

CEOS SEC-333 SIT Chair Written Report

CEOS Entity: SIT Chair Team

Prepared by: JAXA

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

- SIT-40 draft agenda and logistics information circulated by Hironori Maejima on March 4th. We will 'freeze' the SIT-40 agenda two weeks in advance of the meeting as requested by SEC.
- Coordination call with IMEO held on 27 Feb and good discussions to revitalise a range of collaborations including a new database on controlled releases and observations.
- Latest climate policy impact call held on 6 March to encourage feedback on the GST lessons learned effort and to develop content and ideas for the SIT-40 discussions.

CEOS SEC-333 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: CEO Team

Prepared by: Steven Ramage, March 2025

1. CEOS Work Plan review underway in preparation for CEOS Principals. The work plan required additional input on CEO themes and strategy. The initial date for sharing the final version of the Work Plan was postponed due to requests for additional time. The document will now be sent on 20th March with 2 weeks for the virtual endorsement.
2. Action CEOS 329-03. This was for non-attendees for CEOS Plenary 2024 – this is ongoing, i.e. to update the CEOS website with CEOS Agency Principals and Contacts, and listservs. Action can be closed but the activity will remain ongoing for the CEO team.
3. Working Group on Capacity Building and Data Democracy
The CEO team participated in the latest meetings, the working group is preparing the annual meeting, however the location is still pending.
4. Working Group Disasters
Supporting the Early Warning for All (EW4All) initiative, notably the concept development phase for an online workshop and preparing for the meeting in Catania, Sicily at the end of March.
5. Working Group Climate
CEO team participated in meetings relating to the carbon roadmaps coordination, notably highlighting the ocean carbon coordination opportunities with the Global Ocean Observation System (GOOS).
6. Working Group on Information Systems and Services
Joined the WGISS executive meeting to provide input and assistance for the Work Plan.
7. Working Group on Calibration and Validation
Joined to support Work Plan elements. Also reshared the outcome of the CEOS-ARD self-assessment submitted by DLR (German Space Agency) for the DLR Earth Sensing Imaging Spectrometer (DESI) HSI L2A product evaluated as CEOS-ARD compliant.
8. Ongoing support has been provided to the Biodiversity Study Team also providing feedback on marine biodiversity from the Global Ocean Observation System (GOOS).
9. The CEO was sponsored by UNESCO to attend the GOOS Steering Committee in Paris on behalf of COAST-VC and the broader CEOS community to discuss greater collaboration with the satellite community regarding ocean monitoring.
 - a. The COAST-VC request was to add more satellite language to GOOS and to the broader United Nations Decade of Ocean communication materials.
 - b. There was also a wide ranging discussion relating to essential ocean variables and how these connect to essential biodiversity and climate variables.

- c. There was discussion around MBON, the marine biodiversity observation network element of GEO BON, and how that can support the work of GOOS in this area. The Biodiversity Study Team efforts at CEOS were also highlighted, including reference to marine biodiversity which will figure in those deliberations.
 - d. Early Warning for All (EW4All) was another topic, and marine heatwaves as a topic was mentioned several times. I also highlighted the WG Disasters subgroup on EW4All, but I am less familiar regarding any work in CEOS on marine heatwaves, if at all. There was also more general discussion around improved climate and extreme weather resilience through enhanced ocean forecasting.
 - e. One of the repeated topics and questions was around the connection and complementary use of in situ data with satellite data. There was also interest in the related activities of the CEOS WG Calibration and Validation.
 - f. Finally, there was a lot of reference made with respect to private sector engagement, notably in areas (mainly blue economy) including aquaculture and fisheries, energy (offshore wind farms), environmental monitoring, oil and gas, and maritime shipping.
10. The CEO joined the GEO Executive Committee meeting (online) to support the SIT Chair.
- a. There was extensive discussion regarding the future of the GEO Secretariat and the numbers, structure and role of the staff (abolishing and cancelling posts) if the funding drops significantly because of ongoing administrative developments for major funders.
 - b. There was also an update to the GEO Post-2025 Strategy Implementation Plan (SIP) considering the work of a GEO ExCom SIP working group. From the report summary “Pending GEO Plenary approval in May 2025, implementation preparations will begin immediately, led by the Executive Committee, concluding by December 2025. From January 2026, implementation of the SIP to make GEO’s Post-2025 vision a reality will commence (Implementation Period 2026-2030). The implementation will be incorporated into GEO’s normal annual planning cycle.”
 - c. The GEO Programme Board (PB) co-chair presented the review process for submissions (7 review teams) made to the Post-2025 GEO Work Programme.
 - i. A total of 66 submissions were reviewed by the PB, and 49 were recommended for inclusion in the new GWP: 24 Research to Operations (R2O) proposals, 8 Conveners and 17 Enabling Mechanisms reviewed against the GEO Post-2025 Strategy, including identification of any gaps and opportunities relating to submissions
 - ii. According to the GEO Secretariat CEOS is listed as a partner or as contributing to the following activities:
 GFOI (Mature Flagship), GEOGLAM (Flagship), GEO-LDN (Flagship)
 GSNL (Flagship), Digital Earth Africa (Enabling Mechanism), Digital Earth Pacific (Enabling Mechanism)
 Again according to the GEO Secretariat, CEOS is not listed as a partner but playing a key role in: GEO-TREES (Initiative) and EO4DRM (Initiative).

- iii. A goal was to ensure that the activities provide adequate solutions to beneficiaries, including strengthened engagement with end users and enhanced country ownership of activities.
 - iv. Another was improved interaction across focus areas through Regional GEOs, GEO Symposia, the GEO Knowledge Hub and other mechanisms/forums.
11. The CEOS calendar is regularly updated, and members of the CEOS Secretariat are requested to continue providing input regarding upcoming events.

Upcoming events

The following CEOS meetings takes place in the coming weeks:

- **WGISS-59**: 24-28 March 2025 | Bangkok, Thailand
- **WGDisasters-23**: 25-28 March | Catania, Italy
- **SIT-40**: 8-10 April 2025 | Fukuoka, Japan
- **LSI-VC-17**: 14-16 April 2025 | Tsukuba, Japan

The next external meetings in March and April 2025 include:

- **40th International Symposium on Remote Sensing of the Environment (ISRSE40)**: 17-21 March 2025 | Farnborough, UK
- **JACIE 2025 Workshop**: 7-11 April 2025 | Virginia, USA
- **Cloud Native Geospatial Conference 2025**: 30 April – 2 May 2025 | Utah, USA

Online CEOS meeting calendar

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
- **WGCV-55** : July 8th - 11th, 2025 | 8-11 July 2025 | Hyderabad, India
- **WGISS-60** : October 13th - 17th, 2025 | Oberpfaffenhofen, Germany

Virtual Constellations

- **LSI-VC-17** : April 14th - 16th, 2025 | Tsukuba, Japan
- **GEOGLAM Essential Agricultural Variables (EAV) Stocktake Workshop** : May 13th - 15th, 2025
- **AC-VC-21** : June 9th - 13th, 2025 | Takamatsu, Japan

External

- **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
- **United Nations Ocean Conference** : June 9th - 13th, 2025 | Nice, France
- **UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA62)** : June 16th - March 26th, 2025 | Bonn, Germany
- **ESA Living Planet Symposium 2025** : June 23rd - 27th, 2025 | Vienna, Austria
- **Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: 2025 (COPUOS 68)** : June 25th - July 4th, 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
- **WMO CM-16** : March 1st - 31st, 2026 | -

CEOS SEC-333 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:

- SEO has had to cancel plans to host a CEOS exhibition booth at GEO Global Forum in Rome, 5-9 May. Planning for a CEOS exhibition booth at ESA LPS continues, with thanks to ESA for coordinating and securing our CEOS booth.
- SEO, in collaboration with NASA SVS Team, has created a “[CEOS Fleet](#)” visualization that captures volume and scale of the combined global constellation of all CEOS Members. Feedback appreciated, as CEOS Communications Team intends to leverage this visualization in various ways moving forward.
- CEOS Analytics Lab ([CAL](#)) has received a significant update to include a new interface and back end, scalable, capabilities. Account provisioning remains open to the entire CEOS community. Request a new account on the home page.

Additional points (for written reference only):

- CEOS Organisational Github account continues to grow with steady increases in membership, repositories, and content. Content licensing remains an important issue not fully addressed by CEOS in the past, specifically in the context of CEOS-ARD evolution. Trial licensing at Github repository levels have been implemented that provide necessary open-source licensing where necessary but maintain copyright ownership by individual contributors (agencies).
- SEO continues to support CEOS-ARD OG, LSI-VC, and WGISS activities related to CEOS-ARD modular improvements and Interoperability Handbook Architecture chapters.
- CEOS Communications Team continues to develop interactive Storymap content for relevant areas of CEOS to include [RadCalNet](#), [SDGs](#), and [40 Years](#) of CEOS. If other WG/VC have interest in developing similar content, please contact Libby Rose.

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- Cloud Native Geospatial (CNG) [Conference](#), Utah USA, 30 April-2 May.
- GEO Global Forum 2025, Rome Italy, 5-9 May.
- ESA Living Planet Symposium, Vienna Austria, 22-27 June.

CEOS SEC-333 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 did not hold its March 2025 monthly meeting.
- The CEOS WGCapD Annual Meeting 2025 will be held during the Living Planet Symposium in Vienna, Austria scheduled for **23 – 27 June 2025**.

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.
- SANSa has collaborated with the Department of Science, Technology, and Innovation (DSTI), National Research Foundation South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement (NRF SAASTA), and the National Earth Observation & Space Secretariat (NEOSS) to establish the GEO South Africa Youth Community of Practice (CoP) **governing board**, building on the GEO Ministerial Summit 2023 held in Cape Town, South Africa.

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- 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: A very successful Student Workshop was held on **26 February 2025** 14h00 – 15h30 UTC, focused on "Earth Observation Satellites are used in the Urban Environments" with 14 – 16-year-olds from South Africa, the UK, Canada, and the USA.
- The second Student Workshop will be held on 26 March 2025 focused on **how satellites are used to monitor Biodiversity**.
- 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-333 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 has drafted a letter of support for G3W, to be sent by CEOS and CGMS. The draft can be found below, and will also be discussed at SIT-40.
- IMEO Use Cases WG met for the first time on Tuesday 11 March. Yasjka Meijer is leading the effort from the CEOS side.
- The Space Agency Response to the GCOS Implementation Plan is being finalised for distribution to CEOS & CGMS, ahead of anticipated endorsement at SIT-40.
- UNFCCC engagement coordination Tiger Team will meet on March 18th. To date, 16 members have volunteered to participate in the team.
- WGClimate is drafting a note to provide climate inputs to the WIGOS 2050 Vision. These will be ready by mid-April, and shared with Osamu Ochiai and Sean Burns as the CEOS and CGMS representatives on the expert team, for input into the WIGOS 2050 Vision meeting planned for the end of April.

Additional points (for written reference only):

- WGClimate-22 draft minutes and actions were distributed for comment on March 4, with a deadline for feedback of 19 March.

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- WGClimate and 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.

Dear Dr. Saulo,

Greenhouse gas monitoring is a critical societal contribution of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) and the Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS). In support of this, our two organisations jointly established the CEOS-CGMS Working Group on Climate (WGClimate), and subsequently the Greenhouse Gas Task Team (GHG-TT). A core objective of WGClimate and GHG-TT is to support Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in meeting their commitments under the Paris Agreement, which aims to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C -2°C above pre-industrial levels. Reducing the accumulation of long-lived greenhouse gases in the atmosphere is essential to mitigating climate change, which increasingly drives extreme weather events and poses severe risks to lives, infrastructure, and ecosystems worldwide.

Today, space-based Earth observation data play a decisive role in constraining and characterizing the sources, sinks, and atmospheric concentrations of CO₂, CH₄, and, to some extent, N₂O and other long-lived greenhouse gases. By integrating satellite observations with in situ measurements and numerical modeling, we can provide valuable insights to help countries estimate their emissions and evaluate the effectiveness of their mitigation efforts.

CEOS and CGMS welcome the adoption of the Global Greenhouse Gas Watch (G3W) flagship by the 19th World Meteorological Congress in May 2023 and the approval of its Implementation Plan by the 78th Executive Council in June 2024. We see G3W as a transformative initiative that will unite scientific and operational communities—much like the World Weather Watch did for global weather forecasting decades ago.

Many of our members and associated organisations have been engaged in G3W since its inception and deeply appreciate WMO's leadership in this effort. While some regions have emerging operational modeling capabilities, and several of our agencies already have space-based assets in orbit or under development, global coordination at the UN level is essential for effective greenhouse gas monitoring. With G3W, WMO is uniquely positioned to lead this effort and ensure its long-term success.

As discussions progress within WMO bodies on securing sustained funding for the G3W secretariat, we strongly support establishing a critical mass of staff to ensure the continuity and further development of G3W activities. Collaboration with G3W is central to the [Greenhouse Gas Roadmap](#), which CEOS and CGMS approved in October 2024. Through this Roadmap, our agencies reaffirmed their collective commitment to supporting space-based greenhouse gas observations, as well as contributing to modeling efforts for monitoring greenhouse gas emissions. We are committed to co-develop with G3W the required fit-for-purpose GHG data products.

We also recognize the critical importance of strengthening the *in situ* observational networks, which are essential both for the overall success of G3W and for ensuring the continuous calibration and validation of space-based measurements.

We appreciate your leadership in advancing this crucial initiative and look forward to continued collaboration in realizing G3W's full potential.

Sincerely yours,

CEOS SEC-333 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:

- [Registration](#) for WGCV-55 is now open. The meeting will be hosted by ISRO in Hyderabad, India, from July 8-11 2025. Participants are required to share their details with Santhi Sree from ISRO by the end of this month in order to obtain VISA approval. Hotel and other logistics information will be shared by Santhi Sree next week.
- WGCV-55 will invite local commercial organisations to present on their current activities, challenges, and opportunities in a dedicated session on the agenda.

Additional points (for written reference only):

- The WGCV Team will hold an online meeting on March 27th to plan the objectives for WGCV-55, establish regular subgroup reporting, and plan WGCV attendance for upcoming meetings.
- External Calibration and Validation of the Biomass Mission call, which closes on 28 March:
 - <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.
 - Same week at SIT (WGCV chair and vice-chair attending JACIE), so Nigel Fox (NPL) will present on behalf of WGCV at SIT-40.
- The GSICS annual meeting will be held from March 17-21, 2025 in Changchun, China, and will feature WGCV presentations on current activities, the Pre-flight Calibration Workshop, and the SITSat Task Team.

CEOS SEC-333 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

- *The second meeting of the Early Warning for All subgroup of the Working Group on Disasters, was held on March 11. It was a very positive meeting because, in addition to the participants of the Subgroup, Natalia Donoho (from the WMO) and Agnes Lane (from the Bureau of Meteorology in Australia) were also present. In particular, Agnes is currently leading a WMO task team to develop EW4ALL user requirements and gap analysis for Asia and the West Pacific. Natalia commented that she will be attending the SIT-40 meeting in person. Agnes will provide the Subgroup with summary information about the Pacific and Asian teams' work.*

One of the objectives of the meeting was to define the leadership of the subgroup, but this is still to be defined.

There is a need for more people to be involved, and it would be very important for the subgroup that agencies are present at the meetings.

It is necessary to continue working on the formation of the subgroup. In this sense, Steven proposal regarding the Workshop "Satellite Data and Early Warning for All" to gather the four pillars of the EW4All initiative and all the CEOS actors (Agencies, Working Groups, Virtual Constellations ad-hoc teams, etc.) is very important. In this context, the support of CEOS SIT is also very important.

Additional points (for written reference only):

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Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only)

- *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). A field trip to Etna Volcano is planned Friday 28 of March).*
- *The WG Disasters 24 meeting will be held in Argentina in the second half of September at the invitation of CONAE. The meeting will be hosted by INVAP located in San Carlos de Bariloche city. INVAP is the main contractor of CONAE where our satellite missions are integrated and we are planning a visit to their facilities and of course, a field trip related to the topics of the Working Group on Disasters, but it is still to be decided where to go.*

CEOS SEC-333 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 proceeding as planned for March 24-28 in Bangkok Thailand (GISTDA host)
 - Have adjusted agenda to support increased virtual participation.

Additional points (for written reference only):

- WGISS has reviewed the draft work plan and provided suggested updates.
- WGISS chair in process of soliciting future WGISS v.Chair / Chair to begin in November 2025. Current solicitation positive but pending organizational review.
- WGISS meeting to review ARD strategy and opportunities for collaboration.
- WGISS report during WG Disasters semestrial meeting TBD pending availability during WGISS-59.

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- WGISS-59, March 24-28, 2025, Bangkok Thailand.
- 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