

## CEOS Expectations for the GEO Secretariat regarding support of the SDGs

**Version:** March 7, 2022

This short document defines the expectations of CEOS regarding GEO communications with Custodian Agencies to support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). CEOS does not expect to have regular interactions with Custodian Agencies and will depend on GEO to maintain those interactions and represent the capabilities of CEOS. Below is a list of specific topics regarding those interactions and the expectations of CEOS.

**CEOS Capabilities:** CEOS recently completed a new summary document titled "*What can CEOS do to support the U.N. 2030 Agenda and the SDGs?*". This document provides a reminder of the CEOS mission and presents the new CEOS SDG Coordination Group as the entity that will coordinate CEOS services for Custodian Agencies or Member Countries. GEO should use this document as a reference during external SDG interactions.

**CEOS Internal Processes:** The ability of CEOS to support SDG initiatives is evaluated using two specific internal governing processes: the [External Request Process](#) and the [New Initiatives Process](#). Any external requests of CEOS to support Custodian Agencies or specific SDG needs will be evaluated by the CEOS SDG Coordination Group on a case-by-case basis using these processes to consider existing commitments of CEOS Agencies within and outside of CEOS and availability of resources. GEO should communicate potential requests to the CEOS SDG Coordination Group and work with CEOS to determine a resolution.

**Meetings with Custodian Agencies:** Following any meetings or specific interactions with Custodian Agencies, GEO should provide CEOS a summary of the outcomes and communicate any data-related issues, needs for new tools or services, and needs for capacity building. Early identification of such issues and needs will allow CEOS to quickly respond and evaluate its ability to support such requests.

**Regular Meetings between CEOS and GEO:** In order to improve communications and support of SDGs, CEOS would like to have regular (e.g. monthly) meetings between the CEOS SDG Coordination Group and the GEO SDG Lead. Such meetings would allow communications about recent changes in data tools and services from CEOS and new information gathered from GEO regarding external interactions on SDGs.