



17th March 2014

To: CEOS SIT Chair
From: SDCG Exec

**Re: 3 Year Work Plan for the SDCG, &
Element-3 Strategy Document for R&D Acquisitions for GFOI**

Dear Pascale

We are pleased to convey two documents from CEOS's Space Data Coordination Group (SDCG) for GFOI:

1. **A 3 Year Work Plan for the SDCG**, that seeks to best manage and communicate the activities of the group from 2015-2017. The Plan identifies 17 outcomes that SDCG aims to achieve, organised under four different threads led by different CEOS agencies. The Plan will help SDCG to demonstrate that the Space Data Component of GFOI is well managed and fundamental to the success of GFOI.
2. **SDCG's proposed activities for Element 3 (Data Supply in Support of R&D) of the overall CEOS Space Data Strategy for GFOI** (which CEOS endorsed in 2011). This is the final Element of this strategy (CEOS has already endorsed the Global Baseline Strategy (Element 1) and the GFOI Space Data Services (Element 2)). Element 3 proposes a single coordinated observation plan for acquisition of dense time-series, multi-sensor data (optical and SAR) over a limited number of dedicated study sites to address priority R&D topics as identified by GFOI.

We kindly ask that you circulate these documents to CEOS Principals in preparation for the SIT-30 meeting in Paris, and that you include their consideration and endorsement in the planning of the agenda and key decisions required of the meeting. We will also seek confirmation of commitment to the 2015 Implementation Plan from the relevant agencies. Specific actions will be suggested in the presentation materials but these are the main requests.

We are happy to report that the SDCG continues to make excellent progress in developing the Space Data component of GFOI, and CEOS endorsement of these milestone documents will ensure strong support among the CEOS agencies and other stakeholders. Thank you in advance for circulating the documents and for their inclusion on the SIT-30 agenda.

Sincerely,

SDCG Exec

Frank Martin Seifert, representing ESA

Gene Fosnight, representing USGS

Stephen Ward & George Dyke, representing Dept Environment - Australia