## CEOS WG Disasters T38 Summary Minutes of Meeting

(edited Zoom AI generated record of meeting as of June 5th, 2025)

The meeting covered various agenda items, including updates on ongoing initiatives, discussions about future projects, and organizational matters. For a record of actions from the meeting, see Excel action tracker. Participants reviewed the status of several working groups and pilots, such as the Recovery Observatory, GVS program, and wildfire and flood pilots, while also exploring potential collaborations and new initiatives. The group concluded by finalizing details for the upcoming meeting in Bariloche and discussing leadership transitions within the working group on disasters.

## Next steps

* [Andrew to send a message to the working group list reminding people to share interesting information with Antonio for updating the generic presentation.](https://us06tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=NjanLd5dRHSzuUM7eFzcJA%3D%3D&stepId=9d21f55e-4204-11f0-a366-9e85d3daeb97)
* [Laura to raise at the SEC meeting that a drought proposal is being prepared and call for interest from agencies.](https://us06tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=NjanLd5dRHSzuUM7eFzcJA%3D%3D&stepId=9d21fb30-4204-11f0-a366-9e85d3daeb97)
* [Andrew to send out a message after the meeting confirming the next meeting will be held in Bariloche, reminding people of the dates, and asking them to contact Anna for registration.](https://us06tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=NjanLd5dRHSzuUM7eFzcJA%3D%3D&stepId=9d21fdc4-4204-11f0-a366-9e85d3daeb97)
* [Anna to prepare a registration form for the Bariloche meeting that is only accessible to working group members.](https://us06tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=NjanLd5dRHSzuUM7eFzcJA%3D%3D&stepId=9d21ffea-4204-11f0-a366-9e85d3daeb97)
* [Antonio to confirm his attendance at the Bariloche meeting in the coming weeks/months.](https://us06tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=NjanLd5dRHSzuUM7eFzcJA%3D%3D&stepId=9d2201de-4204-11f0-a366-9e85d3daeb97)
* [Andrew and Anna to discuss offline the expected attendance for the Bariloche meeting.](https://us06tasks.zoom.us?meetingId=NjanLd5dRHSzuUM7eFzcJA%3D%3D&stepId=9d2203be-4204-11f0-a366-9e85d3daeb97)

### 

### Meeting Attendance and Greetings

The meeting began with participants exchanging greetings and casual conversation about weather conditions. Andrew noted that the meeting might be shorter than initially expected due to some participants' unavailability. Samuel introduced himself and mentioned experiencing audio difficulties before joining. The discussion concluded with Alexia joining late due to lunch and Lilit confirming her attendance and travel plans.

### 2026 Coordination and Action Updates

The group discussed several agenda items, including welcoming remarks from Laura and a review of open actions. They noted that some actions were not due until the fall meeting, while others, such as drafting input on private sector engagement, remained open with no report yet. The group also touched on an email from Libby requesting a meeting to coordinate for 2026, and discussed the possibility of having a joint session with WGISS. Lastly, they considered designating ISRO as the lead for early warning activities, though this needed further clarification.

### CEO Early Warning Systems Initiative

The meeting discussed the status of a subgroup related to early warning systems and CEO involvement. It was noted that there had been no response from the CEO community, but the working group on disasters was tasked with maintaining a connection to the initiative. The subgroup will be established within the working group on disasters to explore potential collaborations and identify feasible contributions from CEOs. A follow-up discussion was planned to shape this activity, and it was agreed that the subgroup would be presented at the next SEC meeting on June 17th.

### Initiatives and Project Updates

The group discussed several ongoing initiatives, including a workshop that remains on hold, and agreed to close an outstanding action item by drafting a 2-page document on the working group's activities. They reviewed the status of the Recovery Observatory, noting that discussions with partners are ongoing and a paper will be presented at the Living Planet Symposium. Samuel reported that a proposal for the Pacific site for the GVS program has been submitted and is under review. Mark provided an update on the Wildfire pilot, stating that sales activities are wrapping up and the team is working on finalizing papers for the website. The group also touched on the flood pilot activity, with Marcelo briefly mentioning that he would provide a more detailed update later.

### Regional Collaboration on Copernicus Tools

Marcelo reported on a regional workshop on Copernicus tools for the Everest River flooding, which was held in May and involved participants from Greece, Bulgaria, and Turkey. Alexia noted that political issues had previously hindered cooperation, but there was now a willingness to collaborate among the countries. Marcelo mentioned that work progress had been slow due to resource restrictions, and the group was discussing the continuation of webinars. Stefano provided an update on the GSNL project, including plans for a seismic super site in Cyprus, which he expected to finalize in about 10 days.

### Seismic Initiatives and Data Updates

Zach reported on the seismic initiative, noting that partners contributed to the charter activation for the Myanmar earthquake event, with results to be included in the next meeting report. Andrew provided an update on the Tonga preparedness pilot, stating that they are awaiting a proposal for Japanese funding to move to the next phase, with a decision expected by fall. Antonio discussed updates on data coordination, including renewal letters sent for Hawaii and Campi Flegrei Vesuvius super sites, and preparations for presentations at the Living Planet Symposium. The group agreed to remind working group members to share updates with Antonio for the CEO's presentation, though they decided against adding a recurring action item.

### Italian-Argentine Drought Pilot Collaboration

The group discussed a potential drought pilot collaboration between the Italian Space Agency and Argentina, building on their existing satellite system agreement for emergency management. A brainstorming session was held to define objectives, scope, and working dynamics, with agreement to follow the integrated drought management framework's four pillars. Konai will prepare a concept note for review, and the team plans to contact EO Tech DevNet's drought tracker team once the pilot is operational. The group also discussed organizing a workshop on machine learning applications in disaster risk management for the March meeting, though no specific updates were provided on this initiative.

### Bariloche Meeting Location Confirmed

The group discussed the location of the next meeting, ultimately deciding to maintain it in Bariloche despite some initial consideration of moving it to Buenos Aires. Anna confirmed that rooms have been reserved at INVAP facilities in Bariloche, and Andrew will send a message to confirm the location and request registrations. The group expects about 15 participants, with remote attendance also available, though Antonio may not be able to attend due to passport renewal issues.

### Leadership Transitions and Meeting Plans

The conversation ended with expressions of gratitude to the leadership team from CONAE, particularly Laura and Ana, for their support. Andrew confirmed that Antonio will take over as the vice chair of the working group on disasters in November, with Asi assuming the position after that. Dave expressed his apologies for missing the earlier announcement and extended his thanks to the team. The group discussed the upcoming meeting in Bariloche.