

CEOS SEC-335 SIT Chair Written Report

CEOS Entity: SIT Chair Team

Prepared by: JAXA

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance:

- SIT-40 was held in Fukuoka, Japan on 8-10 April. Thanks to the many CEOS agencies and delegates who attended either in person or on-line. The meeting objectives were met and the SIT Chair priorities progressed well.
- The SIT Chair team thanks everyone that reviewed the first draft of the SIT-40 actions and decisions. Many very helpful edits were received and absorbed. The latest revision is [here](#). Status updates will be shared during SEC-335.
- The first draft of the SIT-40 minutes is anticipated to be ready late this week / early next.
- JAXA team has commenced calls to draft the new CEOS GST Strategy in time for review at SIT TW.
- SIT Chair Team attended the GEO Global Forum in Rome in the week of 5 May.
- SIT Chair Team working with the GHG TT to advance the cooperation actions with IMEO. Thanks to ASI and DLR for their support so far.
- SIT TW will be kindly hosted by EUMETSAT in Darmstadt, Germany on 9-11 September 2025. An invitation letter and more details will be shared shortly.

CEOS SEC-335 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: Land Surface Imaging Virtual Constellation (LSI-VC)

Prepared by: LSI-VC Co-leads

- LSI-VC-17 was hosted by JAXA from 14-16 April at the Tsukuba Space Centre just outside of Tokyo, Japan. The meeting was well attended, including by the commercial sector. The meeting objectives and agenda can be found [here](#) and presentations have been added to the CEOS website: <https://ceos.org/meetings/lsi-vc-17/>
- The LSI-VC Co-leads and attendees thank JAXA and Takeo Tadono for hosting an engaging and productive meeting and acknowledge the great chairmanship and leadership in Tsukuba.
- The LSI-VC Co-leads are very grateful to ESA and Ferran Gascon (CEOS-ARD Oversight Group lead) for attending the meeting; as well as Pete Doucette and Chris Barnes of USGS for attending virtually through very difficult time zones. LSI-VC is fortunate to have four very active co-leads driving our objectives forward, as well as the private sector, including Japanese companies that are willing to engage.
- Key highlights from LSI-VC-17 include:
 - Endorsed the addition of Interferometric Radar (INSAR) products to the Combined CEOS-ARD PFS for Synthetic Aperture Radar.
 - Endorsed Version 2.0 of the Aquatic Reflectance CEOS-ARD PFS (now pending OCR-VC edits and endorsement).
 - Very interesting discussions on matters that could be considered by an ambitious next-generation Future ARD Strategy, including around data 'quality' and interoperability. Thanks to Nigel Fox of WGCV/NPL for providing helpful insights on data quality metrics and background on the WGCV Cal/Val Maturity Matrix. Overall, very good linkages made to WGCV work in this area.
 - Extremely productive sessions with the ESA Earthnet Data Assessment Pilot (EDAP) and NASA Commercial Satellite Data Acquisition (CSDA) Programme teams exploring synergies between the *Joint Earth Observation Mission Quality Assessment Framework* and CEOS-ARD. Many thanks to Leonardo De Laurentiis (ESA) and Melissa Martin and Dana Ostrenga (NASA CSDA) for their participation.
 - Good initial discussions on increasing AI/ML Readiness of CEOS-ARD (with thanks to Yousuke Ikehata of WGISS/JAXA).
 - Workshop on the CEOS-ARD PFS Building Blocks and GitHub Implementation, which is progressing well.
 - Reviewed an initial proposal for a mechanism that would help to unlock commercial EO archives for public use. Discussion is centred around the idea of establishing an LSI-VC framework to increase awareness of opportunities and coordination between CEOS agencies that are interested in acquiring and releasing commercial data for public use.
 - JAXA and ESA's ongoing engagements with the Ramsar Secretariat has led to an explicit recommendation to the Ramsar Standing Committee for a formal liaison with CEOS. Good opportunity for closer CEOS/Ramsar engagement.

- **LSI-VC would like to raise for SEC awareness and guidance the reduced leadership of the LSI-VC Forests and Biomass subgroup. Ben Poulter has unfortunately left NASA and as such LSI-VC is seeking another lead for the subgroup alongside Clement Albergel (ESA), Takeo Tadono (JAXA), and Inge Jonckheere (ESA). The LSI-VC Forests and Biomass subgroup is responsible for overseeing implementation of the CEOS AFOLU Roadmap, so strong and diverse leadership of the subgroup is critical.**

Meetings and events (for written reference only):

- The GEOGLAM EAV Workshop is currently being held in Ispra, Italy, from 13-15 May, 2025. The workshop aims to reinvigorate the EAV community and engage new partners, update the EAV framework and scope, identify synergies with adjacent communities, reach consensus on the EAV list, and set milestones and a timeline for the EAV initiative. We make another call for representatives to the GEOGLAM (Agriculture) subgroup of the LSI-VC to ensure a robust CEOS response to the EAVs is possible.
- Members of LSI-VC will attend:
 - ESA's Living Planet Symposium (23-27 June, Vienna, Austria), facilitating a workshop gathering user feedback to help shape the future of CEOS-ARD. There will be a dedicated session (Session: C.06.05 CEOS Analysis Ready Data (CEOS-ARD)) and all are encouraged to attend. LSI-VC appreciates the help that the SEO has provided and ESA for enabling the CEOS exhibition booth, which will be a focal point for CEOS-ARD community engagement, Q&A, etc.
 - IEEE IGARSS 2025 (2-8 August, Brisbane, Australia) to contribute to a CEOS session in the Technology, Industry and Education (TIE) program, and coordinate a session on the Future of CEOS Analysis Ready Data.
 - International Astronautical Congress (29 Sept - 3 Oct, Sydney, Australia): A session titled "What's Next For Analysis Ready Data – Unlocking the Full Value of Space Data for Society" will convene the IAC community from across the value chain – from satellite to impact – to galvanise thinking on the future of ARD and start building the partnerships and connections that will enable that future to be realised.
- LSI-VC-18 will be held in Ispra, Italy at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre from 3-5 September, 2025, the week before SIT Technical Workshop 2025. It is anticipated that the meeting will have a more comprehensive session on wetlands/Ramsar as well as a European version of the very successful LSI-VC commercial engagement sessions that have now been held twice in Japan. Many thanks to Peter Strobl and the European Commission for hosting LSI-VC-18!

CEOS SEC-335 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: CEO Team

Prepared by: Steven Ramage, May 2025

1. The final revised version of the CEOS Work Plan was shared on Tuesday 6th May with the CEOS Principals and it is now out for review. The virtual endorsement will occur on Tuesday 20th May, and it will be shared on the CEOS website.
2. Action CEOS 329-03 has been clarified to some CEOS Sec members since it was deemed to be closed too early without sufficient communication. This was for non-attendees for CEOS Plenary 2024 – this is ongoing, i.e. to update the CEOS website with CEOS Agency Principals and contacts, and listservs. This is an evergreen task for the CEO team.
3. Working Group on Capacity Building and Data Democracy
AEM has officially stepped down from the Vice Chair role and a new Vice Chair needs to be found. SANSA has agreed to continue as Chair for another year. The CEO team will support the next in-person meeting in the margins of COPUOS in Vienna, June 2025. The monthly meeting took place online on the 8th May when all the most recent developments were discussed.
4. Working Group Disasters
There is an outstanding request for the SIT Chair to sign the letter requested by WG Disasters to invite ISRO to lead the activity on EW4All. Andrew Eddy, the Secretary of this group has also said he will now stop supporting the group due to a lack of funding.
5. Working Group Climate
The CEO team is now helping to develop a coordinated communication plan to support stakeholder engagement and work with UNFCCC, IPCC and other stakeholders.
6. Working Group on Information Systems and Services
The CEO team has provided several sector contacts who can review and provide input to the CEOS Interoperability Handbook.
7. Working Group on Calibration and Validation
Positive feedback coming from the private sector companies that attended JACIE. They have been guided to the website page for engagement with CEOS.
8. Ongoing support has been provided to the Biodiversity Study Team as they gather more input (requirements) from across the CEOS community.
9. The CEO was invited to support the SDG Coordination Group and take over from SEO, this is currently under discussion. Related to this topic the CEO was invited by the United Nations committee of experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) Europe to moderate two webinars relating to SDG work on water and land.

The CEOS SDG support sheets were shared with the webinar attendees and on social media channels.

a) [SDG 6.6.1](#) "Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems" with speakers from mapping agencies, statistical agencies, space agencies and the SDG custodians

b) [SDG 15.3.1](#) "Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area", again with speakers from mapping agencies, the GEO work programme, UN agencies, research institutes, the European Commission Joint Research Centre and the European Space Agency.

10. The CEO joined the SIT Chair at the GEO Global Forum and made interventions on behalf of CEOS. The first intervention was during the plenary session on the Post-2025 Work Programme using the CEOS-approved statement to outline areas where CEOS Agencies are actively supporting GEO activities. The second was during a Plenary session on disasters to the World Bank panellist to get their view on how to provide greater support the CEOS Recovery Observatory.
11. The UNCCD letter (to respond to their letter) has been drafted, JAXA and SEO have reviewed it. It is now with the CEOS Chair before it will be shared with the CEOS Sec.
12. The CEOS community contact list is being regularly updated on the CEOS website and being kept up to date.

The CEOS calendar is regularly updated, and members of the CEOS Secretariat are requested to continue providing input regarding upcoming events.

Upcoming events

The following CEOS meetings take place in the coming weeks:

- AC-VC-21: 9-13 June 2025 | Takamatsu, Japan

The next external meetings in June 2025 include:

- CGMS-53: 3-5 June 2025 | Évian-les-Bains, France
- United Nations Ocean Conference: 9-13 June 2025 | Nice, France
- Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA62): 16-26 June 2025 | Bonn, Germany
- ESA Living Planet Symposium 2025: 23-27 June 2025 | Vienna, Austria

Online CEOS meeting calendar

Upcoming

CEOS

SIT

- **2025 SIT Technical Workshop** : September 9th - 11th, 2025 | Darmstadt, Germany

Plenary

- **39th CEOS Plenary** : November 4th - 6th, 2025 | Bath, UK

Working Groups

- **WGCV-55** : July 8th - 11th, 2025 | Hyderabad, India
- **WGISS-60** : October 13th - 17th, 2025 | Oberpfaffenhofen, Germany

Virtual Constellations

- **GEOGLAM Essential Agricultural Variables (EAV) Stocktake Workshop** : May 13th - 15th, 2025
- **AC-VC-21** : June 9th - 13th, 2025 | Takamatsu, Japan
- **LSI-VC-18** : September 3rd - 5th, 2025 | Ispra, Italy

External

- **CGMS-53** : June 3rd - 5th, 2025 | Europe
- **United Nations Ocean Conference** : June 9th - 13th, 2025 | Nice, France
- **Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA62)** : June 16th - 26th, 2025 | Bonn, Germany
- **ESA Living Planet Symposium 2025** : June 23rd - 27th, 2025 | Vienna, Austria
- **Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: 2025 (COPUOS 68)** : June 25th - July 4th, 2025 | Vienna, Austria
- **IGARSS 2025** : August 4th - 8th, 2025 | Brisbane, Australia
- **76th International Astronautical Congress** : September 29th - October 3rd, 2025 | Sydney, Australia
- **UNFCCC COP-30** : November 10th - 21st, 2025 | Brazil
- **ESA Council Meeting at Ministerial level, CM25** : November 26th - 27th, 2025 | Bremen, Germany
- **AGU 25** : December 15th - 19th, 2025 | New Orleans, Louisiana, USA
- **WMO CM-16** : March 1st - 31st, 2026 | -
- **16th Session of Consultative Meetings on High-Level Policy on Satellite Matters (CM-16)** : March 3rd - 4th, 2026 | Geneva, Switzerland

CEOS SEC-335 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: SEO

Prepared by: David Borges

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance:

- The SEO is aware of an issue with email from the CEOS mailing lists being flagged as spam and/or quarantine on some email services, particularly Microsoft/Office365. The email security configurations for the lists have been confirmed to be correct, and NASA has confirmed this week that validation checks are now coming back clean. We are working to determine and confirm a general solution. Until SEO provides a future update – reminder to regularly check spam or quarantine folders for CEOS mail.
- SEO is not able to remain implementation lead of the CEOS SDG CG. Following discussions with other Agencies and CEOS governance (Chair, SIT Chair, CEO, etc.), the group is proposing to transition the implementation leadership to the CEO. Given the cross-cutting and external facing nature of the SDG topic, the CEO seems the most appropriate transition in this context. Fortunately, the 2025 CEOS SDG Deliverables have been already agreed, and recently refined, with identified owners. Conscious of current resources and workload, the CEO would hold less frequent meetings (minimum 3 for the remainder of the year) and will keep liaising with the group via email as required to ensure efficient communication (internal/external), the completion of deliverables (relying on identified responsible leads) and stimulation of ideas for a sustainable way forward. This arrangement would remain in place until another proposal is approved by CEOS SEC or the Plenary. The SDG CG is seeking SEC's approval today to transition the implementation leadership from SEO to CEO, until a new arrangement comes to place.

Additional points (for written reference only):

- N/A

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- ESA Living Planet Symposium, Vienna Austria, 22-27 June
- IGARSS 2025, Brisbane Australia, 3-8 August

CEOS SEC-315 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: CEOS WGCapD

Prepared by: Daniel A. Matsapola

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance:

- Resignation of CEOS WGCapD Vice Chair in May 2025 is now official.
- Commitment by SANSA to continue as WGCapD Chair for another year until November 2026.
- Request support in securing the new Vice Chair to support SANSA as Chair until the smooth handover in November 2026.
- CEOS WGCapD Annual Meeting scheduled to take place in Vienna, Austria during **30 June – 01 July 2025** alongside UN COPUOS just after the Living Planet Symposium.
- Two SANSA Junior Remote Sensing Scientists and members of the GEO South Africa Youth Governing Board, Ms. Nasiphi Ngcoliso and Ms. Sinesipho Ngamile, represented South Africa's dynamic youth movement in Earth Observation (EO) at the "Keeping Our Promises to the Young People" session during the GEO Global Forum 2025 in Rome, Italy.

Upcoming meetings and events (*for written reference only*):

- Living Planet Symposium in Vienna, Austria during 23 – 27 June 2025 under the theme "From Observation to Climate Action and Sustainability for Earth"
- The 9th AfriGEO Symposium 2025 under the theme "From data to impact: Strengthening Africa's Geospatial Future" during 7 – 9 October 2025 in Senegal

CEOS SEC-335 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: WGClimate

Prepared by: Wenying Su, Vincent-Henri Peuch

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance:

- Lessons Learned and Recommendations for Space Agencies' Support of the First Global Stocktake was endorsed by CEOS and CGMS.
- Space Agency Response to the 2022 GCOS Implementation Plan was endorsed by CEOS and CGMS.
- UNFCCC and WGClimate engagement workshop was held on April 30, 2025. The attendance was very good with a dozen participants on both UNFCCC and WGClimate (including CEOS SIT Chair and CEOS Chair teams) sides. UNFCCC secretariat from different divisions attended the meeting and presented on six workstreams:
 - Collective Progress
 - Adaptation, Loss and Damage
 - Capacity Building
 - Mitigation
 - Climate Technology
 - Transparency
- The workshop resulted in the following actions:
 - Share email contacts of participants from both sides.
 - CEOS-CGMS are invited to provide feedback on the proposed adaptation indicators, which will be available in mid-May. The deadline for submitting feedback is June 16, coinciding with the start of the Bonn Climate Change Conference (SB-62).
 - WGClimate is requested to nominate lead person(s) for each specific workstream to help facilitate further discussions and support ongoing efforts.
 - Establish an annual meeting with the full group to review progress and developments across the various workstreams.
- WGClimate provided initial inputs to the WIGOS 2050 Vision encourage the 2050 Vision to focus on Earth system approach, addressing user and application requirements.

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- WGClimate and GHG Task Team will meet with the CGMS Working Groups, ahead of CGMS Plenary on June 2, 2025. A draft agenda has been proposed.
- A side meeting at SIT Technical Workshop 2025 will be arranged to discuss space-based ocean carbon measurements with GCOS.
- WGClimate-23 will be held as a virtual meeting on Friday October 24, 2025.

- WGClimate-24 will be held jointly with the GCOS Panels the week of February 9, 2026, in Harwell, UK.

CEOS SEC-335 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: Working Group on Calibration and Validation (WGCV)

Prepared by: Cody Anderson, WGCV Chair, USGS

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance:

- Planning for WGCV-55 (Hyderabad, India; July 8-11, 2025) remains underway. A dedicated session on commercial engagement anticipates participation from local commercial satellite companies, including Pixxel and New Space India Ltd (NSIL).

ISRO is planning to take WGCV to the Integrated Multi Mission Ground Segment for Earth Observation Satellites (IMGEOSS) facility on Friday 11th July, followed by cultural visits to the world's largest meditation centre and Golkonda Fort.

- WGCV welcomes the new chair of its LPV Subgroup, Fabrizio Niro (ESA), taking over from Michael Cosh (USDA). The subgroup is looking for a vice chair.

Additional points (for written reference only):

- The WGCV Chair and Vice Chair attended the JACIE Workshop last month (April 7-11) in Virginia, US.
- WGCV members attended the GSICS annual meeting in Changchun, China, from 17-21 March. Notable outcomes were recommendations from the Pre-flight Calibration workshop and actions for the GSICS State of the Observing System.

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- The joint meeting between AC-VC, WGCV ACSG, and IWGGMS will be held from 9-12 June, 2025 in Takamatsu, Japan.
- A Geomorphometry Conference will take place in Perugia, Italy, from 9-13 June, 2025, and will be attended by the WGCV TMSG Chair.

CEOS SEC-333 Meeting Written Report

CEOS Entity: WGISS

Prepared by: Tom Sohre, Chair

New updates, particularly those that would benefit from CEOS SEC awareness, discussion, help and/or guidance:

- Feedback requested on draft CEOS Interoperability Handbook 28 April (due 30 May)
 - Draft Interoperability Handbook on [github](#)
- WGISS facilitated a discussion w/ WGCV, SEO and others to discuss next steps to implement a CEOS Common Dictionary using [KCEO](#) Knowledge Centre on Earth Observation (European Commission - Joint Research Centre)

Additional points (for written reference only):

- [WGISS-59](#) Minutes and Actions are now available online (along with all WGISS-59 presentation materials).
- WGISS has received formal nomination letter from ESA confirming support for vice Chair candidate. WGISS will bring forward for endorsement at 2025 Plenary
- WGISS provided feedback to Biodiversity Study Team (BST) re: areas WGISS could help support BST EO Policy and EO-enabling needs.

Upcoming meetings and events (for written reference only):

- WGISS-60, October 13-17, 2025, Oberpfaffenhofen Germany