

Introduction

In order to support the work of the Canadian Space Agency's Commercialization Office, a series of orientation papers have been prepared. They are a starting point for discussion and a tool for engaging partners on relevant issues. They are meant to support the applications directorate managers in their responsibilities as they:

- Serve as a focal point for certain issues or themes within the Applications Directorate and the CSA in general;
- Represent the Directorate and CSA on working groups, committees and in national and international fora related to the issues or themes;
- Maintain a knowledge-base in relation to the given area by staying up-to-date and developing a network of contacts in the area;
- Promote the CSA with regard to outside partner communities, and represent the interests of those communities within the CSA (serve as a “bridge”);
- Identify collaborative opportunities that might be pursued between the CSA and these communities.

The papers themselves are arranged according to three categories:

- **Topic-driven papers**, which focus on a particular theme or topic deemed to be of interest;
- **Policy and engagement papers**, which focus on an area of policy and its relevant implications for CSA and partners; and
- **Collaborative papers**, which present a short summary of a collaborative mechanism or partner organisation of importance.

Further papers may be developed in future on technology themes, highlighting the specific contribution of a given technology.

Each paper is presented in four pages, including:

- a **general overview** of the theme area, and its scope;
- a list and description of **key players** and links to relevant websites for them, as well as a “**hot**” issues box;
- the **relationship between space and the theme** or policy area, and a short list of **key issues for the CSA** (in a sense, opportunities and threats for the CSA in relation to the theme);
- a list of **linkages to other orientation paper themes and references** in three separate categories: **basic information**, a source of **latest updates**, and detailed sources to provide a **closer “look”**.

Themes
Topic-driven themes
1. Biodiversity & Ecosystem Conservation
2. Cities & Urban Issues
3. Climate Change & Variability
4. Coastal and Marine Ecosystems
5. Disasters
6. Energy and Mineral Development
7. Environmental Factors Affecting Health
8. Great Lakes – St-Lawrence
9. International Development
10. North/Arctic
11. Security and Surveillance
12. Sustainable Agriculture
13. Sustainable Forestry
14. Sustainable Water Resources
15. Weather
Policy & Engagement Themes
16. Data Policy
17. Engaging EO Users
18. Industry and Industrial Policy
19. Universities/Academia & R&D
Collaborative Themes (one-pagers)
20. Committee on Earth Observation Satellites
21. Global Monitoring for Environment and Security
22. Group on Earth Observations (GEO) and Canadian GEO