

AMERIGE OSS INITIATIVE

March 2017

<https://www.earthobservations.org/amerigeoss.php>



Implementing GEOSS in the Americas
 Implementando GEOSS en América
 Implementando GEOSS na América
 Mise en œuvre du GEOSS en Amérique

The AmeriGEOSS initiative is a framework that seeks to promote collaboration and coordination among the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) members of the Americas that regionalizes GEO's global vision "to realize a future wherein decisions and actions, for the benefit of the region, are informed by coordinated, comprehensive and sustained Earth observations and information". The Americas Caucus members (**Argentina, Bahamas, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States, and Uruguay; observers Guatemala and Bolivia**) have recognized the value of working together as one region to meet GEO objectives.

COUNTRY MEMBERS



The initiative is focused on the four GEO Societal Benefit Areas prioritized by the Americas Caucus members: food security and sustainable agriculture, disaster resilience, water resources management, and biodiversity and ecosystem sustainability. Foundational activities, e.g. data infrastructure and capacity building, are also a focus.

Through this initiative, the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) agencies and GEO Ministerial and other end users are joining to apply space-based and in-situ Earth observations for societal benefit. By leveraging and tailoring GEO global initiatives such as the GEO Global Agricultural Monitoring System (GEOGLAM), the GEO Global Water Sustainability (GEOGLOWS), the Pole-to-Pole Marine Biodiversity Observation Network (MBON), and GEO-DARMA for disaster risk reduction, the initiative seeks to make the applications of Earth observations affordable for all in the region. These global initiatives are tailored and linked to local activities to meet the regional needs.

PARTNERS

AmeriGEOSS, CEOS disasters working group, and GEO-DARMA are planning a joint meeting September 4 – 8, 2017, hosted by Comisión Nacional de Actividades Espaciales (CONAE) in Buenos Aires, Argentina to discuss disaster response mechanisms and participate in a joint table-top exercise.





Americas Caucus Meeting, June 2016. Delegations from the GEO-Secretariat, Argentina, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, and the United States.

Americas Caucus and AmeriGEOSS week. 7 to 10 June 2016

The Americas Caucus meeting was held concurrently with AmeriGEOSS Week, June 2016. Discussions among the member countries over the course of the two-day meeting were highly productive, and resulted in a new, agreed-upon Terms of Reference (ToR) for the AmeriGEOSS Coordination Working Group to officially convene and move forward. The ToR was formally endorsed by the Principals at the GEO Plenary meeting planned for November 2016 in St. Petersburg, Russia.

The AmeriGEOSS Week-2016 took place in Bogota, Colombia at the National University. The coordination of the capacity building was lead by GEO-Colombia and the water-working group GEO-CIEHLYC, and in collaboration with many international partner agencies listed below. The objectives were to provide capacity building in the use of hydrological data management tools, application of remote sensing data to address issues in the areas of agriculture and disaster, and in the implementation of the broadcasting system, GEONETCast-America. 180 Participants from 8 countries and its vast majority from government institutions benefited from 32 hrs. of instruction/course provided throughout the week.

NEWS 2017 - AMERIGELOSS PORTAL



One of the most notable collaborations within the 2016 – 2017 AmeriGEOSS work plan has come through a partnership with the US Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) with the development of the AmeriGEOSS portal. The portal can be described as a platform not only to access regional, national, and local data from a variety of sources, but it will be a platform to connect people to information and EO infrastructure, providing applications and tools for understanding and decision making.

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