



# Committee on Earth Observation Satellites

## Precipitation Constellation

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# Glossary

- CEOS = Committee on Earth Observation Satellites.
- PC = Precipitation Constellation
- GEO = Group on Earth Observations
- GEOS = Global Earth Observation System of Systems

# What is the purpose of CEOS?

- *The Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) **coordinates** international civil space-borne missions designed to observe and study planet Earth.*
- *With over 100 Earth observation satellites expected to be launched during the next 10 years, it is clear that **collaborative opportunities** have not been fully maximized. In 2003 CEOS has been focusing on articulating a more comprehensive satellite data utilization approach and in following up on its significant involvement in the World Summit on **Sustainable Development**.*
- *The CEOS Chair also serves as Co-Chair of the Integrated Global Observing Strategy (IGOS) Partnership, which seeks to **reduce observation gaps and unnecessary overlaps and to harmonize and integrate common interests of space-based and in situ systems**.*
- *CEOS has been actively involved in organizing and hosting a **ministerial-level** Earth Observation Summit with a follow-on Group on Earth Observations (GEO) charged with developing the framework for a comprehensive global Earth observation system(s). All these activities demonstrate the commitment to developing more coherent and **sustained** Earth observation strategies for the good of the planet.*

# CEOS PC Purpose

- The overarching purpose of the CEOS PC study is to establish an international framework to guide, facilitate, and coordinate the continued advancements of multi-satellite global precipitation missions.
- 1<sup>st</sup> meeting June 14-15 2007
- Developing a draft workplan

# Broad Goals (initial)

- Advocate and facilitate the timely implementation of the **Global Precipitation Measurement** (GPM) mission and encourage more nations to contribute to the GPM constellation
- To **sustain and enhance** an accurate and timely global precipitation data record including a Fundamental Climate Data Record essential for understanding the integrated weather/climate/ecological system, managing freshwater resources, and monitoring and predicting high-impact natural hazard events.
  - This data record should be fit for the purpose specified by GCOS for the monitoring of Precipitation as an essential climate variable (ECV) (as defined in the recent GCOS document 'Systematic Observation Requirements for Satellite-based Products for Climate');

# Activities

1. Establish **framework** in which existing and planned missions could work synergistically to meet international user community requirements and GEOSS societal benefit areas.
2. **Coordinate inputs** based on emerging societal benefit areas and established user requirements from both the research and operational communities with existing GPM plans, including both science and operational views
3. Establish how existing and planned missions could **work synergistically** to meet international user community requirements and GEOSS societal benefit areas
4. Define enhancements in the areas of cal/val, quality control, and data **accessibility and interoperability**.
5. Develop a baseline framework for **data exchange and cross-evaluation**
6. Define the **'key points of agreement' in technical areas** regarding each stage of the Constellation that would be required to realize the common goals and the existence of a working CEOS PC.