

# GEO Climate Change Working Group

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CEOS/CGMS WGClimate meeting #12  
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# Call for members to join new GEO Working Groups

[http://www.earthobservations.org/geo\\_blog\\_obs.php?id=417](http://www.earthobservations.org/geo_blog_obs.php?id=417)



- WG members must be nominated by the GEO Principal of their relevant GEO Member, Participating Organization or Associate
- Other qualified individuals can also be invited by the Programme Board
- Relevant Programme Board Engagement Team members also automatically become WG members

Four new Working Groups have been established by the GEO Executive Committee as part of the GEO Work Programme.

They focus on the key issues related to:

1. Climate Change
2. Disaster Risk Reduction
3. Capacity Development
4. Data (data policy, ethics and governance)

# Working Group nominations

Number of Nominees by Working Group	Submitted	Approved
Capacity Development	46	26
Climate Change	68	48
Data	53	30
Disaster Risk Reduction	69	42
Total	236	146

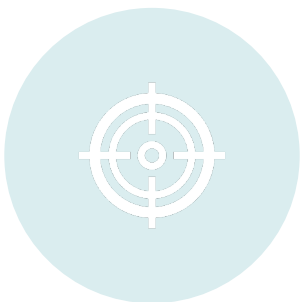
## Number of Nominees by Type of Organization

Government ministries and agencies	66	49
Academic and research organizations	100	65
Commercial sector organizations	23	14
Intergovernmental organizations	13	9
Non-governmental organizations	18	10
Other	11	1
Total	231	148

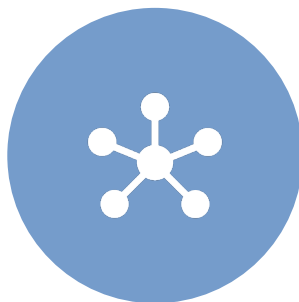
- Current numbers, still in flux.
- The numbers aren't consistent between the tables as some individuals are in more than one group.
- Nominations from CEOS and CEOS agencies have been received for all the WGs.

# GEO Climate Change Working Group

TORs: [http://www.earthobservations.org/documents/gwp20\\_22/geo\\_wp\\_cc\\_wg\\_tor.pdf](http://www.earthobservations.org/documents/gwp20_22/geo_wp_cc_wg_tor.pdf)



The CC-WG aims to develop and implement a **comprehensive strategy to advance the use of EO in support of climate adaptation and mitigation** including actions related to the Paris Agreement



The CC-WG will ultimately drive actions to **promote the GEO climate engagement priority**



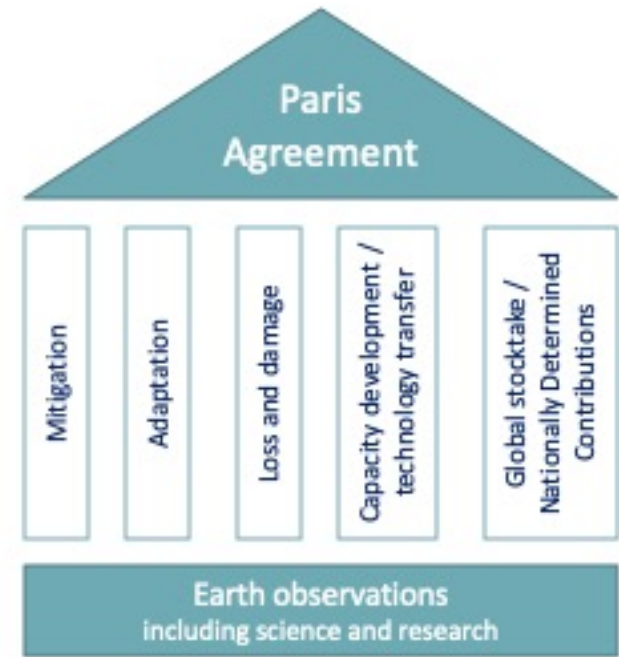
Duties involve **improving coordination and uptake of GEO Work Programme activities** relevant to climate change, **support countries' action within the UNFCCC and IPCC**, and **strengthen the collaboration with WMO and partners**

# 2020-2022 GEO Work Programme

The GEO Work Programme is the primary instrument to plan and implement GEO activities. The Work Programme for 2020-2022 was approved at the GEO-XVI Plenary, 6-7 November 2019 in Canberra, Australia.

It contains **over 60 activities** of which **many relevant to climate action**:

[http://www.earthobservations.org/geoss\\_wp.php](http://www.earthobservations.org/geoss_wp.php)



**The Global Forest Observation Initiative**  
supports countries to develop national forest monitoring systems and green house gas measurement, reporting and accounting.



**The GEO Global Agricultural Monitoring Initiative**  
improves food security through timely and accurate predictions of crop yields and agricultural production at regional, national and global levels.



**The GEO Biodiversity Observation Network**  
coordinates the management and delivery of biodiversity and ecosystem observations to decision makers and the scientific community.



**The Global Observation System for Mercury**  
contributes to the monitoring of mercury and its compounds using Earth observations to support the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

# GEO Climate Change Working Group

## DUTIES related to the 2020-2022 GEO Work Programme

- **Review the implementation plans of all GEO WP activities** relevant to climate change to identify potential disconnect and synergy opportunities to be addressed;
- Assess from these GEO WP activities where GEO is best placed to act and **recommend actions to be taken by GEO/activity leads in relation to key issues**, e.g., climate modelling/science, mitigation, adaptation, and other relevant areas of the UNFCCC/Paris Agreement;
- **Facilitate communication** between the leads and participants of these GEO WP activities, and with relevant partners, including through the organization of dedicated meetings and workshops;
- **Stimulate the initiation of projects and case studies** involving participants from multiple GEO WP activities to enhance collaboration across GEO and to address identified disconnect, opportunities, or actions in relation to key climate issues;



# GEO Climate Change Working Group

## DUTIES related to supporting country action, UNFCCC and IPCC

- Assess how GEO can work with its member countries and partners to **advance the collection and use of EO, particularly in situ data**, that are needed to support work of countries and international organizations on climate science and assessments, reduce uncertainty in climate modeling, and enhance societal response strategies;
- Assess how GEO can **support countries in the submission of reports and other communications under the UNFCCC/Paris Agreement** through the enhanced use of EO, including, as applicable, nationally determined contributions (NDCs), national communications, adaptation communications, and biennial transparency reports (BTRs);
- Assess how GEO can **support countries in their National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process and approaches to avert, minimize and address loss and damage**, including formulating supplementary guidance on the use and potential of EO for monitoring and assessment of climate change impacts, vulnerability, risks and adaptation responses over multiple sectors and scales;

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## DUTIES related to supporting country action, UNFCCC and IPCC

- Assess how GEO can **support countries in the improvement of national GHG inventories over time through the enhanced use of EO**, consistent with the 2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories;
- **Identify gaps in terms of EO that are requisite to the work of the IPCC** and others conducting climate assessments, and leverage GEO partnerships and resources to provide the additional EO needed to support decision making. **Support the IPCC in its Sixth Assessment Cycle**, particularly by participating in the expert reviews in preparation of the IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report due to be published in 2021-2022;
- **Increase GEO's participation and visibility**, as appropriate, in IPCC sessions, UNFCCC COPs, SBSTA sessions and other UNFCCC constituted bodies' meetings, as well as other relevant fora;



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## DUTIES related to WMO and partners

- **Identify efficient forms of mutually beneficial collaboration between GEO and WMO** in the areas of climate change, including the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) and the Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW).

# GEO Climate Change Working Group

## WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

- At least two vice-chairs to be elected, possible sub-groups to be established
- Administrative support provided by GEO Secretariat - Climate Coordinator
- Periodic (at least annual) reports on WG activities to the Programme Board as part of GEO Work Programme monitoring; specific issues to be brought to the Programme Board as needed
- Work mainly through telecons and emails - timing of first virtual meeting: second half of May (tbd)

# Next key climate meetings for GEO

## **GEO official meetings:**

- GEO Plenary including Climate Action session, Port Elizabeth, South Africa, 2-6 November 2020

## **Meetings where GEO Secretariat is planning active participation/side-events:**

- ESA CCI Colocation meeting, Oxford, 9-11 September 2020
- UNFCCC SBs session, Bonn, October 2020,
- GFOI Plenary, Rome, 5-9 October 2020
- GCA Climate Adaptation Summit, Rotterdam, 19-23 October 2020
- UNFCCC COP26, 2021
- UNFCCC NAP Expo, tbd

## **Meetings to be organised:**

- Second GEO Climate Workshop with a focus on climate finance
- Joint GEO-IPCC Expert meeting on the topics of land representation, the role of remote sensing and field measurements, and uncertainty

# Thank You

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Communicate and Collaborate with GEO:



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