23 May 2025 - 14:00-15:30 CEST | GDWG Teleconference

Minutes of Meeting MoM

Participants: Paolo Castracane (PC), Luca Garegnani (LG), Rubinder Mannan (RM), Manik Bali (MB), Tian Lin (TL), Heikki Pohjola (HP), Tim Hewison (TH), Simon Elliott (SE).

Agenda topics:

- GSICS Collections for the EUMETSAT Data Store.
- Updates on Univ. of Maryland IT policy and impact for GSICS Wiki.

Actions

1. A1. LG to investigate a way to differentiate “demo” and “pre-operational” products in the same collection.
2. A2. MB to provide examples of NESDIS file to LG.
3. A3. PC to draft an email, as GDWG Chair, to get info about the willingness and availability of the members to provide their GSICS products for uploading on the EUM Data Store.
4. A4. HP, as WMO representative, to enquire about possible hosts to involve in the GSICS wiki migration.
5. A5. PC to distribute the MoM Draft.

Summarised notes:

PC welcomed the audience and introduced the two topics of the Agenda.

GSICS Collections for EUM Data server

LG is going to prepare the GSICS collections for the EUM Data Store. As previously discussed, the idea is to have in the Data Store only GSICS Products (no source nor intermediate data). LG proposed to create two collections per data provider (one collection for operational data and one for demo/pre-operational data). To organise these two collections LG asked few questions to the audience, see below related discussion.

PC asked if there were some differences among the maturity levels reported in the GSICS Product Catalog as: demo, demonstration, preoperational and prototype as they will be all collected in one collection. SE mentioned the MNTO Vocabulary Service used by WMO for metadata standard. TH mentioned the GSICS Procedure for Product Acceptance. TH asked LG to verify if possible to have different tags/flags for Demo and pre-operational products even if included in the same collection.

A1. LG to investigate a way to differentiate “demo” and “pre-operational” products in the same collection.

Originator: The originator will remain the Agency providers (e.g. CMA, JMA, etc) as they are responsible for the generation of these GSICS products. This will happen also for the cases was/is EUMETSAT to handle the data for others.

Processing Level: It has been agreed that this field is not applicable. It has been requested to add in the product description that GSCIS products are applicable to Level 1 Satellite data.

isEUMData. It has been agreed that this field should be "yes" for the collections containing EUM GSICS products and "no" for the collections containing GSICS products from other partners.

Geographic information/ lat lon. The GSICS Products are global applicable, therefore this field is not applicable or, in alternative, extended to lat, long -90,90 and -180,180 respectively.

Retention time. It has been agreed that both demo plus pre-operational and operational products, organized in the two collections, shall be always maintained (no retention time). This is also in consideration of small size of these files.

Typical filename. LG requested some file examples for NESDIS – files seem not currently available from the Catalog.

A2. MB to provide examples of NESDIS file to LG

TH stated that, since other agencies have their own servers (i.e. CMA, NOAA/NESDIS, ISRO) is not needed that EUM host their data. MB explain that all data, from the different servers, can be queried by the Product Catalogue, and this will continue after the THREDDS server migration.

A3. PC to draft an email, as GDWG Chair, to get info about the willingness and availability of the members to provide their GSICS products for uploading on the EUM Data Store.

LG provided a demo of the system showing how all the data can be queried without be logged-in. He stated, that, for download GSICS Product, users will need to be registered and logged-in. He mentioned, in addition, the EUMDAC system for APIs and services. It provides a variety of useful command-line utilities for data search, download, and customization, a dedicated phyton library is also available.

LG reminded the audience that users will be not able to directly upload their data. Data will be first uploaded to a sftp server and then internally uploaded in the Data Store.

PC reminded the relevant actions from previous GDWG Annual meeting (reported here for convenience)

A.GDWG.2025.11k.2: LG to provide MB with the information to upload the data (e.g. sftp site)

A.GDWG.2025.11k.3: MB will upload an example of GSICS dataset to test the system

A.GDWG.2025.11k.4: Eumetsat to provide Data policy agreement example and provide examples of relevant documentation e.g. Privacy Notice for data protection, legal information etc.

A.GDWG.2025.11k.5: Agencies and WMO inquire about the data agreement needed for migration to the EUMETSAT data store.

Updates on Univ. of Maryland IT policy and impact for GSICS Wiki

MB briefly explained the great importance of the GSICS Wiki website that collects all the relevant documents, information, and materials from all the GSICS activities since 2007 to date. The website is based on a collaborative platform where users can operate and add content.

The new policy of the University of Maryland will no longer allow new users account and external access to the GSICS wiki website.

MB also stated that no further budget support from NOAA is expected to maintain the GSICS Wiki website.

Considering this situation, two options are proposed: the GSCIS wiki website will be hosted by another GSICS member or managed externally by a third party. The deadline for migration can be approximately set for August 2025.
SE hoped to maintain a collaborative environment for the new platform.
TH stated that migration to a GSICS member is preferable.
HP highlighted that keeping the GSICS wiki content and migration is now the priority and asked if the entire content could be easily exported (dump of content). MB confirmed that it is possible and relatively easily.

A4. HP, as WMO representative, to enquire about possible hosts to involve in the GSICS Wiki migration.

A5. PC to distribute the MoM draft