID-19-related delays. Some recent progress includes:
  - CB-21/CB-17-02: Explore future options for providing portal-based access to capacity building and training resources [POC: ISRO, Due: Q4 2020] - reviewed the portal created by ISRO at <https://wgcapd.iirs.gov.in>. Conversations continue on best ways to integrate it with WGCapD [resources page](#) and other efforts by EO College, VLab, and others.
- Launched restructured WGCapD listservs to more effectively communicate working group activities and training opportunities internally within the working group and externally to interested parties.
- Renamed SCDAB to Earth Observation Training, Education, and Capacity (EOTEC) Development Network, getting ready to collect training resources within WGCapD members in the areas of vulnerability, disaster risk reduction plans, and climate adaptation/mitigation plans that use satellite data.
- Prepared a capacity building assessment survey to be sent out in late November.
- Coordinating the creation of the CEOS Webinar Toolkit: presented the plan to the WGCapD on the monthly meeting and beginning efforts to compile components.

## **Upcoming meetings or events**

### **(Dot points, e.g. meetings, conferences of relevance, visits)**

- WGCapD Monthly Meeting on Dec 3, 2020
- WGCapD Quarterly Regional Meetings:
  - Asia-Oceania – Nov 30, 8:00am EST
  - Americas – Nov 30, 11:30 am EST
  - Africa – Dec 1, 10 am EST
  - Europe – Dec 4, 9 am EST
- WGCapD-10 Annual Meeting will be held virtually the week of Mar 1-5, 2021 with preliminary details available on the [CEOS website](#).

# CEOS SEC Report

*(two pages max.)*

**Entity:** WGCV

**Prepared By:** Akihiko Kuze (JAXA) Philippe Goryl (ESA)

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## **Issues requiring discussion/decision during current CEOS SEC teleconference**

### **(Dot points)**

- The Biomass Validation Protocol submitted by the WGCV LPV is under review and will seek endorsement by SIT.
- The Soil Moisture Product Validation Good Practices Protocol has passed its review and will seek WGCV endorsement the end of November.

## **Other highlights, activities, actions, projects, collaborations**

**(Dot points, e.g. outputs, new products, papers, technical reports, media, pipeline and new projects, interactions, project status changes, new opportunities)**

- WGCV 48 plenary, October 28, 2020

## **Upcoming meetings or events**

**(Dot points, e.g. meetings, conferences of relevance, visits)**

- WGCV-49: July 2021 (virtual)
- WGCV-50: Early 2022 (Tokyo, Japan)

## **Attachments**

**(e.g. pictures, figures, graphs, links – for use in overall CEOS reporting and as website resources etc.)**

## CEOS SEC-273 Report – November 2020

Entity: SEO

Prepared By: Brian Killough (NASA)

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### Issues requiring discussion/decision during CEOS SEC teleconference

- **SEC Action 272-01** - Zoltan Szantoi, Brian Killough, and Jonathon Ross to prepare a half-page guideline on the use of the condensed version of the CEOS ARD logo.
  - Discussions on this topic have started and a draft guideline has been developed for the ARD logo that defines the background, logo purpose, copyright, and conditions of use.
  - The topic was also discussed at the LSI-VC meeting on Nov 16. The group agreed that the logo could be applied to land and non-land datasets and also applied by commercial groups whose datasets have gone thru the ARD review process.
- **SEC Action 272-02** - CEOS Executive Officer to convene a small group (led by the CEO, and including Brian Killough (SEO), and Jonathon Ross (SIT Chair Team)) to draft a process and policy on the use of logos in CEOS.
  - The SEO (including Kim Holloway) has been working to investigate general logo use policies for other organizations and has found some past CEOS logo policies presented in 2015. These ideas will be ready to share at the first meeting.

### Updates on issues raised during the last CEOS SEC teleconference

- Following the SIT-TW, the SEO has agreed to keep CEOS SEC updated on progress on the new Open Earth Alliance GEO community activity. The SEO is working on several contributions including an ODC Amazon Cloud sandbox, an ODC Google Cloud sandbox, and an ODC User Forum. Significant progress on these items will be reported in future SEC meetings.

### Upcoming meetings or events

- Brian Killough is presenting a paper at the **AGU Conference** on December 7 (virtual). The paper is titled "*Demonstrating Interoperable Data Analyses using the Open Data Cube, Google Cloud and Google Earth Engine Satellite Datasets*" and will be presented in the IN-017 session titled "Developing Innovative Tools and Services to Enable Data Use across Broad User Communities". Co-authors include George Dyke (Symbios), Ken Mubea (DE-Africa) and several AMA team members.

### Other highlights, activities, actions, projects, collaborations

- None

## Draft Plan of CEOS Newsletter No.56

2020.11.19. JAXA/RESTEC CEOS Team

- The influence of COVID-19 has had various effects on our CEOS activities, such as Virtual meetings of 2020 CEOS Plenary, SIT Technical Workshop and other meetings.
  
- Articles and Contributors proposed  
(Title of article may change as contributor's choice):
  
- Report of 2020 CEOS Plenary (2020 CEOS Chair /ISRO)
- Message and Plan of 2021 CEOS Chair (NASA)
- Report of SIT Technical Workshop (SIT Chair /CSIRO/GA)
- Report of 2020 GEO Week (GEOSEC)
- Reports of CEO (NOAA)
- Report of SEO (NASA)
- Updates on CEOS WGs ;  
    WGCV, WGISS, WGClimate, WGCapD, WGDisasters
- Other Topics;
  - SDGs Strategy (ESA/CSIRO)
  - GHG Monitoring Activities & Roadmap (EC)
  - AFOLU Roadmap (JAXA)
  - ARD Strategy (SIT Chair)
  - CEOS activities on COVID-19
  - Others
  
- Schedule
- Draft Plan of CEOS Newsletter No.56 :November 19, 2020
- CEOS Article submission due date : December 17, 2020
- Editing & Printing : January 2021
- Publication : February, 2021