

# Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS)

## *CEOS Information System (Action Tracking Tool) and the New Proposed CEOS Website*

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# CEOS Information System (Action Tracking Tool) Status

- Two options are under consideration for the "CEOS Information System" to track CEOS actions (**next chart**)
- Up to this point, CEOS has been using an EXCEL spreadsheet (managed by Ivan).
- The long-term desire is to move toward a system that is more accessible and controlled and to make the reporting process easier.
- Desire to allow SBA Coordinators, Virtual Constellation Team Leads and Working Group Chairs (and possibly other authorized persons e.g. POC), to update CEOS actions (e.g. status, list of achievements, etc.) whenever needed and to ease the reporting to CEOS and GEO.
- The new system must accommodate the needs of "readers", "editors" and "administrators". Each has different needs and expectations.
- A set of reviewers was asked to provide feedback on the two options on Aug 25. Preliminary feedback has been received and a decision on the implementation options will be completed by the CEOS Plenary Meeting in November.



# CEOS Information System

## 2 Implementation Options

**CEOS Action Tracking System** Home

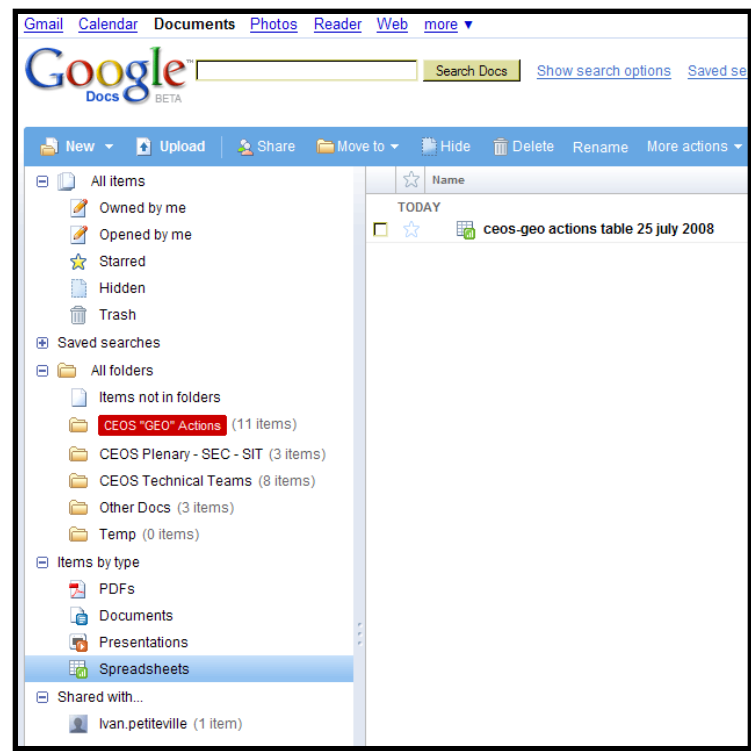
View CEOS-GEOS Actions | View GEOS Tasks | Editors | Administrators

Search:  [Export Table to Excel](#)

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CEOS-GEOS Action Number	Action Status (OPEN / CLOSED)	Primary SBA Addressed	Primary GEO Task	CEOS Action Category (1 to 4)	Action Description	Due Date	POC	Proposed Lead Agency	Planned Deliverables Milestones
AG-06-01_1	OPEN	Agriculture	AG-06-01	3	Notify GEO Task Team of the willingness of CEOS to participate in formulating the Agriculture SBA strategic plan, as needed. Brian added this comment ... test only	3/31/2008	Cristina Ananasso	ASI	
AG-06-02_1	OPEN	Agriculture	AG-06-02	3	CEOS participation in GEO Societal Applications in Fisheries & Aquaculture using Remote Sensing Imagery (SAFARI activity)	3/24/2008	TBD	TBD	
AG-06-04_1	OPEN	Agriculture	AG-06-04	3	Participate in Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010 (led by FAO), including contributing to methodology agreement.	4/30/2008	TBD	TBD	
AG-06-04_2	OPEN	Agriculture	AG-06-04	1	Provide the UN FAO Forest Resource Assessment 2010 (FRA2010) with the land surface image data, filling the holes in the primary Landsat data set	12/31/2009	Bryan Bailey	USGS	1. 2008 Date TBD ? FRA2010 Project to provide exact location and temporal information for data required to fill hole base data set. 2. 2008/09 Data TBD (depending on above) LSI Constellation Study



### Option 2: <http://docs.google.com/>

### Option 1: <http://wgiss.ceos.org:8080/CEOS/>

- \* Java-based implementation, hosted on the same server as the current WGISS website and the new CEOS website
- \* Includes EDITOR login feature for POC's to update accomplishments
- \* Includes ADMIN login feature for managing actions
- \* Includes column sorting and hiding, and Export to EXCEL

- \* Google-based implementation
- \* Similar to previous EXCEL table with complete user access and editing capability
- \* Located at the same place with other CEOS documentation and supporting documents for actions

### Option #1 – CEOS Server, Java-based

- **PROS:** controlled access and content editing, hosted on same server as the WGISS and CEOS website, EXCEL export; simple interface with few functions; easy filtering
- **CONS:** increased administrative burden; manual version control (administrator must save previous versions as needed); simple text editing with no special font or colors; limited web views; cannot resize columns or rows; screen width limited; hyperlinks not supported within cells; no find/replace function; poor printing (partial view only); EXCEL export file format is list and includes extra characters;

### Option #2 – Google Server, EXCEL-based

- **PROS:** controlled access, advanced text editor; previous versions are always kept on-line, all changes on any version are logged; implements almost all the Excel features, system administration is offered by Google (i.e. reliable and free of charge)
- **CONS:** some EXCEL features not available (e.g. different fonts cannot be used within a single cell), data resides on Google servers; powerful, yet complex filter functions

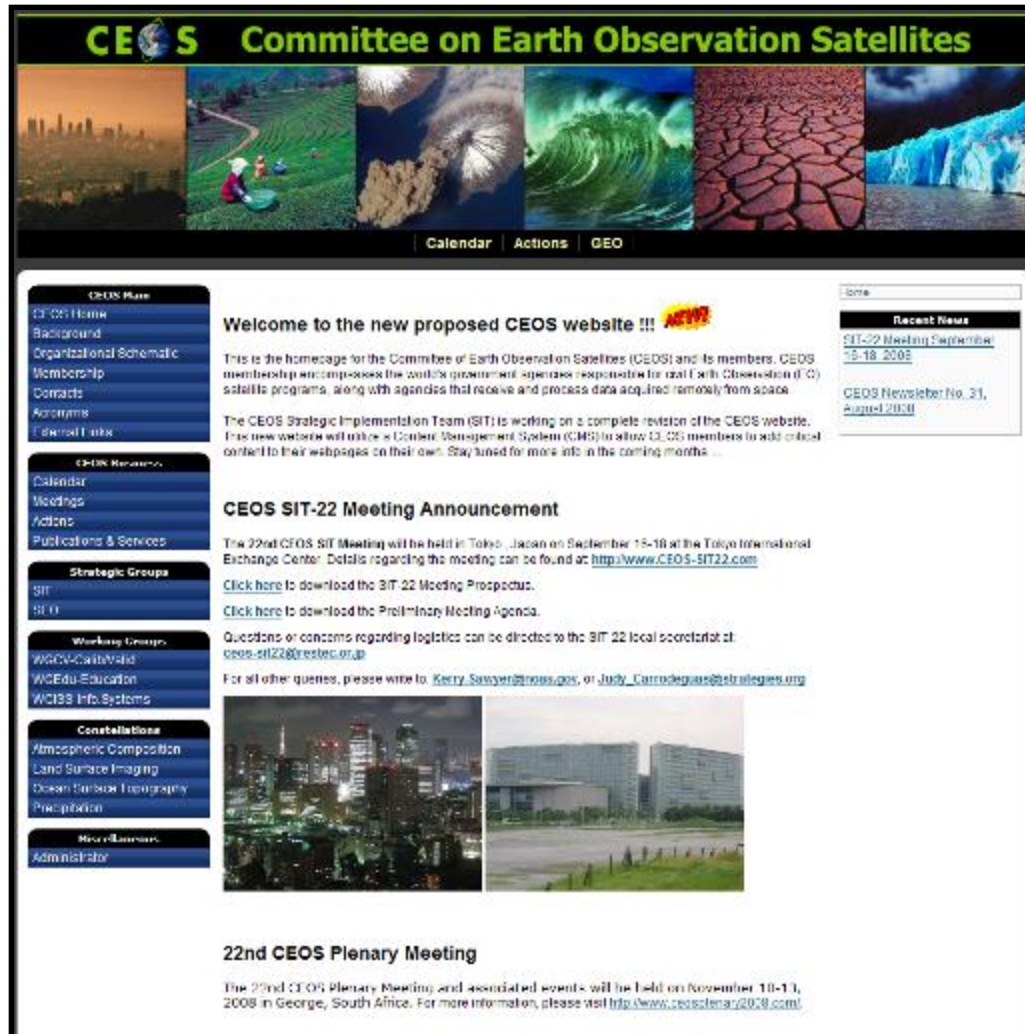
**NOTE: Either option would be accessible via a link from the CEOS website**

- Utilize Option-2 (Google-Docs) through December 2008, if there are no objections from the CEOS community.
  - The major drawback to this option is that the data is held on public Google servers, even though we have password control for access.
  - The major benefit to using this option is the EXCEL similarity and version control.
  
- CEO and SEO (primary users) will make a final decision in January 2008.
  - Continue to use the Google-Docs approach or migrate to Option-1 (CEOS server) following modifications for improved functionality.

- The SIT Team (NOAA lead) proposes to take over the responsibility of hosting the CEOS website. This was previously managed by JAXA and NASA.
- The new proposed website has been developed by the SEO (NASA) and temporarily hosted on the WGISS server. Much of the old CEOS content has been replicated and updated on the new site, along with new content for Constellations.
- The CEOS SIT team would like feedback from the CEOS users by October 18 to make a decision about using this implementation approach for the future.
- If approved, the new CEOS website would replace the old website by the CEOS Plenary Meeting in November. Until that time, the existing CEOS website ([www.ceos.org](http://www.ceos.org)) is still available and the "official" CEOS website.

## **Proposal for Discussion:**

- SIT (rotating leadership) responsible for content management, with the support of the CEO, SEO, and other appropriate CEOS groups.
- WGISS Infrastructure Support Project (WISP) responsible for hosting through 2011.



The screenshot shows the homepage of the new proposed CEOS website. At the top, it features the CEOS logo and the text "Committee on Earth Observation Satellites". Below this is a navigation bar with "Calendar", "Actions", and "GEO" links. The main content area includes a "Welcome to the new proposed CEOS website !!!" message, a "CEOS SIT-22 Meeting Announcement" section, and a "22nd CEOS Plenary Meeting" section. The left sidebar contains various menu items such as "CEOS Home", "Background", "Organizational Schematic", "Membership", "Contacts", "Acronyms", "External Links", "CEOS Meetings", "Calendar", "Meetings", "Actions", "Publications & Services", "Strategic Groups", "SIT", "SIT-1", "Working Groups", "WGON-Continental", "WGEdu-Education", "WGIBS-Inf. Systems", "Constellations", "Atmospheric Composition", "Land Surface Imaging", "Ocean Surface Topography", "Pre-processor", and "Miscellaneous", "Admin/Staff".

## Summary

- The website utilizes a Content Management System (CMS) approach called "Joomla".
- The "Joomla" approach requires less administrative burden and maintenance of content by users.
- The new site has improved access to CEOS content, direct links to Actions, GEO, and the CEOS calendar and provides needed content for Constellations.

**Visit the new website !!!**

**We welcome your feedback.**

<http://wgiss.ceos.org/ceos/joomla/>