



AGU Town Hall Meeting– The Water Research Community and the Global Earth Observation System of Systems “Finding Common Ground”

Venue: AGU, San Francisco, CA; Thursday December 17, 2009; Moscone West, Room 2004; 18:15 to 19:15

The Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) is a complex “system of systems,” including sensors, communication systems, spatio-temporal data infrastructures and other components essential for observing the Earth on all relevant scales and disseminating this information to users for a host of important societal benefits. Over the past three years a number of groups such as WaterNET and the Asian Water Cycle Initiative (AWCI) have emerged that satisfy the criteria of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) as a Water Cycle Community of Practice. However, within GEO the User Interface Committee has its own global Water Cycle Community of Practice which addresses the need for user need surveys, etc. More recently with the merger of the Integrated Global Observing Strategy Partnership with GEO, the range of developmental activities being undertaken in conjunction with the Integrated Global Water Cycle Observations (IGWCO) theme are now part of the GEO Water Societal Benefit Area and the IGWCO Science committee is also functioning as a Community of Practice. To add to this complexity the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) has launched its own GEO-related water program known as “Water for the World”. IEEE and the GEO Water Cycle Community of Practice have scheduled this Town Hall meeting to inform you about their activities and to get feedback on the needs of the science community for coordination of the various groups that deal with water issues and Earth Observations so that the water research community of water experts will be able to more effectively interact with GEO.

Note: the town hall will be followed by an all day GEOSS Workshop on December 18, 2009, at the Grand Hyatt San Francisco.

For more information, refer to the ICEO website: <http://www.ieee-earth.org/> or contact Organizing committee members Françoise Pearlman (jsp@sprintmail.com) or Rick Lawford (lawford@umbc.edu)

