

CEOS SEC-332 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/>
- SIT-40 agenda should be available to SEC before the SEC-332 telecon
- WGClimate meeting in UK attended by the SIT Chair team to progress the climate policy impact and GHG discussions. Some good progress and notably on the GST Lessons Learned document. SIT Chair team will now circulate that to the rest of the CEOS community for information and feedback.
- The latest round of VC consultation calls is complete with good engagement from all VC Co-leads. Notes available [here](#) for information of CEOS SEC.
- A progress call with IMEO, GHG TT, and SIT Chair team is scheduled for 27 Feb

CEOS SEC-332 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: CEO Team

Prepared by: Steven Ramage, February 2025

1. Concerted efforts have been made to receive updates to the Work Plan before the 20th of February 2025. The CEO team has been liaising with working groups, virtual constellations and others to update the relevant Work Plan sections and deliverables. The next step is to give the final draft version to CEOS Principals on 1st March 2025 with 3 weeks to review and virtually endorse the Work Plan before the overview presentation at the SIT-40 in Japan in April 2025.
2. Action CEOS 38-01. The summary and update of the report has been completed including further analysis on the VCs and shared with the SIT Chair, the update will be shared with the Secretariat for final feedback and amendments before closing it.
3. Action CEOS 329-03 is ongoing, feedback is still pending to update the CEOS website with CEOS Agency Principals and Contacts, and corresponding listservs.
4. CEOS-CGMS WGClimate-22 and GHG-TT-5
The CEO team joined the CEOS-CGMS WG Climate-22 meeting and provided input and guidance regarding contributions to the Work Plan. Clarifications regarding the submission of new deliverables were made as requested. The group is aligned with the requested deadlines.
5. 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.
6. Working Group Disasters
The CEO will join the meeting in Catania next month and will continue to support the efforts on Early Warnings for All.
7. The CEO team had a call with the Institute of Space Studies of Catalonia where CEOS work was presented. During the call, there was a discussion of their potential membership. The CEO team is supporting them in drafting their formal letter expressing interest in becoming a CEOS Member or Associate.
8. The CEO team also met with the Kenyan Space Agency (KSA) at BIOSPACE25 and will continue discussions with support from WGCapD to engage KSA further with CEOS.
9. Other calls are being planned with the Philippines Space Agency, the ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence (Digital Innovation Hub for Earth Observation in Cyprus) and the Hellenic Space Agency.

10. The CEO moderated the opening plenary at BIOSPACE25 where there were presentations from space agencies on new and planned EO missions that will support biodiversity from CNES, CSA, ESA, JAXA (via a recorded video) and NASA. This took place after the Directors' session where there was a video intervention from Paul Bate, CEO of UKSA and the CEOS Chair.
 - a. The CEO also participated in a panel on Copernicus and biodiversity, where some of the staff from various Copernicus services explained how their work is relevant for biodiversity monitoring and reporting from space.
 - b. The CEO also spent time with the members of the Biodiversity Study Team and the co-chairs of GEO BON, as well as the head of monitoring for UN CBD.
 - i. The Terms of Reference for the Biodiversity Study Team will be shared with the CEOS Secretariat for final input and review.
 - c. The CEO also joined the GEO Programme Board remotely and has volunteered for the GEO task force on innovative funding for the GEO work programme.
11. The GEO Programme Board focused on the review of the submissions for the post-2025 GEO Work Programme, presenting the review teams, the reasons for the decisions and acceptance or amendments to proposals. The next step is to present the final, proposed content to the GEO Executive Committee from 4-5 March 2025.
 - a. It should also be noted the deadline for participant registration for the GEO Global Forum is 31 March 2025.
 - b. Accommodation should be booked early because it's a jubilee year in Rome, a special holy year for Rome and the Vatican City.
12. The CEO joined LSI VC GEOGLAM meeting and made some suggestions relating to increasing participation, as well as making some introductions to new space commercial entities who want to engage with GEOGLAM.
13. The CEO has been invited (costs paid by UNESCO) to Paris to join the Steering Committee meeting of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) to present the work of COAST-VC and more broadly about CEOS and satellite data for coastal and ocean monitoring.
14. The CEO declined several invitations to speak at ISRSE40, primarily because CEOS is already represented by the current and future CEOS Chairs, also because there is no travel budget available. If any CEOS members are attending and would like to speak about new space missions, an introduction can be made.
15. The CEOS calendar is regularly updated, and members of the CEOS Secretariat are requested to continue providing input regarding upcoming events.
16. Observation: administrative decisions in the United States of America may make it more difficult for CEOS Working Group chairs and others to join meetings or provide content for the CEOS Work Plan, we should be aware of this and be patient or help, if possible.

Upcoming events

The following CEOS meetings takes place next month:

- **WGISS-59**: 24-28 March 2025 | Bangkok, Thailand
- **WGDisasters-23**: 25-29 March 2025 | Catania, Italy

The next external meetings in March 2025 include:

- **3rd CGMS WGIV Cloud Technology Workshop**: 4-6 March 2025 | Silver Spring, MD, USA
- **40th International Symposium on Remote Sensing of the Environment (ISRSE40)**: 17-21 March 2025 | Farnborough, UK

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

- **WGISS-59** : March 24th - 28th, 2025 | Bangkok, Thailand
- **WGDisasters-23** : March 25th - 28th, 2025 | Catania, Italy
- **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

- **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-332 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:

Additional points (for written reference only):

- CEOS SDG Coordination Group perspectives, content, and EO Support Sheets have been included in the IAEG-SDGs “Rescuing the SDGs” Paper. The paper has been adopted as a formal background document of the UN Statistical Commission 56th Session. A virtual side event addressing this topic will be held on 20 February.
- The CEOS SDG Coordination Group will hold its monthly meeting on 20 February. It is actively working to finalize a UNCCD external request process response for SIT Chair, 2025 Deliverables, and 2025 Work Plan updates.

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- United Nations Statistical Commission 56th Session, New York, USA, 4-7 March.
- Cloud Native Geospatial (CNG) [Conference](#), Utah USA, 30 April-2 May. Agenda track addressing CEOS-ARD and CEOS Interoperability Handbook under development.
- GEO Global Forum 2025, Rome Italy, 5-9 May. CEOS exhibition booth planning underway.
- ESA Living Planet Symposium, Vienna Austria, 22-27 June. Expression of interest for CEOS exhibition booth submitted.

CEOS SEC-332 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: CEOS WGCapD

Prepared by: Daniel A. Matsapola (WGCapD Chair)

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

- CEOS WGCapD held its February 2025 monthly meeting on **13 February 2025** at 13h00 – 14h00 UTC, graced by the CEOS CEO's Office (Irena), and very well attended by participants from North America, Europe, Africa, and Asia.
- The meeting resolved through the voting process to hold CEOS WGCapD Annual Meeting 2025 during the Living Planet Symposium in Vienna, Austria scheduled for **23 – 27 June 2025**. ESA undertook to support the organization of this event due to proximity advantage.
- CEOS WGCapD Work Plan activities were all updated under facilitation of Irena from the CEOS CEO's Office.
- WGDisasters request for training on floods, landslides, and SAR Remote Sensing under consideration by WGCapD.

Additional points (for written reference only):

- CEOS WGCapD is actively looking to fill the vacancy of Vice Chair to the Mexican Space Agency (AEM), who takes over as Chair at CEOS Plenary 2025 in Bath, UK.
- The CEOS rotation cycle points to the WGCapD Vice Chair coming from Europe.
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Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- *Include any invitations extended to the CEOS organisation or other engagement opportunities (with communication and outreach in mind).*
- SANSa is supporting two high schools from South Africa's participation in the UK Space Agency's "**CEOS In Schools**" legacy pilot project, namely Sedibelo Secondary School from the North West Province and St. John's College from the coastal Eastern Cape Province.
- CEOS In Schools: Student Workshop scheduled for **26 February 2025** 14h00 – 15h30 UTC, focused on "Earth Observation Satellites are used in the Urban Environments"
- A joint international online training programme on "Primer on Interferometric SAR Remote Sensing" led by ISRO with contributions from ESA, NASA, DLR scheduled by CEOS WGCapD in June/July 2025.

CEOS SEC-332 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: WGClimate

Prepared by: Wenying Su

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

- WGClimate-22 & GHG-TT-5 meetings were held successfully last week (29 WGClimate and 12 GHG-TT). Some key highlights for SEC attention are:
 - WMO Global Greenhouse Gas Watch (G3W) requested a letter of support from CEOS Chair & SIT Chair for the activity. If there are no objections, WGClimate Chair will draft a letter and share with SEC for review.
 - WGClimate will stand up a 'UNFCCC COP Tiger Team', led by Vice-Chair Vincent-Henri Peuch (ECMWF), to lead CEOS/CGMS preparation and coordination for annual UNFCCC COPs, including for Earth Information Day and CEOS/CGMS SBSTA Statement. The team will also develop a comprehensive multi-year engagement strategy aligned with the phases of the GST process, including proactive preparation for party submissions.
 - WGClimate remains unable to converge on a universal definition for Climate Data Records. A small team will work over the coming year to consult the community, and if no progress is made in one year, WGClimate will consider concluding the activity.
 - An activity around expanding the utility of the ECV Inventory will commence shortly. The activity will focus on defining initial application/stakeholder typology categories, and mapping records in the Inventory to these categories.
 - UNFCCC (Heather Maseko) participated in the majority of the meeting virtually.
 - The National Inventories session was successful, with five countries presenting their approaches and challenges using space-based data. The session was a great starting point for discussions, with some ideas discussed to improve support for national inventory teams who wish to use satellite data.
- GCOS Panels have provided their comments on the Space Agency Response to the GCOS Implementation Plan. Comments will be reviewed and responded to by mid-March, after which the document will be shared for CEOS Principal review ahead of endorsement at SIT-40.
- The GST Lessons Learned document has been reviewed by WGClimate members, and will be shared for broader CEOS-CGMS comments shortly. This will provide inputs into Issue 2 of the CEOS GST Strategy, which the SIT Chair will lead.

Additional points (for written reference only):

- The ECV Inventory is undergoing a restructure, to be completed in June 2025. The new inventory will be known as the 'CDR Inventory' to better reflect its contents.
- WGClimate-22 saw cross-CEOS collaboration with WGISS (Mirko Albani, ESA) presenting on their work to restore AVHRR data to create a long-term Climate Data Record. WGISS

also asked WGClimate members to brainstorm any other datasets which may benefit from a global recovery effort.

- EOTEC DevNet also presented at WGClimate-22, to discuss the potential for Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Working Groups, and other climate related activities within EOTEC DevNet. WGClimate will schedule a follow-up discussion to understand next steps.
- GHG Task Team is considering the establishment of a central database for controlled release experiments, together with IMEO.
- A joint deliverable between GHG Task Team, WGCV ACSG and AC-VC was defined to explore the concept of GHG cal/val super sites and understand gaps in the existing networks, in particular to support G3W and IMEO.
- WGClimate will provide a note to the WIGOS 2050 Vision team regarding climate considerations, noting the drafting team lacks climate expertise.

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- GHG Task Team will plan a joint meeting with the CGMS Working Groups, ahead of CGMS Plenary in June 2025.
- A side meeting at SIT Technical Workshop 2025 will be arranged to discuss space-based ocean carbon measurements with GCOS.
- WGClimate-23 will be held as a virtual meeting on Friday October 24, 2025.
- WGClimate-24 will be held jointly with the GCOS Panels, in one of the first two weeks of February, 2026. A host for the meeting is being sought.



CEOS SEC-332 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:

- The 55th meeting of WGCV has been confirmed for July 8-11, 2025, hosted by ISRO at the National Remote Sensing Centre in Hyderabad, India. Attendees are encouraged to begin making travel arrangements.

Additional points (for written reference only):

- The WGCV Team held an online meeting on February 5th introducing the Chair's priorities, plans for WGCV-55, and Subgroup updates.
- External Calibration and Validation of the Biomass Mission call:
 - <https://earth.esa.int/eogateway/announcement-of-opportunity/external-calibration-and-validation-of-the-biomass-mission>

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-332 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

- *Individual emails have been sent to know the status of the deliverables of the WGDisasters Workplan and we are waiting for the answers. So far I can't send the update of the workplan and I will do it as soon as I have the information available.*
- *Regarding Early Warning for All, we sent will have the second meeting of the subgroup on February 28. The objective is to define the leadership, continue to organize the working format and discuss the way forward.*

Additional points (for written reference only):

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Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only)t

- *The meeting of WG Disasters 23 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).*
- *The WG Disasters 24 meeting will be held in Argentina in September (dates TBC) at the invitation of CONAE, in the city of San Carlos de Bariloche, Río Negro province in the south of Argentina.*

CEOS SEC-332 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-59 registration open on CEOS site. Registration low relative to prior meetings. Ask Principals to remind staff within their organizations to register (in-person and virtual).

Additional points (for written reference only):

- Finalizing inputs for the Work Plan and will submit 20 February.
- WGISS chair in process of soliciting future WGISS v.Chair / Chair to begin in November 2025. First solicitation was declined; second solicitation open.

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- WGISS-59, March 24-28, 2025, Bangkok Thailand.
- 3rd Annual CGMS Cloud Workshop (virtual), March 4-6, Silver Spring MD, USA
- SIT-40: WGISS Chair/v.Chair will attend virtually.
- Cloud Native Geospatial (CNG), April 30 – May 2, Snowbird UT, USA
- WGISS-60, October 13-17, 2025, Oberpfaffenhofen Germany