

What is the Working Group on Capacity Building and Data Democracy?

Created in 2011, WGCapD undertakes activities based on the four pillars of the Data Democracy Initiative Mission and aims to unify CEOS efforts toward:

- Providing wider and easier access to Earth Observation data
- Increasing the sharing of software tools such as the use of open source software and open systems interface
- Increasing data dissemination capabilities and transferring relevant technologies to end users
- Providing intensive capacity building, education, and training (including awareness and outreach) for enabling end users to gather the information they need and for increasing communication on achieved results

What is the Working Group on Disasters?

WGDisasters ensures the sustained coordination of disaster-related activities undertaken by the CEOS Agencies and acts as an interface between CEOS and the community of stakeholders and users involved in risk management and disaster reduction. The main objectives of the WG are:

- To support the efforts of DRM authorities in protecting lives and safeguarding property by means of satellite-based EO and science-based analyses
- To foster increased use of EO in support of DRM
- To support the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for DRR, and in particular contribute to its Priority 1 “Understanding Risk”
- To raise the awareness of politicians, decision-makers, and major stakeholders of the benefits of using satellite EO in all phases of DRM.

Past collaborations between the two working groups include:

- Joint session during WG annual meetings (conducted in March 2019):
http://ceos.org/document_management/Working_Groups/WGCapD/Meetings/WGCapD-8-2019/Day2_Items20-43/40_Zoffoli_SynergyWithWGDisasters_v2.pptx
- Discussions about past WGCapD-organized disaster-related workshops and webinars

Opportunities for future collaborations include:

- GEO/LEO/SAR integration discussions have identified potential opportunities for joint capacity building activities
- Ongoing capacity development activities within individual WGDisasters Pilot and Demonstrator activities could be coordinated or advertised through WGCapD channels.
 - Example: [WGDisasters GeoHazards Lab Geohazards Exploitation Platform \(GEP\) Capacity Building in Palu, Sulawesi – Indonesia](#).