LSI-VC-20 & CEOS-ARD Oversight Group Actions and Decisions

14-16 September 2026

Decisions

ARD OG Decision	Collaborative editing capabilities for the CEOS-ARD PFS Building Block editor will be deprioritised, as the number of concurrent collaborators would be limited and very infrequent.
LSI-VC-20 Decision 01	Agreed to continue reinstating partial Goal compliance, with the following elements agreed: • Panels will not be required for partial Goal assessments, only for a full Goal assessment, as is currently the case. The peer reviewer will contact relevant experts within the CEOS-ARD Oversight Group or the broader CEOS community should there be any requirements which need additional expertise. • No weighting will be placed against individual requirements, the outcome will simply be a percentage showing the total number of Goal requirements met. • The spider-web / radar chart was agreed as the preferred approach to communicate partial goal compliance.
LSI-VC-20 Decision 02	Agreed to an internal (soft) deadline of the end of next year to get CEOS-ARD into the process to be accepted as an OGC Community Standard, pending discussion with Scott Simmons (see LSI-VC-20 Action 03).
LSI-VC-20 Decision 03	Endorsed the new version of the combined SAR PFS built on the CEOS-ARD Building Blocks, as well as the corresponding versions of the individual SAR PFS.
LSI-VC-20 Decision 04	Endorsed v6.0.0 of the CEOS-ARD Surface Temperature PFS and v1.0.0 of the CEOS-ARD Surface Brightness Temperature PFS.
LSI-VC-20 Decision 05	Regarding the layout of the PFS, the following was agreed: • The changelog will be placed at the end, and only changes since the last major version will be listed. • A table of contents should be included. • The sentence that reads 'this version contains breaking changes!' should be more descriptive, noting it requires reassessment of products to have compliance. • Patch (editorial) changes will not be listed in the changelog.
LSI-VC-20	LSI-VC-21 will be hosted in the Washington D.C. area, USA (either NASA GSFC, USGS

Decision 06	HQ, or UMD) from 14-16 April 2027.

LSI-VC-20 Actions

LSI-VC-20 Action 01	CEOS-ARD Secretariat to prepare and maintain a list of PFS Leads. Assignments should be communicated to the community and checked regularly. The assignments will serve as the basis for assignment of PFS oversight roles on GitHub. These people should be active members and participants in the CEOS-ARD Oversight Group and this mechanism needs to be added to the new CEOS-ARD Governance Framework.	**ASAP**
LSI-VC-20 Action 02	Matt Adams, Ivana Ivanova and Matthias Mohr to explore how the standards reference objects can be implemented in the Building Blocks.	**LSI-VC-21**
LSI-VC-20 Action 03	In the frame of the OGC Domain Working Group, Siri Jodha to explore with Scott Simmons (OGC) the procedure for CEOS-ARD to become a community standard.	**First OGC ARD DWG meeting**
LSI-VC-20 Action 04	Peter Strobl to review the term definitions proposed by Sumit for the UML diagram. Boundary and Extent in particular need to be clarified and reflected in the CEOS Glossary. Definitions for resolution also need to be refined in the EO Glossary (i.e., specifying spatial, temporal, radiometric).	**December 2026**
LSI-VC-20 Action 05	LSI-VC Secretariat to add new definitions/terminology from the ST/SBT PFS update to the CEOS Glossary.	**December 2026**
LSI-VC-20 Action 06	Matt Steventon to update the CEOS-ARD website with the new SAR, Surface Temperature and Surface Brightness Temperature PFS. Matthias to provide final versions of the PFS for upload after addressing editorial decisions from LSI-VC-20 (see Decision 06).	**ASAP**
LSI-VC-20 Action 07	LSI-VC Secretariat to review the proposals made by the Surface Temperature update team for wider adoption across other PFS, and incorporate into the PFS consistency work. Raise GitHub issues for awareness and tracking.	**December 2026**

LSI-VC-20 Action 08	LSI-VC Leads and Secretariat to work with NASA HLS team to address PFS issues related to composite products and inheritance of features that are impacting the HLS self-assessment. This dataset has raised some new issues for consideration around composite products, inheritance of compliance information from lower level inputs, and whether an entire collection needs to be reprocessed for compliance or whether forward compliance is sufficient.	**LSI-VC-21**
LSI-VC-20 Action 09	Ake Rosenqvist and Bruce Chapman to develop a proposal to resolve the issue with the gridding requirement for NISAR, and present it to the SAR PFS authors for discussion and approval.	**LSI-VC-21**
LSI-VC-20 Action 10	LSI-VC Forests & Biomass Subgroup to coordinate with NRCan regarding potential CEOS actions that might encourage the release of additional RADARSAT archive data over the Amazon and other high priority forest areas, as well as processing of the entire Radarsat-1 catalogue to CEOS-ARD.	**LSI-VC-21**
LSI-VC-20 Action 11	Ake Rosenqvist and Matt Steventon to review how CEOS-ARD SAR products are represented on the CEOS-ARD website, noting there is often a large number of different products, modes, etc. per mission.	**LSI-VC-21**
LSI-VC-20 Action 12	Peter Strobl, Chris Barnes and Ferran Gascon to provide the names of EC, USGS, and ESA Evapotranspiration (ET) experts to support the LSI-VC GEOGLAM Subgroup in creating an ET CEOS-ARD PFS. Other agencies are invited to nominate experts to support the effort. Names are to be provided to LSI-VC Secretariat.	**October 2026**
LSI-VC-20 Action 13	LSI-VC Secretariat to set up quarterly meetings for the GEOGLAM Subgroup and mobilise work around the new Evapotranspiration focus area.	**October 2026**
LSI-VC-20 Action 14	Mariane Reis to follow up the status of the claimed INPE CBERS-4 'CEOS-ARD' product that feeds into the Brazilian Data Cube and, if applicable, initiate the process for a formal CEOS-ARD self-assessment.	**LSI-VC-21**

LSI-VC-20 Action 15	Dave Borges to connect Jed Sundwall (Radiant Earth Foundation/Cloud Native Geospatial (CNG) Forum) to the NOSA CEOS Chair Team regarding a potential CNG event aligned with the 2027 CEOS Plenary.	**CEOS Plenary 2026**
LSI-VC-20 Action 16	Matthias Mohr to review and revise the development roadmap for CEOS-ARD GitHub, STAC, and assessment tools. It would be helpful if this included a general timeline and estimate of effort required for each milestone. Once updated, distribute to the CEOS-ARD Oversight Group for review and confirmation of development priorities.	**December 2026**
LSI-VC-20 Action 17	CEOS-ARD SAR group to review the CEOS-ARD SAR STAC extension and determine necessary next steps to update it.	**LSI-VC-21**
LSI-VC-20 Action 18	Chris Barnes to coordinate USGS support for CEOS-ARD STAC development, noting alignment with Collection 3 goals. Also, connect Megan Rush to Matthias Mohr and the STAC Project Steering Committee. *<u>Note:</u> Within 9-12 months, we should aim to have a more coordinated approach on CEOS-ARD and STAC. This would be timely for Collection 3 definition.*	**LSI-VC-21**
LSI-VC-20 Action 19	LSI-VC Secretariat to follow up with the FAO team regarding a list of STAC metadata fields which are required by SEPAL, for input to the CEOS-ARD STAC definition, as well as to support Landsat Collection 3 development.	**October 2026**
LSI-VC-20 Action 20	Matthias Mohr to organise for USGS to present a Landsat STAC update to STAC Project Steering Committee.	**LSI-VC-21**
LSI-VC-20 Action 21	LSI-VC Secretariat to lock in a venue for the LSI-VC-21 meeting, 14-16 April 2027 and circulate an announcement to the mailing lists.	**October 2026**

CEOS-ARD Oversight Group Meeting Actions

CEOS-ARD	Peter Strobl to initiate work with Dominik Weckmüller to align the glossary that appears in the current PFS with the CEOS EO	**LSI-VC-21**

Sept 2026 Action 01	Glossary, with a view to eliminating the PFS glossary and instead pointing readers to a complete and consolidated CEOS EO Glossary. This central role of the CEOS EO Glossary should be noted in the CEOS-ARD Governance Framework.	
CEOS-ARD Sept 2026 Action 02	Matthias Mohr to draft some language for the CEOS-ARD GitHub around how both CEOS members and external reviewers can provide comments on PFS Building Blocks. If possible, develop some mechanism to notify PFS lead editors when a comment is made on a corresponding Building Block in GitHub.	**LSI-VC-21**
CEOS-ARD Sept 2026 Action 03	Everyone to review the new geospatial representation requirements proposed by Peter Strobl and Ferran Gascon. Attention should also be given to applicability for relevant products and potential for breaking changes to emerge. *Note: Aim to get a PFS update implemented ASAP as this is holding up a number of assessments.*	**5 October 2026**
CEOS-ARD Sept 2026 Action 04	LSI-VC Secretariat to convene the Aquatic Reflectance PFS team to review the necessity of references throughout the PFS requirements, as well as the note under the 'products and algorithms' heading that specifies that all corrections should come with a citable reference. Eliminating this would make alignment of the PFS easier.	**LSI-VC-21**
CEOS-ARD Sept 2026 Action 05	Ake Rosenqvist to convene the SAR PFS team to answer: • Should the Auxiliary Data Threshold requirement also be adopted by the SAR PFS at Threshold level, rather than Goal. • Whether the proposed change to break up the product Data Access requirement into two separate requirements (one for data access, one for the processing details) is acceptable. • Whether the team accepts the proposed changes resulting from the Development Sprint to the requirements for item 3.8 (Geographical Area) and Metadata Machine Readability.	**LSI-VC-21**

CEOS-ARD Sept 2026 Action 06	Matthias to review the differences across the PFS for radiometric accuracy, noting it is called 'Measurand Uncertainty' in the Surface Temperature PFS. The change from 'accuracy' to 'uncertainty' is a key point, first corrected in Aquatic Reflectance PFS v2.	**December 2026**
CEOS-ARD Sept 2026 Action 07	Ferran Gascon and Chris Barnes to review the Atmospheric Correction requirement across all optical PFS and make a proposal to harmonise these. NLSR lumps this requirement into one, whereas SR deals with components individually. Could be simplified to only ask that atmospheric correction is applied and the approach communicated.	**December 2026**
CEOS-ARD Sept 2026 Action 08	Chris Barnes to check all compliant Surface Reflectance products to see if they are in agreement with the ISO 8601 specification for Data Collection Time. Otherwise, this proposed change will be a breaking change and needs further scrutiny.	**December 2026**
CEOS-ARD Sept 2026 Action 09	CEOS-ARD PFS leads to consider whether all PFS should report their measurand units under the Traceability requirement.	**LSI-VC-21**
CEOS-ARD Sept 2026 Action 10	Yves Coene to check with WGISS leadership regarding whether CEOS-ARD compliant commercial data should be added to the WGISS Connected Data Assets.	**LSI-VC-21**
CEOS-ARD Sept 2026 Action 11	CEOS-ARD Secretariat to prepare another update of the CEOS-ARD Governance Framework to address the outstanding issues from LSI-VC-20/CEOS-ARD Development Sprint and Oversight Group Meeting.	**November 2026**
CEOS-ARD Sept 2026 Action 12	Peter Strobl, Ferran Gascon, Chris Barnes and Ake Rosenqvist to refine the geometry terms in the new CEOS-ARD Product Level Categorisation that features in the new CEOS-ARD Governance Framework, ensuring consistency with the newly proposed geospatial representation requirements.	**LSI-VC-21**
CEOS-ARD Sept 2026 Action 13	Everyone to review the CEOS-ARD Strategy initiative spreadsheet, specifically the required skills defined for each task in column O.	**9 October 2026**

CEOS-ARD PFS Consistency Sprint Conclusions

Requirement	Decision(s)
Various / General	Change all "provide as URL or DOI", to "in the metadata or as a machine and human readable persistent identifier, e.g. DOI". Ensure 'identifier' is defined in the glossary aligned with the WGISS Persistent Identifier Best Practice.
Data Access	Adopt a generic Data Access block by removing mention of 'source' from the building block "daccess". SAR PFS will maintain an override so 'product' and 'source' remain distinct, since they map to XML metadata fields. Threshold requirement: "The location from where the data can be retrieved is identified, in the metadata or as a machine and human readable persistent identifier, e.g. DOI". Notes: "Manual or offline action (e.g., registration or login) may be required." Optical PFS will adopt the Goal requirement for data access as defined by SAR. SAR PFS team will confirm whether the proposed change to break up the product Data Access requirement into two separate requirements (one for data access, one for the processing details) is acceptable (see action *CEOS-ARD Sept 2026 Action 05*).
Directional Atmospheric Scattering	SR will adopt the AR Threshold description for Directional Atmospheric Scattering. An override for AR will be created such that the notes still read 'see @mobley2016'.
Auxiliary Data	Adopt Threshold description: "Lists the sources of auxiliary data used in the generation process, in the metadata or as a machine and human readable persistent identifier, e.g. DOI" Notes: "Auxiliary data includes DEMs, and any additional data sources used in the generation of the product." SAR will adopt the same requirement as above, but at the Goal level. For optical Goal level: "As threshold, but auxiliary data should be freely accessible online."
Coordinate Reference System	Adopt Threshold description: "The metadata lists the map projection (or geographical coordinates, if applicable) that was used and any relevant parameters required to geolocate data in that map projection, expressed in a standardised format (e.g., WKT). Indicate EPSG code, if defined for the CRS."

Requirement	Decision(s)
Map Projection	Remove this requirement for optical PFS since it has been merged with the Coordinate Reference System requirement.
Geographical Area	No decision made. Awaiting further review by the SAR team (see action *CEOS-ARD Sept 2026 Action 05* above*)*.
Instrument	Adopt the following: Threshold: "The instrument used to collect the data is identified: - Satellite name - Instrument name" Goal: "As threshold, with references to the relevant [CEOS Missions, Instruments, and Measurements (MIM) database] (https://ceos.org/mim-database) record."
Metadata Machine Readability	Adopt the following: Threshold: "Metadata is provided in a structure that enables a computer algorithm to be used to consistently and automatically identify and extract each component variable for further use." Goal: "As threshold, but metadata is provided in a community endorsed standard that facilitates machine-readability, such as preferably CEOS-ARD Metadata Specifications, or ISO 19115-2, STAC, the Climate and Forecast (CF) convention, or the Attribute Convention for Data Discovery (ACDD). Agreed to remove this requirement from the Per-pixel Metadata section, as it is redundant with what appears in the General Metadata section.
Radiometric Accuracy	No decision made. Await further review of the differences. See action *CEOS-ARD Sept 2026 Action 06* above.
Sensor Calibration	Adopt the following: Threshold: "Sensor must be calibrated" Goal: "Sensor calibration parameters are identified or can be accessed using details included in the metadata. Ideally this would support machine-to-machine access." Agreed to delete the notes that appear in the NLSR and SR PFS.
Corrections for Atmosphere	Agreed to change title to Atmospheric Corrections. The content of the requirement requires further review, see action *CEOS-ARD Sept 2026 Action 07*.
Data	Agreed to use 'acquisition' instead of 'collection' since the latter can be confused

Requirement	Decision(s)
Collection Time	with archive collections. Further harmonisation awaits review as to whether all currently compliant SR products use the ISO 8601 specification for data collection time (see action *CEOS-ARD Sept 2026 Action 08* above).
Traceability	Agreed to change title to 'Metrological Traceability of the Measurand'. Agreed to add an override for the AR Threshold requirement that specifically defines the units of the measurand. Further harmonisation awaits consideration of whether other PFS will ask for specific measurand units. This is complicated by the fact that this will inherently differ for every PFS, impacting the ability to harmonise the PFS.