

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 Information Systems and Services?

WGISS, a subsidiary body supporting CEOS, was formed in 1995. WGISS promotes collaboration in the development of systems and services that manage and supply Earth observation data. WGISS creates and demonstrates prototypes supporting CEOS and Group on Earth Observation (GEO) requirements. WGISS also addresses the internal management of Earth observation, the creation of information systems and the delivery of interoperable services. The activities and expertise of WGISS span the full range of the information lifecycle from the requirements and metadata definition for the initial ingestion of satellite data into archives through to the incorporation of derived information into end-user applications.

WGISS provides support to four focus areas: data preservation, data access, data use and technology exploration. Overall goals are to:

- Enable Earth observation data and information to be more accessible and usable to both data providers and data users world-wide through international coordination
- Foster easier exchange of Earth observation and related data and information to meet the requirements of users and data providers
- Foster the development of best practices and encourage the development of interoperable services that exploit space-borne Earth observation data
- Enhance the complementarity, interoperability and standardization of Earth observation data and information management and services with other types of geospatial data such as in-situ data

Past collaborations between the two working groups include:

- FDA-05: Future Data Architecture Awareness Webinar: <http://ceos.org/meetings/future-data-access-analysis-architecture-initiative/>

Opportunities for current and future collaborations include:

- CB-45: Jupyter Notebooks Awareness Webinar
- CB-47: Metadata Standards Tiger Team
- Follow-on FDA webinar