

Terms of Reference: CEOS Ecosystem Extent Task Team

Purpose: To assess the utility for mapping Ecosystem Extent using current and new space-based observations that will become available in the next 10 years.

As a forum for national and international organizations focused on space-based EO, CEOS is uniquely positioned to explore how the capabilities that current and forthcoming missions can bring can support user needs for mapping ecosystem extent. CEOS can further assist by coordinating leadership of these capabilities relevant to biodiversity measurement from space.

Organization: Individuals nominated by CEOS members and associates as well as invited experts compose the Ecosystem Extent Task Team. Agencies will nominate two, ideally three leads for the team. Other CEOS members and/or entities may be asked to attend as and when required.

Objectives: The Ecosystem Extent Task Team's objectives are to:

1. Develop a white paper that will provide an integrated international perspective on how space-based Earth observations can be used to support ecosystem mapping and monitoring with a focus on ecosystem extent.
2. Develop specific ideas to further the concepts in the white paper.
3. Explore and propose an initiative to demonstrate the use of EO for ecosystem extent mapping and monitoring.

Planning, Implementation, and Reporting:

- Be the principal interface for the definition of CEOS initiatives in Ecosystem Extent mapping and monitoring.
- Report to CEOS leadership at major meetings (i.e., SIT Meeting, SIT Technical Workshop, and CEOS Plenary) on matters requiring discussion or decision to ensure that there is Principal support for new CEOS initiatives.
- The leads for the Ecosystem Extent Task Team may be invited to report to the CEOS Secretariat teleconferences at the invitation of the CEOS Chair or SIT Chair.
- Work with the CEO and the CEOS Secretariat to ensure well-prepared and coordinated planning and reporting.

These Terms of Reference can be amended or modified only after consultation and agreement by the CEOS Chair and the SIT Chair. The amendment process should include a review of other CEOS guiding documents that will be affected by the amendment or modification to ensure that all of the guiding documents are consistent and mutually supporting. Such amendment or modification shall require review and approval by the CEOS Plenary.