

35th Meeting of the CEOS Strategic Implementation Team (SIT-35)
24th-26th March 2020
Hobart, Tasmania, Australia
ceos.org/meetings/sit-35

FIRST DRAFT OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

During preparations for its 2020-2021 SIT Chair Term, Team Australia has focused on the original vision for SIT, aiming to foster ***Principal-level discussion and decision making*** to bring resources to address the significant coordination challenges presented by the harmonisation of observing systems across space agencies. The approach to be taken is one of heightened attention on fewer priorities that reflect the major thrusts across civil EO programmes, priority needs identified during the previous SIT Chair term, recent CEOS Chair priorities, and requests from CEOS partners such as GEO and GCOS. A key goal of SIT-35 will be to secure in-principle support from CEOS Principals for concrete activities to be scoped in the lead up to the SIT Tech Workshop, to be debated and refined in detail during the SIT TW, and then presented to all Principals at the Plenary.

SIT-35 will focus on strategic topics and discussion aimed at identifying resources to escalate, elevate, and expedite existing CEOS Work Plan activities which directly support these major thrusts. SIT-35 will also trial a new type of session - 'Pitches' - which seek to inspire new contributions by providing an opportunity to briefly present potential new activities that CEOS should be aware of, or may be able to make a significant contribution to. SIT-35 will also include side meetings and a session to address the necessary on going business of running CEOS. This will be bookended later in the year by the ***SIT Technical Workshop, which will focus on more detailed working-level task coordination***. In addition to its function as a forum for CEOS Plenary preparations, it is expected that the Technical Workshop will provide opportunities for deeper dives into aspects of the CEOS Work Plan and priority tasks that would benefit most from face-to-face discussion.

During 2019 as SIT Vice Chair the team has listened across all CEOS meetings, as well as in multi-lateral and bi-lateral discussions with Principals, Agencies, and Working Team members to formulate priorities. These were presented at the 2019 Technical Workshop and CEOS Plenary, including during dedicated side meetings. The outcomes of this process can be found in the Plenary Presentation, with a summary of the priority areas below: [CSIRO/GA SIT Chair 2020-2021 Prospectus](#).

Week at a Glance

	Tuesday 24th	Wednesday 25th	Thursday 26th
Morning	CEOS SEC Side Meetings	Introduction, Special Reports, Pitches	Special Session (AI), ARD, CEOS-COAST Study Team, Work Plan 'Deep Dive'
Afternoon	Side Meetings	Climate, Carbon and Biomass, SDGs	VC Status, GEO and CEOS-GEO Coordination, CEOS Chair and TW Plans, Emerging Issues, Closing
Evening		Reception	

A detailed agenda will be developed for SIT-35 addressing a range of topics.

- **Pitch Session:** Seek to inspire new contributions by providing an opportunity to briefly present potential new activities that CEOS should be aware of, or may be able to make a significant contribution to.
- **Special Session on AI:** Updates from several CEOS agencies on their approaches to Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, and a discussion on the areas where CEOS coordination can add most value to agencies.
- **CEOS-COAST Study Team:** Progress report, including on forward work plan for the Study Team.
- **CEOS Work Plan ‘Deep Dive’:** Ensuring Principals have visibility of the breadth and depth of CEOS activities; Opportunity for ‘deep dives’ in to key updates/requests/issues for specific Work Plan items that require Principal attention.
- **Virtual Constellations Status Review:** A Review of Virtual Constellation issues not addressed by other topics and sessions; discussion of possible Plenary recommendations to ensure CEOS Virtual Constellations are fit for the future.
- **GEO Flagships and CEOS-GEO Coordination:** Update from GEO Secretariat, CEOS support to GEO Flagships (GEOGLAM, GFOI, GEOBON), debrief from the CEOS-GEO bilateral, consideration of role for WGCapD in supporting rollout of CEOS outputs via GEO Flagships and possibly Initiatives.
- **CEOS Chair Priorities:** Hear from CEOS Chair on the status of their priorities, CEO recruitment, GTOS status, and priorities and plans for Plenary.
- **Technical Workshop 2020:** Brief update on plans and format for CEOS Plenary.
- **Emerging Issues:** A brief discussion in the closing session reviewing any emerging issues that Principals wish to make each other aware of.

In addition sessions will be held on the three headlines identified at CEOS Plenary.

Carbon and Biomass Explore more integrated and proactive engagement among space agencies, the convention community, and the national inventories community, with a view to enhanced and accelerated policy relevance of CEOS agency data. The SIT-35 discussion will invite CEOS Principals to:

- ensure development of prototype GHG products are on track for the first global stocktake process in 2023;
- consider creation of a CEOS Roadmap on AFOLU observations, to complement the existing GHG Roadmap;
- discuss engagement of the end users from relevant communities through dedicated events in 2020 (e.g. TW, JRC Workshop); and
- discuss how to realise the benefits of the forthcoming CEOS Biomass Protocol (developed by the WGCV LPV).



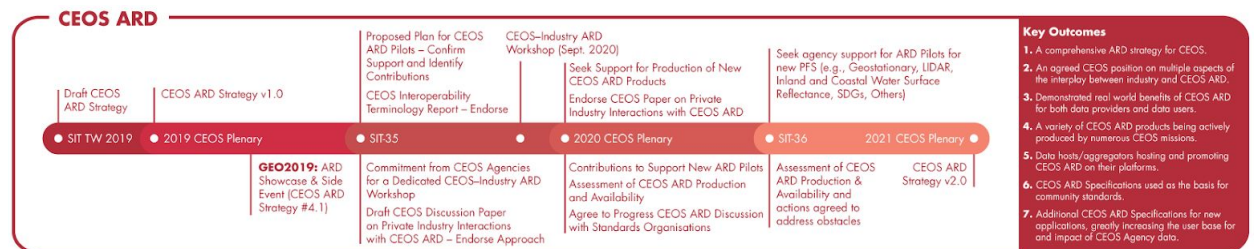
Sustainable Development Goals Share Principals views during a 'tour de table' on existing challenges in relation to data coordination and methodology development support for the SDGs, and discuss how CEOS Agencies can best coordinate in support of the SDG process. Receive a brief report of the SDG AHT on progress against the [Work Plan for the SDGs](#) endorsed at CEOS Plenary, including on the coordination of individual agency contributions to GEO's SDG Toolbox (e.g. best practice, methods, demonstrations, ARD products). The SIT-35 discussion will invite CEOS Principals to:

- acknowledge existing efforts to support GEO (EO4SDG);
- reinforce willingness to coordinate contributions to technical work required on identified 'low hanging fruit' SDGs, either via GEO or a CEOS mechanism; and,
- discuss CEOS support the SDG AHT in its transition towards the Plenary by either establishing a permanent mechanism, or disbanding the AHT with a clear alternative plan (e.g. agency support via GEO EO4SDG).



Analysis Ready Data SIT-35 is the first major milestone since the endorsement of the [CEOS ARD Strategy](#) at CEOS Plenary, and is an important opportunity to maintain momentum, and assess, direct and consider resources that have been proposed by CEOS groups. The SIT-35 discussion will invite CEOS Principals to:

- consider opportunities for expansion of the CEOS ARD concept to other thematic areas and applications;
- discuss feedback on the first draft/outline of a paper on private industry interactions with CEOS ARD;
- hear initial plans for and discuss the CEOS-Industry Workshop on CEOS ARD – planned for September 2020;
- discuss feedback on the CEOS Interoperability Terminology Report; and,
- consider support for proposals for CARD4L pilots and the associated trial supply of CARD4L.



SIT-35 Agenda Outline

Day 1 - Wednesday 25th	Day 2 - Thursday 26th
Welcome and Introductions	Special Session on AI
Special briefing on AusCalVal (CSIRO) and ESA Ministerial (ESA), SEO Report	ARD
Photo and Break	Break
Pitch Session (by invitation of SIT Chair)	CEOS-COAST
	CEOS Work Plan 'Deep Dive'
Lunch	Lunch
Climate, carbon and biomass	Virtual Constellation Status Review
	GEO Flagships and CEOS-GEO Coordination
Break	Break
SDGs	Closing Session: CEOS Chair, TW plans, emerging issues, actions
Reception	