

2025 CEOS Strategic Implementation Team Technical Workshop (2025 SIT TW)

Objectives and Agenda

9 – 11 September 2025

EUMETSAT Headquarters, Eumetsat-Allee 1, 64295, Darmstadt, Germany

HYBRID MEETING – Remote Connection Details on Last Page

**** ATTENDANCE AS PART OF OFFICIAL CEOS AGENCY DELEGATION ONLY ****

The 2025 CEOS SIT Technical Workshop and its associated side meetings are intended to focus on problem-solving at the working level and preparing CEOS business for review and potential decision-making at the CEOS Plenary. The Technical Workshop agenda will convene technical experts and scientists from across the CEOS structure and activities to provide an opportunity for working-level task coordination in preparation for the 2025 CEOS Plenary, which will be held on November 4-6 in Bath, United Kingdom.

Objectives

1. Review implementation of the CEOS Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) Roadmap, CEOS support to the Global Forest Observations Initiative (GFOI), and consider increased coordination among CEOS activities related to GFOI, the Global Stocktake Strategy, Working Group on Climate (WGClimate), and national efforts to bolster capacity building and country engagement.
2. Discuss the renewed WGClimate Terms of Reference ahead of their presentation to the 2025 CEOS Plenary for potential endorsement.
3. Review the proposed update of the Climate Data Record (CDR) Inventory, which will incorporate updates related to the Essential Climate Variable (ECV) rationalization being undertaken by GCOS.
4. Review preparations for UNFCCC COP30 and its Earth Information Day, including the Space Agency Statement to SBSTA 63.
5. Discuss the draft of the CEOS Global Stocktake Strategy (Issue 2) ahead of its planned presentation to the 2025 CEOS Plenary for possible endorsement, and consider related product planning for 2027 and the role of the CEOS Virtual Constellations in developing these products.
6. Consider how the relationship between CEOS and IPCC might be strengthened and leveraged for increased uptake of Earth observation data, including the ideas of systematic representation of EO in the IPCC Emission Factor Database (EFDB) and an expert workshop on EO for IPCC Good Practice Guidance.
7. Review the update of the CEOS Interoperability Handbook (v2.0) before its presentation for potential endorsement at the 2025 CEOS Plenary. Discuss the long-term vision for implementation and actions for community uptake.
8. Discuss the WGCV Product Validation Platform and CEOS Analytics Lab and their role in achieving the vision of the CEOS Interoperability Handbook.
9. Present the results of the community consultations and survey regarding the future of CEOS Analysis Ready Data (CEOS-ARD) and discuss preliminary findings regarding matters that could be considered by an ambitious next-generation CEOS-ARD Strategy.
10. Review progress on the CEOS Aquatic Carbon Roadmap and provide guidance to shape its development through to the planned presentation to SIT-41 (April 2026)
11. Review progress on the CEOS Greenhouse Gas Roadmap actions and the 2025 update of the [CEOS GHG Missions Portal](#).
12. Discuss strategies for uptake and promotion of the *Common Practices for Quantifying, Reporting, Validating, and Assessing Facility-Scale Methane Emissions, Issue 1*. Consider the role of case studies and other implementation activities. Discuss possible future expansions of scope of the best practices.
13. Review ongoing CEOS support to the International Methane Emissions Observatory (IMEO) and consider future collaboration opportunities.

14. Welcome updates from all CEOS Virtual Constellations, particularly on observation continuity, and seek discussion on a proposal for more systematic and consistent VC reporting to CEOS leadership.
15. Review draft paper from AC-VC on *“Expanding the Geostationary Atmospheric Composition Constellation: Toward Global Coverage”* ahead of its presentation at CEOS Plenary.
16. The *OST-VC White Paper on a Coordinated International Satellite Altimetry Virtual Constellation* will be presented at the CEOS Plenary as a recommendation from the science community, giving CEOS Principals the opportunity to acknowledge the paper and take it under advisement. The statement will be presented at the 2025 SIT Technical Workshop for information and discussion, as a preparatory step towards CEOS Plenary.
17. Discuss updates on the Essential Agricultural Variables (EAVs) for GEOGLAM, Systems Engineering Office (SEO) activities, and EOTEC DevNet (from WGCapD).
18. Provide a summary of the UKSA-led side meeting on *‘EO For The Public Sector’* and consider next steps.
19. Discuss continuity of the *‘CEOS In Schools’* initiative started under the 2025 CEOS Chair term and review the plan for the 2025 CEOS Plenary Youth Event.
20. Provide an opportunity for the 2026 CEOS Chair to present their chosen themes for their chair year.
21. Review the priorities that will guide the 2026-2027 SIT Chair term.
22. Confirm leadership changes that will take place at the 2025 CEOS Plenary.
23. Review the proposal and preliminary documents that will support a CEOS Plenary decision on a sustained presence for the topic of biodiversity within CEOS.
24. Review plans for the 2025 CEOS Plenary.

Week at a Glance

The 2025 SIT Technical Workshop will take place over two days, September 10-11, and will be preceded by a side meeting day on September 9. A 'Week at a Glance' overview can be found below.

Tuesday, September 9	Wednesday, September 10	Thursday, September 11
Side Meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEC-339 (<i>closed meeting</i>) • Future Analysis Ready Data • 2026 CEOS Chair Themes • COAST-VC: Demonstrations of New Products and Improvements • WIGOS Vision Update • GST Strategy Update • EUMETSAT Mission Control Tour • Unlocking EO for Public Service – UKSA CEOS Chair Theme • AFOLU, GFOI and Country Engagement • Biodiversity Study Team • GHGTT (<i>working meeting</i>) 	Welcome Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) EO Data Impact Atmospheric Observations Interoperability and Data Quality Other Thematic Topics	Virtual Constellations: State of the Global Observing System Other Thematic Working Group and Virtual Constellation Topics Other Business Systems Engineering Office CEOS Chair and SIT Chair Themes (current and future) Biodiversity Closing Session
<u>Icebreaker</u> : EUMETSAT Canteen	<u>Dinner</u> : Vollrads Castle	

Side Meetings: Tuesday, September 9

Location: EUMETSAT Headquarters, Darmstadt (Eumetsat-Allee 1, 64295 Darmstadt, Germany)

A coffee station will be located in the Atrium for the whole day, so that participants meeting in Council, STG/AFG, and MB 032 can take breaks at their convenience. For those with side meetings in the East Building there will be smaller tables with drinks and coffee in the meeting rooms.

Lunch vouchers will be distributed to participants on each day and tables will be reserved in the canteen for the CEOS SIT group.

Reminder: Please bring your passport for access to EUMETSAT Headquarters.

The GHGTT Workshop will be held 09:00 - 17:00, in room **East Building, Room 361**.

Time	Side Meeting Room #1 (Council and STG/AFG, Capacity: 70)	Side Meeting Room #2 (EB 021, Capacity: 18)	Side Meeting Room #3 (MB 032, Capacity: 8)	Side Meeting Room #4 (East Building, Room 156, Capacity: 16)	Side Meeting Room #5 (EB 161), Capacity: 16)
09:00 - 09:30	09:00 - 10:00 SEC-339 (closed meeting) <u>POC:</u> Matt Steventon				
09:30 - 10:00	(CEOS Chair Team)				
10:00 - 10:30	10:00 - 11:00 Future CEOS-ARD <u>POC:</u> Maggie Arnold (GA)	10:00 - 11:30 COAST-VC: Demonstrations of New Products and Improvements	10:00 - 11:00 WIGOS Vision Update <u>POC:</u> Satoshi Uenuma (SIT Chair Team)		
10:30 - 11:00		<u>POC:</u> Merrie Beth Neely (GST supporting NOAA)			
11:00 - 11:30	11:00 - 12:00 2026 CEOS Chair Theme <u>POC:</u> Maggie Arnold (GA)				11:00 - 12:00 GST Strategy Update
11:30 - 12:00					<u>POC:</u> David Crisp (SIT Chair Team)
12:00 - 12:30	EUMETSAT Mission Control Tour		12:00 - 13:00 CLOSED	EUMETSAT Mission Control Tour	
12:30 - 13:00			SIT Chair and SIT Vice Chair Meeting		
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch @ EUMETSAT Canteen				
14:00 - 14:30	14:00 - 15:30 Unlocking EO for Public Service – UKSA CEOS Chair Theme	14:00 - 15:30 AFOLU, GFOI and Country Engagement <u>POC:</u> Stephen Ward		14:00 - 15:30 Biodiversity Study Team	
14:30 - 15:00	<u>POC:</u> Beth Greenaway (UKSA)	<u>POC:</u> Stephen Ward		<u>POC:</u> Shaun Levick (CSIRO)	
15:00 - 15:30		Move to GHGTT meeting at 15:30 to discuss Roadmap coordination.			
15:30 - 16:00			15:30 - 16:00 CLOSED <u>POC:</u> Maggie Arnold (GA)		
16:00 - 16:30			16:00 - 17:00		
16:30-17:00			CLOSED CEOS Chair 2026 and SIT Chair 2026-2027		
17:30	Welcome BBQ on the canteen terrace. Aperitif at 17:30, followed by the Icebreaker at 18:00.				

AGENDA

2025 CEOS SIT Technical Workshop

Day 1: Wednesday, September 10

Location: Council Room, EUMETSAT Headquarters, Darmstadt (Eumetsat-Allee 1, 64295 Darmstadt, Germany)

Reminder: Please bring your passport for access to EUMETSAT Headquarters.

Arrival / Teleconference Open <i>Welcome coffee for in-person participants will be hosted in the first floor foyer next to the Main Room (Council and STG/AFG), and the meeting teleconference connection will be open for testing.</i>		08:30	30 min
Session 1: Welcome Moderator: Hironori Maejima (SIT Chair, JAXA)			
1.1	Welcome [presentation] <i>Hironori Maejima (SIT Chair, JAXA) and Phil Evans (EUMETSAT)</i>	09:00	10 min
Session 2: Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) Moderator: Osamu Ochiai (SIT Chair Team, JAXA)			
2.1	Session Introduction [presentation] <i>Osamu Ochiai (SIT Chair Team, JAXA)</i>	09:10	5 min
2.2	CEOS AFOLU Roadmap Implementation Update [presentation] <i>Takeo Tadono (JAXA, LSI-VC Co-Lead), Neha Hunka (ESA, AFOLU Co-Lead), Clement Albergel (ESA)</i>	09:15	20 min
2.3	CEOS and the Global Forest Observations Initiative (GFOI) [presentation] <i>Neha Hunka (ESA, CEOS GFOI Lead)</i>	09:35	10 min
2.4	Capacity Building and Country Engagement [presentation] <i>Stephen Ward (SIT Chair Team, JAXA)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities and plans Directory of national inventory contacts Coordination among GFOI, GST Strategy, WGClimat, national efforts 	09:45	15 min
Session 3: EO Data Impact Moderator: Osamu Ochiai (SIT Chair Team, JAXA)			

3.1	<p>CEOS/CGMS Working Group on Climate (WGClimate) Report <i>[presentation]</i> <i>Wenying Su (NASA, WGClimate Chair)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Data Record (CDR) Inventory update (including GCOS Essential Climate Variable (ECV) rationalization process) Space Agency Statement to SBSTA 63 and communication arrangements with the 2026 CEOS Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CEOS-CGMS Statement for SBSTA63 cleared.docx WGClimate Terms of Reference update 	10:00	20 min
Group Photo + Break		10:20	30 min
3.2	<p>CEOS-CGMS Tiger Team Update <i>[presentation]</i> <i>Vincent-Henri Peuch (ECMWF)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> COP30 and Earth Information Day preparations 	10:50	20 min
3.3	<p>Review Draft CEOS Global Stocktake Strategy (Issue 2) <i>[presentation]</i> <i>David Crisp (SIT Chair Team)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DRAFT CEOS Global Stocktake Strategy 2025 v0.0 PDF <u>Discussion</u>: Product planning for 2027 including engagement with CEOS Virtual Constellations 	11:10	25 min
3.4	<p>CEOS Engagement with IPCC <i>[presentation]</i> <i>SIT Chair Team</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Discussion</u>: Feedback on IPCC proposal for an expert workshop on EO for Good Practice Guidance (GPG) and future cooperation between CEOS and IPCC 	11:35	20 min
Session 4: Atmospheric Observations Moderator: Hiroshi Suto (JAXA)			
4.1	<p>GHG Task Team Update <i>[presentation]</i> <i>Yasjka Meijer (ESA)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress on CEOS GHG Roadmap actions 	11:55	20 min
4.2	<p>Common Practices for Quantifying, Reporting, Validating, and Assessing Facility-Scale Methane Emissions, Issue 1 (Methane Common Practices) Implementation <i>[presentation]</i> <i>Paul Green (NPL)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case Studies Future expansion of scope Uptake and promotion 	12:15	20 min
4.3	<p>GHG Mission Portal <i>[presentation]</i> <i>SIT Chair Team</i></p>	12:35	10 min

4.4	International Methane Emissions Observatory (IMEO) Collaboration <i>[presentation]</i> Yasjka Meijer (ESA)	12:45	15 min
Lunch @ EUMETSAT Canteen		13:00	70 min
Session 5: Interoperability and Data Quality Moderator: JAXA SIT Chair Team			
5.1	CEOS Interoperability Handbook Update (v2.0) <i>[presentation]</i> Tom Sohre (USGS, WGISS Chair), Nitant Dube (ISRO, WGISS Vice Chair) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review before being presented for potential endorsement at Plenary Community uptake and long-term vision 	14:10	30 min
5.2	CEOS Common Dictionary <i>[presentation]</i> Dominik Weckmueller (EC)	14:40	15 min
5.3	WGCV Product Validation Platform <i>[presentation]</i> Nigel Fox (NPL)	14:55	20 min
5.4	Future of CEOS Analysis Ready Data <i>[presentation]</i> Ferran Gascon (ESA, CEOS-ARD Oversight Group Lead) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results of community consultations Data quality engagements with WGCV 	15:15	20 min
5.5	CEOS Analytics Lab <i>[presentation]</i> David Borges (CEOS SEO)	15:35	20 min
Break		15:55	20 min
Session 6: Other Thematic Topics Moderator: Osamu Ochiai (SIT Chair Team, JAXA)			
6.1	Aquatic Carbon Roadmap Update <i>[presentation]</i> Marie-Helene Rio (ESA)	16:15	20 min
6.2	Update on Canada's WildfireSat Mission Expansion <i>[presentation]</i> Frederic Fournier (CSA)	16:35	20 min
Adjournment of Day 1		16:55	

A bus will depart from EUMETSAT at approximately 17:30 for dinner.

Day 2: Thursday, September 11

Location: Council Room, EUMETSAT Headquarters, Darmstadt (Eumetsat-Allee 1, 64295 Darmstadt, Germany)

Reminder: Please bring your passport for access to EUMETSAT Headquarters.

Arrival / Teleconference Open <i>Welcome coffee for in-person participants will be hosted in the first floor foyer next to the Main Room (Council and STG/AFG), and the meeting teleconference connection will be open for testing.</i>		08:30	30 min
Session 7: Virtual Constellations: State of the Global Observing System <i>In this session we are inviting all CEOS Virtual Constellations (VCs) to give a brief 10-15 minute presentation, with content to follow a prescribed template. We ask that all VCs use three slides only, one slide providing a visual timeline of all missions relevant to the Virtual Constellation, one slide covering key planning / coordination notes for SIT and CEOS agency awareness, and one slide focusing on thematic products and applications.</i> <i>The session will conclude with a discussion on how we might introduce more systematic and consistent VC reporting so that we can achieve regular overviews of gaps and opportunities. We hope this will also be an opportunity to clarify how VCs can make suggestions and reports to CEOS leadership meetings regarding such gaps and opportunities.</i> <u>Where additional specific topics have been requested by VCs, these are covered under Session 7.</u>			
Moderator: Osamu Ochiai (SIT Chair Team, JAXA)			
7.1	Session Introduction [presentation] <i>Osamu Ochiai (SIT Chair Team, JAXA)</i>	09:00	5 min
7.2	Atmospheric Composition (AC-VC) [presentation] <i>Ben Veihelmann (ESA)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Draft:</u> Expanding the Geostationary Atmospheric Composition Constellation: Toward Global Coverage 	09:05	20 min
7.3	Sea Surface Temperature (SST-VC) [presentation] <i>Misako Kachi (JAXA)</i>	09:25	15 min
7.4	Land Surface Imaging (LSI-VC) [presentation] <i>Jonathon Ross (Geoscience Australia)</i>	09:40	15 min
7.5	Ocean Colour Radiometry (OCR-VC) [presentation] <i>Ewa Kwiatkowska (EUMETSAT)</i>	09:55	15 min
7.6	Ocean Surface Topography (OST-VC) [presentation] <i>Estelle Obligis (EUMETSAT)</i>	10:10	15 min
7.7	Ocean Surface Vector Wind (OSVW-VC) [presentation] <i>Stefanie Linow (EUMETSAT)</i>	10:25	15 min

Break		10:40	20 min
7.8	Precipitation (P-VC) <i>[presentation]</i> <i>Chris Kidd (NASA)</i>	11:00	15 min
7.9	Coastal Observations Applications Services and Tools (COAST-VC) <i>[presentation]</i> <i>Paul DiGiacomo (NOAA, remote)</i>	11:15	15 min
7.10	Refining Virtual Constellation Reporting to CEOS Leadership <i>(For Discussion)</i> <i>[presentation remotely (TBC)]</i> <i>Yuko Nakamura (SIT Chair Team, JAXA)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harmonised reporting templates for the Virtual Constellations Approach for reporting VC recommendations to CEOS Principals SST-VC and COAST-VC Joint Statement Regarding Ultra High Resolution Infrared Measurements 	11:30	20 min
7.11	Utilising the CEOS Missions, Instruments, Measurements (MIM) Database for Improved Virtual Constellation Observation Continuity Reporting <i>(For Discussion)</i> <i>[presentation]</i> <i>Marie-Claire Greening (ESA, CEOS MIM Database Team)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on the 2025 CEOS MIM annual survey 	11:50	15 min
Session 8: Other Thematic Working Group and Virtual Constellation Topics Moderator: Osamu Ochiai (SIT Chair Team, JAXA)			
8.1	OST-VC White Paper on a Coordinated International Satellite Altimetry Virtual Constellation <i>[presentation]</i> <i>Estelle Obligis (EUMETSAT)</i>	12:05	15 min
8.2	Essential Agricultural Variables (EAVs) for the Group on Earth Observations Global Agricultural Monitoring Initiative (GEOGLAM) <i>Sven Gilliams (LSI-VC GEOGLAM Subgroup Co-Lead)</i>	12:20	15 min
8.3	Capacity Development Activities, Working Group on Capacity Building & Data Democracy (WGCapD) Updates <i>[presentation]</i> <i>Dan Matsapola (SANSA, WGCapD Chair)</i>	12:35	25 min
Lunch @ EUMETSAT Canteen		13:00	60 min
Session 9: Other Business Moderator: Osamu Ochiai (SIT Chair Team, JAXA)			
9.1	CEOS Systems Engineering Office (SEO) Report <i>[presentation]</i> <i>David Borges (CEOS SEO)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of DOIs for CEOS documentation 	14:00	15 min

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CEOS mailing lists CEOS communications 		
9.2	<p>EO For The Public Sector <i>[presentation]</i> <i>Beth Greenaway (CEOS Chair Team, UKSA)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary of SIT Technical Workshop side meeting outcomes and next steps 	14:15	15 min
9.3	<p>Continuity of the 'CEOS In Schools' Initiative <i>[presentation]</i> <i>Beth Greenaway (CEOS Chair Team, UKSA)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Discussion:</u> Continuity of initiative 2025 CEOS Plenary Youth Event 	14:30	20 min
Break and Buffer		14:50	30 min
9.4	<p>2026 CEOS Chair Themes <i>[presentation]</i> <i>Alex Held (2026 CEOS Chair, CSIRO)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2026 CEOS Plenary 	15:20	15 min
9.5	<p>2026-2027 SIT Chair Priorities <i>[presentation]</i> <i>Julie Robinson (NASA, SIT Vice Chair Team)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed priorities for the 2026-2027 SIT Chair term 2026 dates and locations for SIT-41 and SIT Technical Workshop 	15:35	15 min
9.6	<p>Leadership Changes at the 2025 CEOS Plenary <i>Beth Greenaway (UKSA, CEOS Chair Team)</i></p>	15:50	10 min
9.7	<p>Proposal for the sustained presence of the topic of biodiversity within CEOS <i>[presentation]</i> <i>Biodiversity Study Team Co-Leads: Shaun Levick (CSIRO), Marc Paganini (ESA), and Gary Geller (NASA, remote)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft BST Report and Recommendation v1.2 Draft B-VC Terms of Reference v1.4 Draft B-VC Implementation Plan v1.1 Outcomes of the SIT Technical Workshop side meeting <u>Discussion:</u> The Biodiversity Study Team's proposal and recommendation document for the 2025 CEOS Plenary 	16:00	25 min
Session 10: Closing Session Moderator: Osamu Ochiai (SIT Chair Team, JAXA)			
10.1	<p>Review of Actions and Decisions <i>Matt Steventon (SIT Chair Team)</i></p>	16:25	15 min
10.2	<p>2025 CEOS Plenary Update <i>Beth Greenaway (CEOS Chair Team, UKSA)</i></p>	16:40	10 min

10.3	Thank you to Christine Bognar <i>Led by Marie-Claire Greening (ESA) on behalf of CEOS</i>	16:50	10 min
10.4	Closing Remarks <i>Osamu Ochiai (SIT Chair Team, JAXA)</i>	17:00	10 min
Adjournment of Day 2		17:10	

2025 CEOS SIT Technical Workshop Teleconference Lines

The 2025 SIT Technical Workshop will be held as a hybrid meeting, allowing attendance in person (encouraged) and remotely via teleconference. Side meeting remote attendance will be at the discretion of side meeting organisers, with connection links listed in the side meeting schedule.

Please Note: Connecting via the web link is strongly encouraged as this will provide a much richer online experience. The phone numbers have also been found to sometimes change, so if you run into problems with a particular number, please try another or use the web link.

The SIT Technical Workshop including side meetings will be held over three days, from September 9-11, 2025. The meeting will commence at 9 am local time (Darmstadt, Germany), which corresponds to the following times elsewhere in the world. Refer [here](#) for other regions.

Los Angeles	Washington D.C.	London	Local Time	Ahmedabad	Bangkok	Tokyo	Sydney
00:00	03:00	08:00	09:00	12:30	14:00	16:00	17:00