



**Committee on
Earth Observation Satellites**

Working Teams All Hands Call - Brief Summary

8/9 December 2020

Chair

Jonathon Ross, CSIRO/GA SIT Chair Team Coordinator

Participants

AC-VC:	Barry Lefer, Hiroshi Tanimoto
LSI-VC:	Steve Labahn
OSVW-VC:	Paul Chang
OCR-VC:	-
OST-VC:	-
P-VC:	Chris Kidd
SST-VC:	Ed Armstrong, Christo Whittle
WGCapD:	Nancy Searby, Lauren Childs
WGClimate:	Albrecht von Bargen, Jeff Privette
WGCV:	Akihiko Kuze, Philippe Goryl
WGDisasters:	David Green, Dave Borges
WGISS:	Rob Woodcock, Makoto Natsuisaka
SDG-AHT:	-
CEOS-COAST Study Team:	Paul DiGiacomo, Merrie Beth Neely
COVERAGE:	Jorge Vazquez, Vardis Tsontos
SIT Co-Chair and Team:	Adam Lewis, Jonathon Ross, Andreia Siqueira
SIT Chair Support Team:	Stephen Ward, Matt Steventon, George Dyke
CEO:	Kerry Sawyer, Marie-Claire Greening (Incoming CEO)
SEO:	Brian Killough
Others:	Tim Stryker, Yasha Moz

Actions for Working Teams

1. Working Teams to consider nominating in response to the call for expressions of interest in the Earth Analytics Interoperability Lab (EAIL) Board of Stakeholders.
2. Working Teams/Agencies interested in hosting an EAIL node on their infrastructure to reach out to Rob Woodcock and/or Brian Killough (CEOS SEO).
3. Working Teams to consider nominating for the team that will review the CEOS ARD Framework (Definition, Specifications and processes around CEOS ARD) for completeness and suitability (including looking at changes that make it amenable to non-land domains). Nominations should be submitted to the SIT Chair Team <sit-chair@lists.ceos.org> and Ed Armstrong <edward.m.armstrong@jpl.nasa.gov>.

Brief Notes

Introduction (Jono, SIT Chair Team Coordinator)

- Adam and Jono welcomed everyone and thanked all CEOS Working Teams for their hard work during a challenging year, including participation in the various virtual meetings which have been critical for continuity of discussion.

SIT TW and CEOS Plenary Debrief

- Significant attention to the UNFCCC Global Stocktake process. A coordination call convened tomorrow by the SIT Chair Team.
- Comments on the final draft of the CEOS Plenary minutes are due by COB Friday the 11th of December.
- CEOS Biomass Protocol comments are due 15 December.
- SDG AHT was extended for one more year at Plenary, with the expectation that the group will come to Plenary 2021 with a recommended permanent solution.
- The expansion of the CEOS ARD Framework beyond land was discussed, and has been initiated.
- NASA has assumed the CEOS Chair role, led by Karen St Germain. Comments on the CEOS Chair priorities are welcome until 15 December.

CEOS 2021-2023 Work Plan

- Marie-Claire will be leading this 'light touch' update to the previous version. The plan is to have the update ready for virtual endorsement on the usual cycle, early March.

Possible CEOS Contribution to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) (Vardis/Jorge, Paul)

- Joint presentation for COVERAGE and COAST. ([Click here](#).)
- UN-IOC mandated by the UN General Assembly to lead this activity. The hope is to improve societal outcomes for the oceans as well as to support the SDGs.

- The Decade has identified Science Challenges and Priorities identified across various themes and applications, a number of which are applicable to COVERAGE and COAST. The official launch event is May 2021.
- Calls have been issued for large-scale, multi-country, transformative projects ('Ocean Shots') as contributions. A couple of COAST pilots identified as potential contributions.
- Both COVERAGE and COAST interested in collaborating to do this, as well as a chance to engage other groups like VCs.
- Initial response from CEOS sent by the SIT Chair to IOC back in June. COVERAGE and COAST teams continuing discussions with CEOS leadership, GEO, etc. regarding potential contributions. Was raised at Plenary with an action recorded.
- Looking for further CEOS discussion and decision on interest in involvement, the groups to be involved, potential contributions, and the organizational structure needed to support what is envisaged as a low footprint activity within CEOS.
- IOC First Call to Action is due by 14 January 2021 – COAST will lead with COVERAGE collaboration.
- Recent discussions between COAST (Paul Di Giacomo) with GOOS and Coast Predict. There is interest in coordinating a joint activity with CEOS. Paul will have a meeting next week to flesh out the possibilities.
- Paul has volunteered to be the CEOS point of contact for the Decade, but this needs to be coordinated. Adam noted SIT Chair Team would be happy with a CEOS point of contact, with a pathway for CEOS leadership oversight and reporting, and would welcome the development of this idea.
- Jorge suggested discussing how to develop the communication infrastructure between the Ocean VCs and the Decade of the Oceans as an internal CEOS outcome of this engagement.

[Earth Analytics Interoperability Lab \(EAIL\) \(Rob Woodcock, Brian Killough\) \(Click here for slides.\)](#)

- The Lab is jointly operated by WGISS and SEO, and provides working examples of Future Data Architectures. Onboarding for Lab users is expected to begin in January.
- There is a call for expressions of interest to join a small board of EAIL stakeholders. Commitment is quarterly.
- If agencies or groups would like to provide additional EAIL nodes running on their infrastructure, in pursuit of interoperability across agencies, then the EAIL team would be interested in discussing.
- Interoperability experiments around EO ARD discovery and access (incl. STAC), cloud native data formats for EO (workshop in early 2021), and ARD processing pipelines (e.g., Sentinel-1 SAR ARD).

[CEOS ARD Extension Beyond Land \(Ed Armstrong\) \(Click here for slides.\)](#)

- High-level definition of CEOS ARD ([here](#)) should be broadly applicable to all domains.
- Ed presented a preliminary set of points that a study team might like to start with when considering the expansion of the CARD4L Framework. There are a number of issues that need to be addressed

when it comes to applying CEOS ARD to Level 2 and 3 SST data, for example. He presented concerns from COAST, COVERAGE and the AC-VC ([slides here](#)).

- There is an action from CEOS Plenary for the SIT Chair and Ed Armstrong (SST-VC Co-Lead) to form a team of experts to review the CEOS ARD Framework (Definition, Specifications and processes around CEOS ARD) for completeness and suitability (including looking at changes that make it amenable to non-land domains). Ed is seeking nominations for this group today.
- New PFS are anticipated for new domains and products. The Aquatic Reflectance PFS is a good example of how a group has adapted an existing PFS (Surface Reflectance) for their specific needs. The possibility of creating new PFS is perhaps something that needs to be formalised. The CARD4L Framework is only loosely defined and this could perhaps be formalised in a governance document. Adam Lewis agreed that we need to better define the governance/framework to avoid confusion and make the intent clear.
- Philippe Goryl (ESA, WGCV Co-Chair) suggested that CEOS needs to define how product Levels relate to the CARD4L PFS. He added that WGCV is interested in engaging in the CARD4L Framework team.
- Chris Kidd (NASA) reported that P-VC is interested in participating in the CARD4L Framework team. He noted that most of their datasets are currently considered 'ARD'.
- A kick-off call for the CARD4L Framework team is anticipated in mid-January. A poll will be sent to everyone that has indicated interest in participating to seek a time for the call.

CEOS Carbon Strategy (Stephen)

- Brief recap of the history of the Carbon Strategy and heads up to possible agenda items at SIT-36 with Mark Dowell. SIT Chair Team would like to sound out Working Teams on their enthusiasm to progress actions. ([Click here for slides.](#))
- 42 Actions identified in the 2014 Carbon report - cross-cutting across multiple VCs and WGs.
- Last status check was at the 2019 CEOS Plenary.
- Mark Dowell has offered to consider agenda item for SIT-36 to update the status of our various activities
- Working Teams may be asked to provide updates and to consider supporting a revitalisation of the tracking and reporting - this is a 'Heads up'.

2021 Planning (Jono)

CEOS-GEO Bilateral

CEOS-GEO Bilateral 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Early February• Very informal• Virtual• 2 Short Sessions<ul style="list-style-type: none">• (Virtual friendly)• Core CEOS Participants:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SIT Co-Chairs• CEOS Chair Team• CEO• SEO• SIT Vice-Chair• Prep Leads:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CEO/SIT Chair Team• GEOSEC CEOS Liaison
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Science - CEOS Chair priority, Open Science Statement and the GEO Knowledge Hub• Open Earth Alliance and Data Cubes• Analysis Ready Data and Cloud - status, activities• In situ - Biomass Reference Network• Capacity Building – EOTEC• Dashboards (beyond COVID)• Disasters - emerging activities and ensuring linkages• Climate - Global Stocktake Preparation• Marine – COAST; Decade of Ocean Science• GEO Urban Resilience - scoping and links

- Asking CEOS Working Teams to identify items for SIT Chair to take up with GEOSEC.
- Jorge suggested adding COVERAGE to the 'Marine' item.

Continuation of VC Chats and WT All Hands calls

- SIT Chair Team planning to continue VC Chats and All Hands calls next year. Welcome feedback and suggestions, in particular around the All Hands calls.

SIT-36 and Technical Workshop

- SIT-36 will be virtual, and the current default plan for Technical Workshop 2021 is that it will be virtual.
- Planning for SIT-36 will be initiated in the new year. Suggestions for agenda topics or issues from Working Teams welcome.

AOB and Conclusion

- Kerry noted that her CEOS Executive Officer term ends at the end of the year. She thanked the CEOS community for their support. Jono thanked Kerry for her service over the past year and all those previous.