**CEOS Space Data Coordination Group for GFOI**

***Biomass Day* Prospectus v0.2**

**26th March 2019, Hampton, VA**

The new SDCG Work Plan aims to prioritise the promotion of the policy relevance of the new generation of data-streams from CEOS space agencies relevant to estimation of above ground biomass (AGB). To ensure a thorough understanding of the status and outlook for these missions and of the related technical work underway within the WGCV Land Product Validation Subgroup on the CEOS Biomass Protocol, to help standardise and characterise the data from them, an exploratory Biomass Day will be held in conjunction with the SDCG-15 meeting being hosted by the NASA SEO in Virginia in late March.

The proposed objectives of the meeting are as follows:

* Reporting on the latest status and outlook for all related CEOS missions;
* Establishing a complete understanding of activities in relation to cal-val, intercomparison studies, data accuracy etc - including the plans for finalisation and promotion of the CEOS Biomass Protocol; and of the suitability of the various CEOS agency products in support of the monitoring and reporting efforts of GFOI countries;
* Debating how LPV and SDCG might cooperate, and their respective roles, through the GFOI framework to promote uptake of the Biomass Protocol, and uptake of CEOS agency biomass data products broadly;
* Establish areas where the incoming SIT Chair (CSIRO) might support and give higher profile to this work and where the priorities lie for the 2020-21 period;
* Brainstorm possible collaborations among CEOS agencies (and other GFOI stakeholders) to address these priorities - eg through promotion of an L-band SAR virtual constellation;
* Update the draft SDCG Work Plan tasks and outcomes accordingly;
* Finalise CEOS inputs to GFOI Plenary in relation to Biomass and the education of GFOI countries as to the potential of the data.

Attendance is expected to include the usual CEOS agency representatives, equipped with reports on the relevant biomass missions, their cal-val and in-situ activities, and their intended data ‘customers’. Reports are expected from: NASA, ESA, JAXA, CONAE and DLR. Where attendance is not possible, SDCG requests presentation materials provided in advance. Representatives from WGCV-LPV are also confirmed. GFOI colleagues from World Bank and from USGS/SilvaCarbon have also been invited.

**Speakers are asked to include materials highlighting activities their agency is engaged in or planning in relation to multi-mission coordination, such as cal-val, inter-comparison or accuracy studies – that might be identified as part of an identified and coordinated CEOS effort in relation to AGB missions.**

An outline agenda is proposed below.

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***Biomass Day* Agenda v0.2**

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| 0900 | **Intro and Welcome** (SDCG Co-Chairs) |
| 0915 | **Content and objectives for the day** (SDCG SEC) |
| 0930 | **Space Agency Status and Outlook Reports** (inc break)   * NASA (Mike Falkowski) * ESA (Steven Hosford) * JAXA (Ake Rosenqvist) * CONAE (Ake Rosenqvist) * DLR (?) * Relevant commercial systems (Stephen Ward) |
| 1130 | **CEOS Biomass Protocol** (Laura Duncanson and John Armston) |
| *1245* | *Lunch* |
| 1330 | **Discussion Topic 1: Multi-Mission Collaboration** (Joanne Nightingale)   * Based on known activities and gaps * To realise the Protocol objectives * ARD & standards |
| 1430 | **Discussion Topic 2: SIT Chair contribution** (SDCG SEC) |
| 1500 | **Discussion Topic 3: Utilizing the GFOI Framework to best effect** (Ake Rosenqvist)   * Dataset suitability for NFMS needs & reporting * Accelerating policy relevance |
| 1530 | Break |
| 1545 | **Discussion Topic 4: Organisational aspects and roles** (Steven Hosford)   * Including new scope and structures such as a VC |
| 1615 | **Wrap up**   * Inputs for GFOI Plenary (Tom Maiersperger) * SDCG WP impact (SDCG SEC) * Way forward on actions |
| 1715 | **Adjourn** |