

CEOS SEC-331 SIT Chair Written Report

CEOS Entity: SIT Chair Team

Prepared by: SIT Chair Team

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance:

- SIT-40 registration and logistics information circulated. Please register early:
 - Registrations: <https://ceosdotorg.wufoo.com/forms/zm502hh1c7zocj/>
 - Side Meeting Requests: <https://ceosdotorg.wufoo.com/forms/zfvcvyc0xat42x/>
- Carbon Roadmaps Coordination Call was held on 20th January with leads from GHG, AFOLU and Aquatic Carbon Roadmaps. Main aim is to help the ACR team plan their document and any necessary interfaces. A further call is planned in February after the WGClimate meeting in the UK.
- SIT-40 agenda and substance development is well underway with consultations in place in relation to JAXA's main themes of Climate Policy Impact and GHG observations. We hope for good attendance from our experts to be able to progress these agendas.
- First draft of the headline SIT-40 objectives is complete and will be shared with SEC shortly.
- The latest round of VC consultation calls is almost complete with good engagement from all VC Co-leads. Notes will be shared with CEOS SEC for information.

CEOS SEC-331 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: CEO Team

Prepared by: Steven Ramage, January 2025

1. An email was sent to all working groups, virtual constellations and other stakeholders on the 20th of January 2025 asking them to provide all necessary updates to the Work Plan before the 20th of February 2025. The next step is to give the final draft version to CEOS Principals on 1st March 2025 with 3 weeks to review and endorse the Work Plan before the overview presentation at the SIT-40 meeting in Japan in April 2025.
2. Action CEOS 38-01. The CEO has been joining calls with all Virtual Constellations organised by the SIT Chair. These calls have all been following the same approach with a standard format for information sharing. Once the summary is complete, then this action will be reviewed considering the additional analysis required for VCs.
3. Action CEOS 329-03. The CEO went through the list of attendees for the CEOS Plenary 2024 and identified all the non-attendees. A message was compiled for each non-attendee with the Minutes of the 38th CEOS Plenary 2024, CEOS Decisions and Actions and the CEOS Chair Themes for 2025. This engagement also provides an opportunity to remind everyone about the open call for CEOS Work Plan contributions, and to update the CEOS website CEOS Agency Principals and Contacts, and corresponding listservs.
4. Working Group on Capacity Building and Data Democracy
The CEO team has joined all meetings and is providing ongoing support relating to the CEOS Work Plan and other topics. The group's activities are well reflected in the tracking tool and are also up to date.
5. The CEO has proposed an online workshop for key stakeholders from the Early Warning for All (EW4All) initiative pillars (there are four) to have a roundtable discussion with the CEOS WG Disasters. This is under discussion with the SIT Chair and WG Disasters leads.
6. The CEO team will join the WG Climate meeting in February and the CEO team remains available to help with coordination across IMEO, IPCC, UNFCCC and WMO.
7. The CEO team is also joining all other Working Group meetings to support and assist where required, notably providing input on other WG activities and the Work Plan.
8. Ongoing support has been provided to the Biodiversity Study Team and progress has been made regarding leadership roles and key tasks to be carried out.
9. Discussions are still ongoing with the coordinator for the GEO Post-2025 Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) review. There has been a significant revision and some restructuring following feedback from the GEO Executive Committee SIP group meeting. The final feedback is now invited via a questionnaire before 31st January 2025. Other scheduled deadlines remain unchanged:

- a. Expression of Interest for Community Events – Deadline: 31 January 2025
 - b. Request for financial support to go to Rome - Deadline: 15 February 2025
 - c. Participant Registration – Deadline: 31 March 2025
10. The GEO Programme Board coincides with the WG Climate meeting in Harwell and BIOSPACE25 in Frascati this makes it challenging for the SIT Chair and the CEO team to join this meeting. The CEO will try to participate where possible.
 11. The CEO team has forwarded an invitation to the CEOS Chair to share a recorded message at the BIOSPACE25 meeting in February 2025. On the first day, there will be a series of remarks from the directors of international organisations. This will be a 4–5-minute video regarding the importance of biodiversity monitoring from space.
 12. UNOOSA has also invited CEOS to deliver a short statement at the launch of their joint report with FAO on Leveraging Space Technology for Agricultural Development and Food Security. CEO and the CEOS [LSI VC GEOGLAM](#) coordinator were invited to review and comment on this report. The report is being finalised and will go live in February. This invitation was also forwarded to the CEOS Chair team.
 13. The CEOS calendar is regularly updated, and members of the CEOS Secretariat are requested to continue providing input regarding upcoming events.
 14. Observation: several people are retiring from space agencies and some of those people have been leading or involved in CEOS working groups and virtual constellations.

Upcoming events

The following CEOS meeting takes place next month:

- [WGClimate-22 & GHG Task Team](#) : February 11th - 13th, 2025 | Harwell, UK

The next external meetings in January and February 2025 include:

- [17th European Space Conference](#) : January 28th - 29th, 2025 | Brussels, Belgium
- [BIOSPACE25 Conference](#) : February 10th - 14th, 2025 | Frascati, Italy

Online CEOS meeting calendar

Meetings

Upcoming

CEOS

SIT

- **SIT-40** : April 8th - 10th, 2025 | Fukuoka, Japan
- **2025 SIT Technical Workshop** : September 9th - 11th, 2025 | Darmstadt, Germany

Plenary

- **39th CEOS Plenary** : November 4th - 6th, 2025 | Bath, UK

Working Groups

- **WGClimat-22 & GHG Task Team** : February 11th - 13th, 2025 | Harwell, UK
- **WGISS-59** : March 24th - 28th, 2025 | Bangkok, Thailand
- **WGDIsasters-23** : March 25th - 28th, 2025 | INGV Catania Registration

Please confirm your in-presence attendance by compiling the spreadsheet:

- **WGISS-60** : October 13th - 17th, 2025 | Oberpfaffenhofen, Germany

Virtual Constellations

- **LSI-VC-17** : April 14th - 16th, 2025 | Tsukuba, Japan
- **AC-VC-21** : June 9th - 13th, 2025 | Takamatsu, Japan

External

- **17th European Space Conference** : January 28th - 29th, 2025 | Square, Brussels
- **BIOSPACE25 Conference** : February 10th - 14th, 2025 | Frascati, Italy
- **3rd CGMS WGIV Cloud Technology Workshop** : March 4th - 6th, 2025 | Silver Spring, MD, USA
- **40th International Symposium on Remote Sensing of the Environment (ISRSE40)** : March 17th - 21st, 2025 | Farnborough, UK
- **JACIE 2025 Workshop** : April 7th - 11th, 2025 | Virginia, USA
- **Cloud Native Geospatial Conference 2025** : April 30th - May 2nd, 2025 | Utah, USA
- **GEO Global Forum** : May 5th - 9th, 2025 | Rome, Italy
- **CGMS-53** : June 3rd - 5th, 2025 | Europe
- **ESA Living Planet Symposium 2025** : June 23rd - 27th, 2025 | Vienna, Austria
- **IGARSS 2025** : August 4th - 8th, 2025 | Brisbane, Australia
- **76th International Astronautical Congress** : September 29th - October 3rd, 2025 | Sydney, Australia
- **UNFCCC COP-30** : November 10th - 21st, 2025 | Brazil
- **AGU 25** : December 15th - 19th, 2025 | New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

CEOS SEC-331 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: SEO

Prepared by: David Borges

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance:

- New 'Commercial Collaboration' page has been added to the CEOS website:
<https://ceos.org/about-ceos/commercial/>
 - The approved CEOS internal document addressing commercial engagement is expected to be distributed to the CEOS community this week (20 January).
- Regarding UNCCD COP 16, Neil Sims (CSIRO) attended and represented CEOS during multiple events, both presenting and serving as panellist, to include a Horizon Scanning presentation during COP Plenary and a High-Level Dialogue session chaired by Yana Gevorgyan (GEO). CEOS SDG Coordination Group will likely pursue UNCCD Civil Society Organization (CSO) accreditation later this year.
- The CEOS SDG Coordination Group will hold it's monthly meeting on 22 January. It is actively working to finalize a UNCCD external request process response for SIT Chair, 2025 Deliverables, and 2025 Work Plan updates.

Additional points (for written reference only):

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- Cloud Native Geospatial (CNG) [Conference](#), Utah USA, 30 April-2 May. Agenda track addressing CEOS-ARD and CEOS Interoperability Framework/Handbook under development.
- GEO Global Forum 2025, Rome Italy, 5-9 May. Expression of interest for CEOS exhibition booth submitted.
- ESA Living Planet Symposium, Vienna Austria, 22-27 June. Expression of interest for CEOS exhibition booth submitted.

CEOS SEC-331 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: WGCapD

Prepared by: Daniel A. Matsapola, Chair

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance:

- WGCapD held its monthly meeting on January 16, 2025 focused on the new 2025 deliverables for the CEOS Work Plan, aligned to UN SDGs and to further explore collaboration with other Working Groups e.g., WGDisasters.
- The 2025 WGCapD Annual Meeting had two hosting offers for February 2025 from UNOOSA in Europe and March 2025 from NASA in Washington DC, since South Africa is not in a position to host the face-to-face meeting in March 2025 due to austerity measures in place.
- A decision is yet to be made on the exact date for the WGCapD Annual Meeting 2025, and attention is being paid to ensure more face-to-face attendance by the WGCapD Community, including exploring options to hold the meeting later than the traditional March period.

Additional points (for written reference only):

- Role of EO in Mapping and Forecasting Natural Disasters Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) initiated by ESA to be delivered in 2025 as WGCapD contribution to WGDisasters collaboration, also contributing to the UNCCD request.
- Call to action was shared with WGDisasters Chair to consider participation in an initial online orientation workshop and a response was received, seeking further clarity that will be supplied.
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Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- South African high schools eager to participate in the “CEOS In Schools” initiative have met with the UK Space Agency and SANSA to kickstart the program that will accommodate two schools per country.
- This “CEOS In Schools” initiative targeting 14 – 16-year-old school learners aligns well with SANSA’s CEOS Work Plan 2024 – 2026 activity on using Earth Observation for economic prosperity that is due for reporting during quarter 1 of 2025.
- The GEO Ministerial Summit 2023 Youth Declaration pioneers from South Africa are actively working with the National Earth Observation and Space Secretariat (NEOSS) run by the CSIR (Associate CEOS Member) to formally establish the Youth Community of Practice (Of the youth, by the youth, for the youth).
- GEO has also launched the GEO Youth CoP in December 2024 that the GEO South Africa Youth, supported by SANSA, will contribute to.

CEOS SEC-331 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: Working Group on Climate

Prepared by: Wenying Su & Vincent-Henri Peuch

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance:

- *WGClimate has finalized the Space Agency Response to the GCOS Implementation Plan (IP), providing comprehensive responses to all 48 space-related activities. The report has been submitted to the GCOS panels for review, with a feedback deadline of February 14, 2025.*
- *Following the review, WGClimate will incorporate feedback from the GCOS panels and share the revised Space Agency Response to the GCOS IP with the CEOS and CGMS communities for review by early March 2025.*
- *WGClimate will seek endorsement of the Space Agency Response to the GCOS IP at SIT-40 in April 2025.*
- *Preparation for the joint WGClimate and GHG Task Team meeting is progressing smoothly, with the near-final [agenda](#) now available on the CEOS website. To date, 69 participants have registered, including 44 who plan to attend in person.*
- *The Canadian Space Agency has nominated Dr. Mark Dejmek to serve as their representative in WGClimate.*
- *A "Lessons Learned and Recommendations from Space Agencies' Support for the First Global Stocktake" document is currently under development, with a draft expected to be completed by the end of January 2025.*

Additional points (for written reference only):

- *WGClimate members had a telecon on Jan. 16th, 2025. Discussion included overview of activities for 2025, response to GCOS Implementation Plan, Essential Climate Variable Inventory update, Gap Analysis and Coordinated Action Plan, Climate Data Record term definition, expanding the utility of ECV Inventory.*
- *The joint CEOS-CGMS Working Group on Climate and GHG Task Team meeting Agenda [Link](#) and Registration [Link](#).*
- *Encouraging active participation from CEOS agencies: contributing members are DLR, EC, ECMWF, ESA, EUMETSAT, JAXA, NASA, NOAA, UKSA, USGS.*

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- *WGClimate #22, Feb. 11-13, 2025, UK.*
- *G3W Global Data Providers Workshop, March 5-7, 2025, Geneva.*
- *CGMS working group meeting, March 24-28, 2025, China.*
- *CEOS SIT-40, Apr. 8-10, 2025, Japan.*
- *CGMS Plenary, June 2-6, 2025, France.*

- *UNFCCC Bonn Climate Change Conference, June 16-26, 2025, Germany.*
- *GCOS Steering Committee meeting, July 1-11, 2025, Brazil.*
- *CEOS SIT TW, Sep. 9-11, 2025, Germany.*
- *CEOS Plenary, Nov. 4-6, 2025, UK*
- *COP-30, Nov. 10-21, 2025, Brazil.*

CEOS SEC-331 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: Working Group on Calibration and Validation (WGCV)

Prepared by: Cody Anderson, WGCV Chair, USGS

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance:

- On January 14th, WGCV IVOS and LPV members attended an online workshop of the CEOS Surface Reflectance Quality and Consistency project. The workshop had over 50 attendees and sought to define the measurand for “Surface Reflectance” products.

Additional points (for written reference only):

- WGCV has endorsed the ‘*Protocols and Procedures for Surface Reflectance Validation using UAVs*’ document.
- Three papers of the Atmospheric Composition Subgroup have contributed to the Remote Sensing special issue ‘*Copernicus Sentinels Missions Calibration, Validation, FRM and Innovation Approaches in Satellite-Data Quality Assessment*’:
 - CEOS-FRM assessment of FRM4DOAS by M. Van Roozendael in <https://doi.org/10.3390/rs16234523>
 - CEOS-FRM assessment of FRM4GHG by M.K. Sha in <https://doi.org/10.3390/rs16183525>
 - FRM assessment of FRM4GHG/COCCON based on TROPOMI, OCO and GOSAT validation by M.K. Sha (in review)

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- The annual Joint Agency Commercial Imagery Evaluation (JACIE) Workshop will be held from April 7-11, 2025 at USGS Headquarters in Reston, Virginia, United States. JACIE 2025 will include presentations, posters and exhibits providing details about new systems, new methods of improving data, and the potential for new applications made possible with improved quality Earth observations.

CEOS SEC-331 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: WG on Disasters

Prepared by: L.A. Frulla, Lorant Czaran, Andrew Eddy

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance

- *On 8 January, the WG Disasters Teleconference 37 was held to share updates and progress from of their pilots and demonstrators.*

It was mentioned that CNES will be the lead Agency of the International Charter for the period October 2025 – April 2026. This fact will help to reinforce the links between the Recovery Observatory Demonstrator and the Charter, being this link extensive to the Working Group. In this sense, we will work to identify and strengthen the synergies between the WG and the Charter.

- *Regarding Early Warning for All, we sent a doodle this week with options for the second meeting of the subgroup during March. The objective is to define the leadership, continue to organize the working format and discuss the way forward.*

Additionally to this, the SIT Chair Team also suggested organizing an online workshop for all EW4All partners to meet with CEOS (with the understanding that at least the lead agencies for the 4 pillars need to be considered). The goal of this workshop would be to discuss and clarify the scope of CEOS support for the initiative. This is an excellent idea, and we need to see when we can organize it.

Finally, one of the first steps has been taken as we have contacted Dan Matsapola and invited him to be part of the EW4All subgroup, and in fact he was already been included in the doodle poll for the second meeting. As for WG Disasters response to the UNCCD request, we have included this topic in the agenda of Teleconference number 37, and we have already sent an email to the whole group asking them to express their interest in participating in the Step-C assessment of the CEOS External Request Process for the UNCCD support request. But, we didn't receive any response yet.

Additional points (for written reference only):

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Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only)t

- *Antonio Montuori, from ASI will present "The Italian Space Agency Contribution to CEOS WG Disasters For Disaster Monitoring And Response" at the EGU General Assembly meeting to be held in Vienna from 27 April to 2 May of 2025.*

- *The G-VEWERS activities will be presented at the Scientific Assembly of the International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of Earth's Interior (IAVCEI) meeting in Geneva that will be held from 29 June to 4 July of 2025.*
- *The WG Disasters 23 meeting will be held in Catania from 25 to 27 March at the invitation of the National Institute of Geophysics and Vulcanology (INGV). If the weather is fine, a field trip to Mount Etna is planned for the third day (27 March). However, as bad weather can still occur at the summit in March, it is not certain that we can we will be able to reach the summit. If this is not possible, an alternative field trip location will be selected. There will also be a visit to the National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology where there is a volcanic room.*
- *The WG Disasters 24 meeting will be held in Argentina in September (dates TBC) at the invitation of CONAE, and we are thinking of San Carlos de Bariloche, Río Negro Province in the south of Argentina.*

CEOS SEC-331 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: WGISS

Prepared by: Tom Sohre, Chair

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance:

- WGISS chair in process of soliciting future WGISS v.Chair / Chair to begin in November 2025. First solicitation was declined; second solicitation open. No assistance required at this time.
- New WGISS co-lead for Technology Exploration Interest Group has started – thanks to Maral Bayaraa from UKSA.

Additional points (for written reference only):

- WGISS held its monthly meeting on January 14th with the main focus being on agenda goals for WGISS-59. Interest Groups have started to discuss inputs for the next CEOS Work Plan (2025-2027).

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- WGISS-59, March 24-28, 2025, Bangkok Thailand.
 - *Venue has been identified and registration open on WGISS site.*
 - *Plan to dedicate at least a full day to review of draft Interoperability Handbook.*
- 3rd Annual CGMS Cloud Workshop (hybrid), March 4-6, Silver Spring MD, USA
 - *Note: Participation to this meeting is on invitation only*
- SIT-40: WGISS Chair/v.Chair will attend virtually.
 - *Plan to provide overview of draft Interoperability Handbook.*
- Cloud Native Geospatial (CNG), April 30 – May 2, Snowbird UT, USA
 - *Opportunity for commercial engagement*
- WGISS-60, October 13-17, 2025, Oberpfaffenhofen Germany