

## GEOGLAM Essential Agricultural Variables (EAV) Stocktake Workshop Objectives & Agenda | 13-15 May 2025, Ispra, IT

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### Workshop Logistics

The meeting venue is the JRC in Ispra and you will be taken there by shuttle buses leaving at fixed times from the hotel as indicated in the agenda below. Transport from the Milan airports or from Milan Central Train Station will be organized according to your arrival times indicated in the registration form.

The Unit D5 secretariat (Elena Nasoni [Elena.Nasoni@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Elena.Nasoni@ec.europa.eu)) has reserved rooms in Hotel Europa in Ispra according to your preferences in the registration tool. For any direct communication with the hotel you can contact them at [info@isprahoteleuropa.it](mailto:info@isprahoteleuropa.it) (Lisa is following bookings related to this workshop). A few participants are booked in other hotels, again in this case you will know from messages by Elena.

Upon arrival at the JRC with the shuttle you will need to collect your badge at the reception at the entrance. NB: you need to bring your passport with you. The badge needs to be shown to the security guard at the gate and when leaving the JRC in the evenings.

All meetings will take place in building 27b meeting room 008 (break out rooms will be provided before break out sessions).

- **13th May 2025** – 4 small buses
  - 08:30 from Hotel Europa
  - 08:40 to JRC Building 27b
  - 18:15 from outside the JRC Building 27b
  - 18:25 to Hotel Europa
- **14th May 2025** – 4 small buses

- 08:30 from Hotel Europa
- 08:40 to JRC Building 27b
- 18:45 from outside the JRC Building 27b
- 19:00 to Restaurant, **Il Coppale** - Via Al Lago 283 - 21062 Cadrezzate
- 22:30 from Restaurant, **Il Coppale** - Via Al Lago 283 - 21062 Cadrezzate
- 22:45 to Hotel Europa
- **15th May 2025** – 4 small buses
  - 08:30 from Hotel Europa
  - 08:40 to JRC Building 27b
  - 17:15 from outside the JRC Building 27b
  - 17:25 to Hotel Europa
- **16th May 2025** – 4 small buses
  - 08:30 from Hotel Europa
  - 08:40 to JRC Building 27b
  - 14:15 from outside the JRC Building 27b
  - 14:25 to Hotel Europa

## WebEx Information for Virtual Attendees

### 13th May 2025:

<https://econfn.webex.com/webappng/sites/econfn/meeting/info/626a8f1bf12298a3fc925dc418e43dfc?MTID=m6d7ed045316f427b9902c6e7295cd998&siteurl=econfn#>

### 14th May 2025:

<https://econfn.webex.com/webappng/sites/econfn/meeting/info/5345d79eda0edb6d05ac82dd1acdbc?MTID=m2ba8ba1ee333054c5eb69b223a2a4893&siteurl=econfn>

### 15th May 2025:

<https://econfn.webex.com/webappng/sites/econfn/meeting/info/8788f0542c67f861780a75bccf53bacb?MTID=m44696689af3e25c3cf5977e5620c848a&siteurl=econfn>

### 16th May 2025:

<https://econfn.webex.com/webappng/sites/econfn/meeting/info/e71c77c3dd298c74556ee657435fdbb1?MTID=m2e3416069bc467009213290d68c0cca0&siteurl=econfn>

## Workshop Context

The GEOGLAM Essential Agricultural Variables (EAV) initiative underpins global efforts to enhance agriculture monitoring using Earth Observation (EO). EAVs are satellite-based building blocks that in combination with one another and/or other non-EO information support actionable, policy relevant information on state, change, and forecast of agricultural land use and productivity. This workshop builds upon previous work to refine the EAV framework (2019-2022), wherein 30+ GEOGLAM EAV stewards collaboratively defined 40 EAVs comprising Climate and Weather Variables and Agricultural Domain Variables.

Given the expansion of global and national policy drivers directly related to GEOGLAM and the EAVs, the increase in satellite measurements applicable to agriculture, the advancement

of EAVs models and methods, the growth of the agriculture monitoring community, and the expansion of the use of satellite data for agriculture decisions down to the sub-farm scale, it is time to revisit the EAVs. As the world's authority on the use of EO for agriculture monitoring, we need to contribute a unified vision for what satellite data can do to support agriculture.

Crucial to this work is richer engagement with the international space agencies upon whose data we rely for this important work. Recently, the convening body of said space agencies - the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) - adopted an action to support advancing the EAVs. We have the opportunity to collaboratively advance to both the completeness and specificity of the EAVs, as well as set priorities for their operationalisation and implementation.

## Workshop Objectives

This workshop is the first step in a larger process to refine the EAVs ([see this linked document to view a more comprehensive vision for EAVs and the relationship with CEOS](#)). In this workshop, our objectives are broadly to:

- Reinvigorate the EAV community and engage new partners in the process;
- Update the EAV framework and its scope, including prioritisation of activities and variables;
- Identify synergies with and opportunities for engagement with adjacent communities and their Essential Variables (e.g. Climate, Water, Biodiversity);
- Reach consensus on the EAV list and affirm stewards for the different EAVs;
- Set milestones and timelines for accomplishing the increments of the EAV effort as laid out and agreed upon during the meeting.

## Advance Work & Asynchronous Participation

We acknowledge that many are not able to travel easily at this time. Accordingly, we have devised a plan for encouraging participation from all interested parties (in-person and virtual):

### Before the meeting:

- **All Participants:**
  - Read the agenda to ponder the questions posed within it.
  - [Fill in this form](#), which will create a first-cut of prioritised variables as well as identify interested stewards.
    - It includes the 2022 variables, as well as multiple new variables.
  - [Contribute to this table](#), which allows us to hit the ground running with draft (and even consensus!) definitions for EAVs.
    - It includes the 2022 definitions, as well as space to begin defining multiple new variables.

### During the meeting:

- **Virtual Participants:**
  - At the end of our day, we will send out a rough synthesis of guided exercises and recorded discussions for your review. We may ask for structured feedback, or just open the lines of communication should you have something to offer.

- Please provide your feedback no later than 8 am CEST the following day so we can account for it.

**After the meeting:**

- **All Participants:**
  - Anyone with relevant expertise in that variable and/or its associated satellite systems and projects can be a steward and contribute to the EAVs.
  - There will be a hand-raise of commitments at the end of Day 2, and an opportunity in the period immediately (circa 3 weeks) following to volunteer for a role in the EAV effort.

## Workshop Agenda

13 May 2025 → EAV Day 1

*8:30 am → JRC Bus Departs Hotel Europa*

*8:30 - 9:00 am → Arrival and Coffee*

### Session 1: Setting the Stage

Building 27b room 008 (ground floor)

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic / Activity</b>	<b>Speaker / Facilitator</b>
9:00 am	Welcoming participants to the JRC	Francois Kayitakire, <i>JRC HOU Food Security</i>
9:05 am	Workshop opening	Alessandra Zampieri, <i>Director, JRC Sustainable Resources</i>
9:15 am	Meeting Logistics	Bettina Baruth, <i>GEOGLAM Co-Chair, EC JRC</i>
9:20 am	Critical Framing for this Workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● EAV Retrospective: Progress &amp; Evolution</li> <li>● Evolving EO-for-Ag Landscape</li> <li>● Cross-border/cross-scalar challenges &amp; opportunities for EAV</li> <li>● Relationship with CEOS and other communities</li> </ul>	Alyssa Whitcraft, <i>Programme Scientist &amp; EAV Co-Lead, GEOGLAM Secretariat</i>
9:50 am	High-Level Workshop Objectives	Sven Gilliams, <i>Director &amp; EAV Co-Lead, GEOGLAM Secretariat</i>
10:00 am	Introductions & An Exercise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Motivation for the EAVs and participants objectives</li> <li>● <i>All to fill out structured cards and share one response while also introducing themselves</i></li> </ul>	Moderator: Bettina Baruth  Discussants: All
<i>11:00 am</i>	<i>Coffee &amp; Snack Break</i>	
11:30 am	Requirements Refresh, Stocktake, and Gap Analysis	Alyssa Whitcraft

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Framework Logic</li> <li>• Differentiating the tasks of defining, setting requirements, taking stock, identifying gaps and priorities, and producing EAVs</li> <li>• Database Preview</li> </ul>	
11:45 am	Breakout Session 1: Achieving the Objectives of the EAVs	All

**12:30 - 1:45 pm → Lunch**

## Session 2: EAV Framework and Prioritisation of Activities

Building 27b room 008 (ground floor)

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic / Activity</b>	<b>Speaker / Facilitator</b>
2:10 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report Back from Breakout Session 1</li> <li>• Real-time adjustment of the EAV Framework / Database</li> </ul>	Moderator: Sven Gilliams Rapporteurs
2:55 pm	<p>Updated EAV List</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of Synthesis of Advance Work, Including Early Look at Steward Self-Identification</li> </ul> <p>Context for Prioritisation Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describing “EAV end points” - i.e. products vs. pipelines vs. guidance documents</li> <li>• Prioritising across the EAV Exercise - i.e.:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prioritising during the definitions-through-stocktake phase</li> <li>○ Prioritising which EAVs to move toward their end points</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Sven Gilliams
3:15 pm	Breakout Session #2: Prioritisation of EAVs	All
<i>4:00 pm</i>	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
4:20 pm	<p>Report Back from Breakout Session 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Real-time adjustment of the EAV List</li> </ul>	Moderator: Wu Bingfang, <i>GEOGLAM Co-Chair, RADI</i>  Rapporteurs

### Session 3: Integrating Space Agency and GEOGLAM Community Assets and Efforts toward Implementable EAVs

4:50 pm	Contextualising and Leveraging the GEOGLAM-CEOS Relationship	Chris Justice, <i>GEOGLAM Co-Chair, UMD</i>
5:00 pm	Agency Reflections on GEOGLAM-CEOS-Agency Relationships	CEOS Agency Representatives
5:25 pm	Group Discussion Reflecting on Day 1 and Prep for Day 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Participants are encouraged to ask for clarifications to ensure success Day 2</i></li> </ul>	<i>Moderator: Chris Justice</i>  All to participate
5:55 pm	Wrap Up	Sven Gilliams and Alyssa Whitcraft
<i>6:00 pm</i>	<i>Adjourn</i>  <i>Transport: Buses Depart at 18:15 from outside the JRC Building 27b</i>	

14 May 2025 → EAV Day 2

8:30 am → JRC Bus Departs Hotel Europa

8:45 - 9:00 am → Arrival and Coffee

## Session 4: Strategies for an Effective Stocktake & Gap Analysis

Building 27b room 008 (ground floor)

Time	Topic / Activity	Speaker / Facilitator
9:00 am	Updates Resulting from Day 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summary of any asynchronous feedback from virtual attendees</li> </ul>	Allison Bredder, NASA Acres & Sven Gilliams
9:20 am	Co-working session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make a copy of the <i>Group A.LM. Reqs, Stocktake, &amp; Gap Analysis</i> in same groups for Breakout #2 from Day 1:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>📄 Copy of EAV Descriptions, Requirement...</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Alyssa Whitcraft
11:00 am	<i>Coffee &amp; Snack Break</i>	
11:45 am	Report back + discussion from Co-working session	
12:30 pm	Roles, Responsibilities, and Timelines in the EAV Effort	Sven Gilliams

1:00 - 2:15 pm → Lunch

## Session 5: Charting a Successful and Shared Course Forward

Building 27b room 008 (ground floor)

Time	Topic / Activity	Speaker / Facilitator
2:15 pm	Breakout Session # 3: Strategies for the Stocktake	
2:45 pm	Breakout Session # 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Imagining the Future: Looking Back at What Worked and What did not</li> </ul>	
3:15 pm	Report back from Sessions #3 and #4	Moderator: Alyssa Whitcraft

		Rapporteurs
4:00 pm	<p>Steward Commitments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rough timelines and roadmap</li> <li>• Hand-raise opt-in</li> </ul> <p>Identifying the most significant human and financial resource gaps</p>	<p>Moderator: Bettina Baruth</p> <p><i>All to participate</i></p>
<i>4:30 pm</i>	<i>Coffee &amp; Snack</i>	
5:00 pm	<p>Wrap-Up Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What remaining questions do we have? Is there clarity on next steps and YOUR responsibility in them?</li> <li>• Are there opportunities for synergy not yet accounted for?</li> </ul>	Moderator: Chris Justice
6:00 pm	<p>Start Exercise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overcoming Gaps: Unreasonable Requests and Extraordinary Offers</li> </ul>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p><i>All to fill out structured cards with an unreasonable ask and an extraordinary offer, then read them to group</i></p>
<i>6:30 pm</i>	<p><i>Adjourn &amp; Depart Directly for Social Dinner</i></p> <p><i>Bus Departs 18:45 from outside the JRC Building 27b</i></p>	

### 7:00 pm → Social Dinner

- **Il Coppale - Via Al Lago 283 - 21062 Cadrezzate**

## GEOGLAM EX COM

15 May 2025 → EX COM Day 1

*8:30 am → JRC Bus Departs Hotel Europa*

*8:45 - 9:00 am → Arrival and Coffee*

Time	Topic / Activity	Speaker / Facilitator
10:00 am	<b>State of the GEOGLAM Program – Sven Gilliams, Executive Director (30 mins)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● General Status <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ GEOGLAM Secretariat Funding</li> <li>○ The World Bank GEOGLAM Activity</li> <li>○ Future Funding Strategy</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Update from the GEO Forum</li> <li>● G20 Plans – South Africa, US, Next ?</li> <li>● Q and A</li> </ul>	Sven Gilliams
<i>10:30 am</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:00 am	<b>Working Group Updates (20 minutes each – followed by 10 mins discussion)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Capacity Building WG status and next steps – Hongwei</li> <li>● In situ data WG status and next steps – Hendrik Bogaard</li> <li>● JECAM WG status and next steps – Pierre</li> </ul>	<i>WG leads</i>

- *12:30 - 2:00 pm → Lunch*

Time	Topic / Activity	Speaker / Facilitator
2:00 pm	<b>Working Group Updates (20 minutes each – followed by 10 mins discussion)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Crop Monitors status and next steps – Christina / Inbal (TBD)</li> <li>● EAV WG – Summary and actions items from the meeting -- Alyssa</li> </ul>	
3:00 pm	Governance Document: discussion and approval - Sven Gilliams	Sven Gilliams

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthening Regional Engagement: discussion – Chris Justice</li> <li>New working group integration</li> </ul>	
<i>4:00 pm</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>	
4:30 pm	Outreach – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Website</li> <li>Upcoming Meetings that GEOGLAM could present at or hold a side meeting</li> <li>Impact stories</li> </ul>	Esther Makabe
<i>5:30pm</i>	<i>Adjourn</i>	

## 16 May 2025 → EX COM Day 2

*8:30 am → JRC Bus Departs Hotel Europa*

*8:45 - 9:00 am → Arrival and Coffee*

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic / Activity</b>	<b>Speaker / Facilitator</b>
9:00 am	Outreach – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Website</li> <li>Upcoming Meetings that GEOGLAM could present at or hold a side meeting</li> <li>Impact stories</li> </ul>	Esther Makabe
9:50	Changes in governance and regional networks	<i>Sven Gilliams</i>  <i>Chris Justice</i>
10:10 am	GEOGLAM forward looking Discussion  What will be the next big steps for GEOGLAM	Co-Chairs

<i>11:00 am</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:30 am	Proposed New Topics for GEOGLAM	<i>All</i>
12:10 pm	Actions	Esther Makabe
12:20 am	Conclusions	Sven Gilliams / Co-Chairs
<i>12:30 pm</i>	<i>Adjourn</i>	