



GEO Week 2019 Updates for Participants

Week at a glance

The following table provides an updated ‘week at a glance’ view of GEO Week and key surrounding events.

	Saturday and Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Breakfasts				GA Chief Scientist	Ministers and Business Leaders		
Core GEO Meetings			Executive Committee	Plenary	Plenary	Ministerial Summit	Executive Committee
Side Events and Industry Track		Side Events		Industry Track			
		Ideas Stage		EO Industry Platform			
		Pacific Island Program					
Evening Events		GEO Week Welcome & Exhibition Preview	Networking Drinks Function	Networking Drinks Function	Ministerial Exhibition Walkthrough		Ministerial Press Availability
			ExCom Reception	Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony	Ministerial VIP Reception	Networking Drinks Function	
					Ministerial Roundtable and Dinner		
Exhibition		Exhibition Preview	Earth Observation Exhibition (Note: formal opening Tuesday afternoon)				
Community and Youth	Indigenous Hackathon	Indigenous Hackathon Judging and Prize-giving		Open Session at EO Exhibition			
				Public talks: A Career in EO			
Proximate Events	AO-GEO Symposium			UN Environment: Big Data for Environment Working Group			
		UN-GGIM AP Meeting					

The following GEO-relevant events will take place in Canberra around or during GEO Week 2019:

- UN Environment’s [Science-Policy-Business Forum](#) will host its [Big Data for Environment Working Group](#) meeting in the margins of GEO Week 2019. This provides an opportunity to connect discussions on Earth observation with broader discussions about the use of big data for the environment.
- [Asia-Oceania GEO](#) is the Regional GEO for the Asia-Oceania region. Its Annual Symposium will include a focus on “How do we go from global challenges to improving local decision making?” and “How do we connect and synergize GEO and AO-GEO activities?”
- [UN-GGIM Asia Pacific \(AP\)](#) is one of the five regional committees of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management. UN-GGIM AP is the representing body of the National Geospatial Information Authority of 56 countries in the Asia and the Pacific region.



Participation¹

Total forecasted attendance for GEO Week 2019, Associated GEO Events and Proximate Events²	1,200
--	--------------

The following table summarises anticipated attendance for core GEO Week activities:

Category	# Delegations	# Delegates
Members	40	435
Participating Organizations	39	146
Observers	2	3
Associates	2	10
Guests of the GEO Secretariat		10
Side Event ³		280
Industry Track and Side Event ³		120
UN Big Data for Environment Working Group ⁴		75
Other		40
Total forecast attendance for GEO Week 2019 Events²		1,130

Reminders:

- Members of official delegations **must complete the individual registration process** using the link that is distributed to them once they have been included on the delegation list.
- Members and Participating Organizations may still **submit and update their delegate lists** to the GEO [Secretariat](#). Removal of people not attending is appreciated.
- **Embassy staff, security staff, ministerial attendants and others must be included** on Member country delegations. If they are not included and registered they will be denied entry to the GEO Week 2019 venue.
- [Registration](#) for **non-delegates** wishing to attend the [Side Event](#) program and [Industry Track](#) is **still open**.

The following table summarises anticipated attendance for the GEO-relevant events taking place in Canberra around or during GEO Week 2019:

Category	# Delegates
Associated GEO Event	
AOGEO Symposium (2-4 November)	170
Proximate Events	
UN-GGIM Asia Pacific Meeting (4-5 November)	55
UNEA Big Data for Environment Working Group (6-8 November)	75
Total forecasted attendance for Associated GEO Events and Proximate Events*	300

¹ Figures as at 8 October 2019

² The final figures do account for some possible duplications. The final figures do not account for projected 'no shows' which may as high as 10%. Approximately 100-150 additional registrations are expected across the various categories.

³ These figures include AOGEO Symposium and UN-GGIM AP registrants also registered to attend the Side Event program and/or Industry Track.

⁴ UN Big Data for the Environment Working Group attendees will also participate in Side Events and Industry Track.



GEO WEEK 2019 MINISTERIAL SUMMIT #GEOWEEK19

4-9 NOVEMBER / CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA



Access

The GEO Week 2019 venue will only be accessible by those with a valid registration. The table below provides an at-a-glance view of access to the venue for key categories.

Category	Side Events	Industry Track	Plenary	Summit	AO-GEO Symposium	UN-GGIM Asia Pacific	Big Data for Enviro.
GEO Week Categories							
Minister or designated representative	✓	✓	✓	✓	Separate registration required to participate in these events		
Member Delegate	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Participating Org Delegate	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Observer Delegate	✓	✓	Observe	Observe			
Guests of the GEO Secretariat	✓	✓	Observe	Observe			
Industry Track Registrants	✓	✓	5	5			
Side Event Registrants	✓						
Exhibitors	✓	✓					
Winners of GEO Awards	✓	✓	Observe	Observe			
Non-GEO Week Categories							
AO-GEO Registration ^{6,7}	✓ ⁸	✓ ⁸			✓		
UN-GGIM AP Registration ⁶	✓ ⁸	✓ ⁸				✓	
Big Data for Environment Registration ⁶	✓	✓	5	5			✓

⁵ A limited number will be invited to observe certain sessions.

⁶ If not also registered under a different category (e.g. Member delegate) that grants additional access.

⁷ AO-GEO registrants who have not 'opted in' to the side event programme and/or Industry Track will not have access to the GEO Week 2019 venue.

⁸ If opted in through the registration process.



GEO WEEK 2019 MINISTERIAL SUMMIT #GEOWEEK19

4-9 NOVEMBER / CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA



Ministerial Programme

Ministerial Summit Invitations

The Host Minister finished distributing follow-up invitations to the Ministerial Summit to fellow ministers on 4 October 2019. The follow-up invitations include an RSVP form which **must be completed** to:

- Identify if the relevant Minister is attending themselves, or if they are authorising another individual to speak for them during the Summit.
- Identify which of the ministerial events (e.g. dinner, roundtable) the minister will attend if they are participating in GEO Week.

Responses to this RSVP process are due now. Please note: Interventions during the Summit are only permitted by invited Ministers or formally authorised representatives.

Ministerial Summit Program

An updated draft agenda and the final background papers for **Session 2** of the Ministerial Summit on “Strategy” were circulated to GEO Principals on 27 September. They are also available at the following locations:

- http://www.mediafire.com/folder/ltgnlqkx7hust/GEO_XVI_Documents
- <ftp://ftp.earthobservations.org/geo/GEO-XVI/>

The GEO Secretariat has started the process for scheduling interventions during the Summit. On 4 October the GEO Secretariat circulated a request for delegations to express their interest in the various intervention opportunities, with responses due as soon as possible.

Interpretation

Consistent with requests received from Members, simultaneous interpretation will be available during the Summit (only) for the following languages: Russian, Chinese, Spanish, French, English and Japanese (expenditure covered by Japan).

Ministerial Declaration

The Ministerial Summit Working Group has finalised the proposed text for the Canberra Summit Declaration. The Host Minister, Senator The Hon Matthew Canavan, will formally distribute the text to fellow ministers shortly.



GEO WEEK 2019
**MINISTERIAL
 SUMMIT** #GEOWEEK19
 4-9 NOVEMBER / CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA



Ministerial Roundtable

The Host Minister will convene a ‘roundtable’ event with peer ministers from 18:00 to 19:00 (approx.) in the evening of Thursday 7 November. The aim of the roundtable is for the Host Minister and his peers to discuss key emerging policy topics with the potential to impact Earth observing more broadly, and thus likely to influence GEO’s longer term success. Invitations to the Roundtable will typically be restricted to Ministers attending the Summit, accompanied by a single advisor and personal interpreter (if necessary).

Ministerial Breakfast

Australia’s national science agency, CSIRO, will host an invitation-only breakfast for Ministers, Heads of Mission (including those not representing Ministers at the Summit), business leaders participating in the Industry Track, and other invited guests on the morning of Thursday 7 November.

Australia’s Minister for Industry, Science and Technology, The Hon Karen Andrews MP, will deliver a speech at the event. The breakfast will be held at the historic Hyatt Hotel. Invitations will be distributed starting 10 October.

Ministerial Reception and Dinner

The Host Minister will host a number of invitation-only social events at the GEO Week 2019 venue in the evening of Thursday 7 November:

16:00 to 16:30	Arrivals and Welcome The Host Minister will welcome Ministers and Heads of Mission as they arrive at the venue.
16:00 to 17:00	Exhibition Walkthrough The Host Minister, other Ministers and Heads of Missions, accompanied by their advisors, will walk through the Earth Observation Exhibition.
17:00 to 18:00	Reception The Host Minister will welcome Ministers, Heads of Mission, GEO Co-Chairs, invited Industry Track guests and other special guests to an informal reception.
18:00 to 19:00 (approx.)	Roundtable <i>(See above)</i>
From 19:00 (approx.)	Dinner The Host Minister will welcome Ministers, Heads of Mission, GEO Co-Chairs and invited special guests to an “Outback Barbeque” dinner.

Ministerial Press Availability

The format for the ‘press availability’ that is scheduled to immediately follow the Ministerial Summit will be determined by the Host Minister in consultation with Co-Chair Ministers.



Plenary Program

Plenary Agenda and Papers

An updated draft agenda along with the papers for Sessions 2 (“Action on Climate”), 3 (“Action on Disaster Risk Reduction”), 4 (“Action on Sustainable Development”) and 5 (“Broadening Engagement”) of the Plenary were circulated to GEO Principals on 8 October. Documents are available at the following locations:

- [http://www.mediafire.com/folder/ltgnlqkx7hust/GEO XVI Documents](http://www.mediafire.com/folder/ltgnlqkx7hust/GEO_XVI_Documents)
- <ftp://ftp.earthobservations.org/geo/GEO-XVI/>

Statements to Plenary

On 5 September the GEO Secretariat issued a call for Members and Participating Organizations to submit written statements to the GEO Plenary. It is preferred that written statements are submitted **by 31 October**, to enable other delegations to take account of the contents of the statements in preparing for GEO Week. The GEO Secretariat publishes written statements on the GEO Week 2019 website.

Side Events

Side Event Program

The full schedule for the [Side Event Program](#) is published on the GEO Week 2019 website, including:

- [Key Side Events](#)
- [Targeted Side Events](#)
- [Ideas Stage](#)

To encourage attendance at Key Side Events, only three have been scheduled in parallel for each time slot with no other events are on at the same time. By contrast, up to 8 Targeted Side Events and the Ideas Stage will run in parallel to provide choice for attendees.

Side Event organisers and Ideas Stage speakers have been provided with a list of [“Frequently Asked Questions”](#) on the website to support them in their preparations.

Due to strong demand for the ‘Ideas Stage’ a longer session will be held on the evening of Tuesday 5 November. This extended session, dubbed **“Ideas Stage up late”**, will coincide with an informal reception providing an informal atmosphere for attendees to socialise while attending the Ideas Stage to learn something new about the work of the GEO community.



Pacific Island Program

The overview for the Pacific Island Program can be found on the [GEO Week website here](#).

The Monday 4 November afternoon Ideas Stage session has been dedicated to talks related to the Pacific, as part of the Pacific Island Program. Access to other aspects of the Pacific Island Program may be restricted due to capacity constraints. Priority will be given to attendees from Pacific Island Countries and Territories and regional organisations.

Industry Track

Preparations for the [Industry Track](#) are well advanced. The schedule of events and list of 50 confirmed speakers is available on the [dedicated website](#). A number of private sector companies will be sponsoring events around the Industry Track.

The Industry Track is delivered by the [Australian Space Agency](#) with support from [CSIRO](#) and in partnership with:

- [Australia’s Space Industry Association](#)
- [Australia’s Spatial Industry Business Association](#)
- [Earth Observation Australia](#)
- [FrontierSI](#)

Exhibition

The following exhibitors are confirmed for the Earth Observation Exhibition:

AfriGEO	ENVRI	INVAP
Australian Government	ESRI	Japan GEO
Canada	Earth Observations Cameroon	Korea GEO
China GEO	European Association of Remote Sensing Companies	Maxar
COSPAR 2020	European Commission	Portmap Remote Ocean Sensing
E-GEOS	Google/NGIS	United States GEO
Emapper	HyVista Corporation	

***Requests for the [final few spaces](#) are still welcome.**



GEO WEEK 2019
**MINISTERIAL
SUMMIT** #GEOWEEK19
4-9 NOVEMBER / CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA



Community and Youth Engagement

The Earth Observation Exhibition will be open to the public in the afternoon of Wednesday 6 November.

A special event to showcase the opportunities a “Career in EO” can offer will be held during this open period, targeted at 15-30 year olds but open to others. Speakers will include:

- Opportunities in international development: **Claire Melamed**, GPSDD
- Opportunities in science and research: **Albert Van Dijk**, Australian National University
- Opportunities in business: **Pauline Okeyo**, ESRI Eastern Africa
- Opportunities to inform policy making: **Stuart Minchin**, Australian GEO Principal

Members and Participating Organizations are encouraged to:

- Highlight these opportunities, including amongst ‘expat’ communities who may be in Canberra / Australia.
- Consider including attendees for the Community and Youth Engagement events as part of your delegation.

Indigenous Participation

Indigenous voices need to be heard within GEO and GEO Week 2019, consistent with Ministerial discussions that will be held on creating a more inclusive and diverse GEO.

There are a range of opportunities to make this happen, including through the Key Side Event on “EO and the World's Indigenous Peoples” to be held on Monday 4 November. Members and Participating Organizations are encouraged to include indigenous voices in their delegations.

Social Opportunities

Networking Functions

Each evening from Monday 4 November to Thursday 4 November inclusive a networking function will be held at the GEO Week 2019 venue.

Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony

The Gala Dinner will be held on Wednesday 6 November. The majority of tickets will be allocated to Heads of Delegation. Larger delegations will receive a larger number of tickets, with each delegation receiving at least one ticket. Heads of Delegation will be able to assign tickets within their delegation as they see fit.



GEO WEEK 2019

MINISTERIAL SUMMIT

#GEOWEEK19
4-9 NOVEMBER / CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA



A series of awards will be presented during the Gala Dinner. The processes for selecting the winners of each of the three categories of awards are complete:

- GEO Individual Excellence Awards
- EO4SDG Awards
- Citizen Science competition winners

Information and Communications

Social Media Pack to promote #GEOWeek19

Promote your participation at GEO Week on social media and on your website using the resources available for download including graphics, logos and sample tweets on the [GEO Week Trello board here](#).

GEO Week App and Website

The GEO Week 2019 App is now available for download from Google Play and the Apple App Store. The App and [GEO Week 2019 website](#) will be the primary channel for distribution of information to GEO Week 2019 attendees.

Announcements

Delegations are reminded to contact the GEO Secretariat if they wish to make announcements at GEO Week 2019. An early 'heads up' will ensure the GEO Secretariat and Host can make suitable arrangements.

Registration for media accreditation is [now open](#). Only accredited media will have access to the National Convention Centre Canberra during GEO Week 2019. Identification passes will be issued to accredited media on arrival and must always be worn. The GEO Secretariat is currently finalising media access opportunities for during GEO Week 2019. Once finalised, this information will be made available on the [GEO Week 2019 website](#).

If a delegation has a professional journalist or photographer they would like accredited for GEO Week 2019, they should direct the professional journalist or photographer to email media@geosec.org

In the lead up to GEO Week 2019, the GEO Secretariat will provide delegations with further information about media and social media engagement.



GEO WEEK 2019
**MINISTERIAL
SUMMIT** #GEOWEEK19
4-9 NOVEMBER / CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA



Learning from GEO Week 2019

Every GEO Week, especially those that include a Ministerial Summits, is an opportunity to learn.

A brief participant survey will be made available to GEO Week 2019 attendees towards the end of GEO Week, potentially through the event website and event App. All attendees are encouraged to complete the survey when it is released, as it will help future event organisers make GEO Week even better for the GEO community. Heads of Delegation are encouraged to highlight the survey to members of their delegations.

Contacts

The following table summarises key contacts for more information.

Ministerial attendance at the Summit, Roundtable and other Ministerial events	GEOMinisterial@ga.gov.au
Delegations from Members and Participating Organizations	Secretariat@geosec.org
Plenary and Summit program	Secretariat@geosec.org
Side events (including Ideas Stage)	GEOSideEvents@ga.gov.au
EO Exhibition	GEOIndustryTrack@ga.gov.au
Industry Track (including Sponsorship)	GEOIndustryTrack@ga.gov.au
Communications (media, announcements)	Media@geosec.org
Other questions	Secretariat@geosec.org