2025

Annual Report

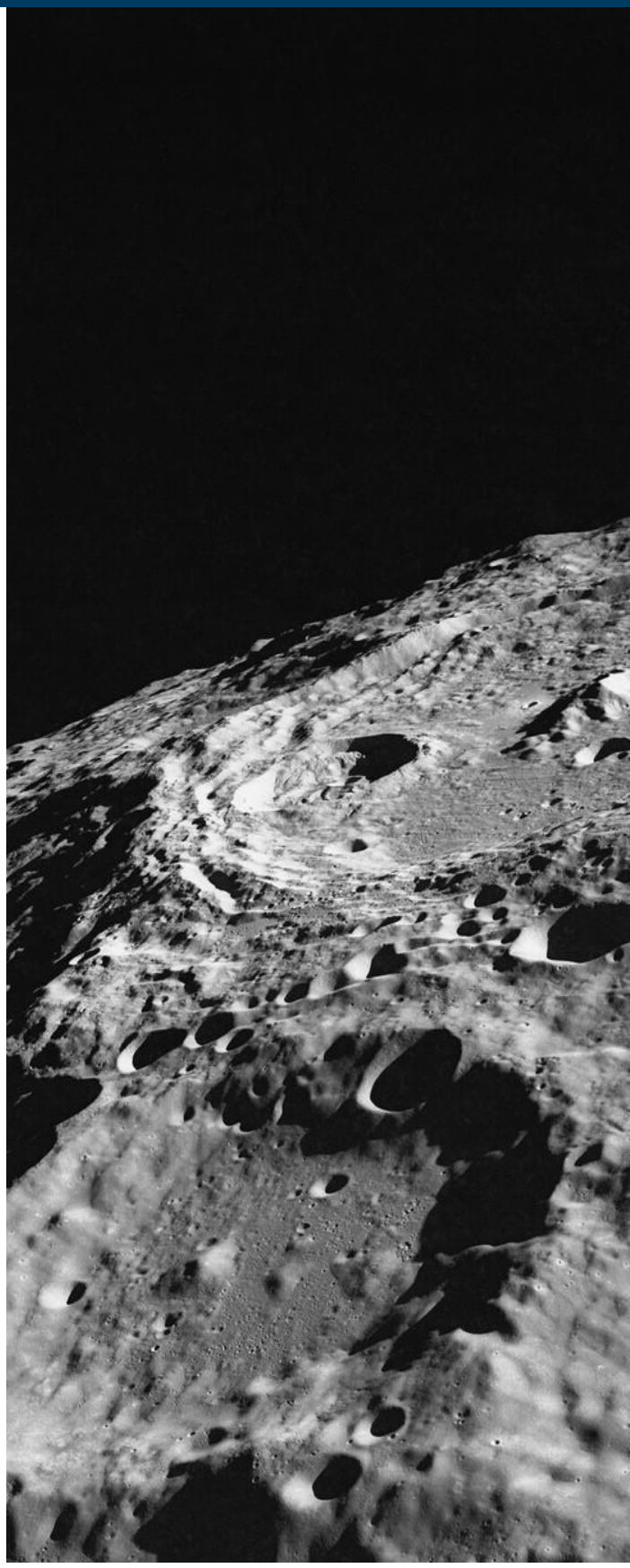
GLOBAL EXPERT GROUP ON SUSTAINABLE LUNAR ACTIVITIES

GEGSLA

GLOBAL EXPERT GROUP ON SUSTAINABLE LUNAR ACTIVITIES

About GEGSLA

In 2020, the Moon Village Association (MVA) took an initiative to address critical issues to de-risk future lunar missions and increase global cooperation for lunar exploration and settlement. Therefore, the MVA decided to promote the development of a neutral forum for multi-stakeholder discussions on lunar exploration: the Global Expert Group on Sustainable Lunar Activities (GEGSLA). The Group was composed of members from Space Agencies, Government, Industry, International Organizations, NGOs, Universities and Research Centers. The public was also involved via a public consultation.



GEGSLA Working Groups

From January 2023, it started the **GEGSLA Operational Phase**.

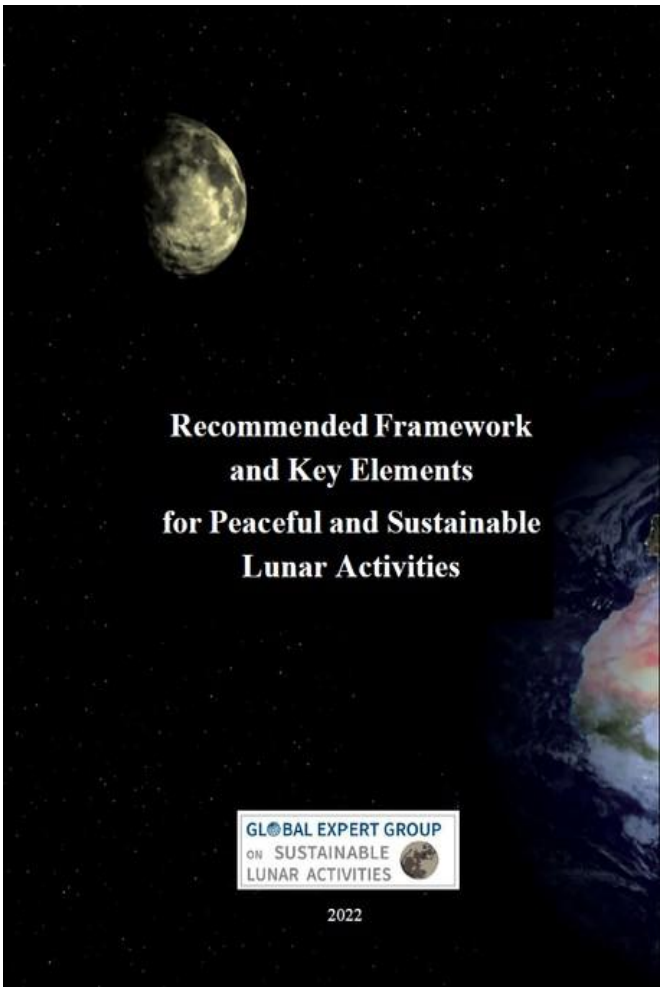
The **goals** of this phase are to promote consideration and implementation of the Recommended Framework produced by the Group, with special focus on discussions conducted within the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UN COPUOS) as well as exchange information on the ongoing lunar missions. The support to these discussions is possible since MVA has permanent observer status within COPUOS.

Several Working Groups have been set up to discuss in details aspects related to Environment/Science, Industry and Lunar Coordination Mechanisms

GEGSLA Deliverables

GEGSLA has continued to progress in its initiatives and outreach. The key update includes the translation and dissemination of the "Recommended Framework and Key Elements for Peaceful and Sustainable Lunar Activities" in Arabic, Chinese, French and English. The translation into French, Chinese and Arabic are to be found here:

[GEGSLA Recommended Framework – Moon Village Association.]



The Recommended Framework and Key Elements is designed as a guide for well-balanced lunar projects and offers recommendations for how to implement safe and sustainable lunar activities through norm- setting, coordination, and management. It builds on principles established in international space law, relevant UN outer space treaties and soft law documents and can be downloaded here:

https://moonvillageassociation.org/gegsla/documents/gegsla-recommended-framework/.

The two additional annexes, while not an object of consensus within the GEGSLA plenary, can be downloaded at: https://moonvillageassociation.org/g egsla/documents/gegsla-annexes/.

GEGSLA Secretariat

Dumitru-Dorin Prunariu
GEGSLA Chairman, Space Agency/Government

Alice Gorman
GEGSLA Vice-Chair, Academia

Rajeswari Pillai Rajagoplan
GEGSLA Vice-Chair, Civil Society

Timothy Cichan
GEGSLA Vice-Chair, Industry

Giuseppe Reibaldi
MVA President & GEGSLA Executive Secretary

Ulpia Botezatu
GEGSLA Implementation Support Officer


GEGSLA WORKING GROUP 1
Lunar
Environmental
Protection
Co-Chairs
ALICE GORMAN
FARAH DIYA YASMINE
JEAN-CLAUDE WORMS
DAVID KENDALL
EDVALDO SILVA
ANNE-SOPHIE MARTIN
RICHARD GREEN
ANEL SNYMAN
FLAVIA AVIM DE CARVALHO
FRANK KOCH
NARESH KANNAN
IAN CRAWFORD
SALEEM ZOGHBI
ANNA RAAB
LUO YAOWEN


GEGSLA WORKING GROUP 2
Lunar
Technical
Coordination
Co-Chairs
TIMOTHY CICHAN
MARCHEL HOLLE
SHREYA SANTRA
HASSAN ABOUSEADA
LAURA CHAMPION
MADISON FEEHAN
ARVIND RAMANA
SUZANNE GILLEN
EKATERINA SELTIKOVA
CARLOS MARISCAL
CLARA RICHARD
BERND J. HOEFER
TUFAN KAYACI
OMOLADE ODETARA
QUAN HAOFANG


GEGSLA WORKING GROUP 3
Lunar
Multustakeholder
Coordination
Co-Chairs
MARK SUMDAHL
WANG ZHONGMIN
NATALIA LEMARQUIS
ALPER OREN
UMAMAHESWARAN RAMAN
GENNARO RUSSO
GÜNEŞ ÜNÜVAR
CHRISTOPHE BOSQUILLON
ITIR TOKSÖZ
SETSUKO AOKI
ARIEL SILVERMAN
MALAK TRABELSI LOEB
ANTONIO SALMERI
LILITH SALISBURY
IRINA CHERNYKH
DENNIS O'BRIEN
KESNIEL BRAVO
SOYOUNG CHUNG
JENNIFER WARREN
MARCIA ALVARENGA

GEGSLA Numbers

45 Members

REPRESENTING INDUSTRY, GOVERNMENTS, SPACE AGENCIES, ACADEMIA, AND CIVIL SOCIETY

From: Australia, Austria, Bahrein, Brazil, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Israel, Kenya, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

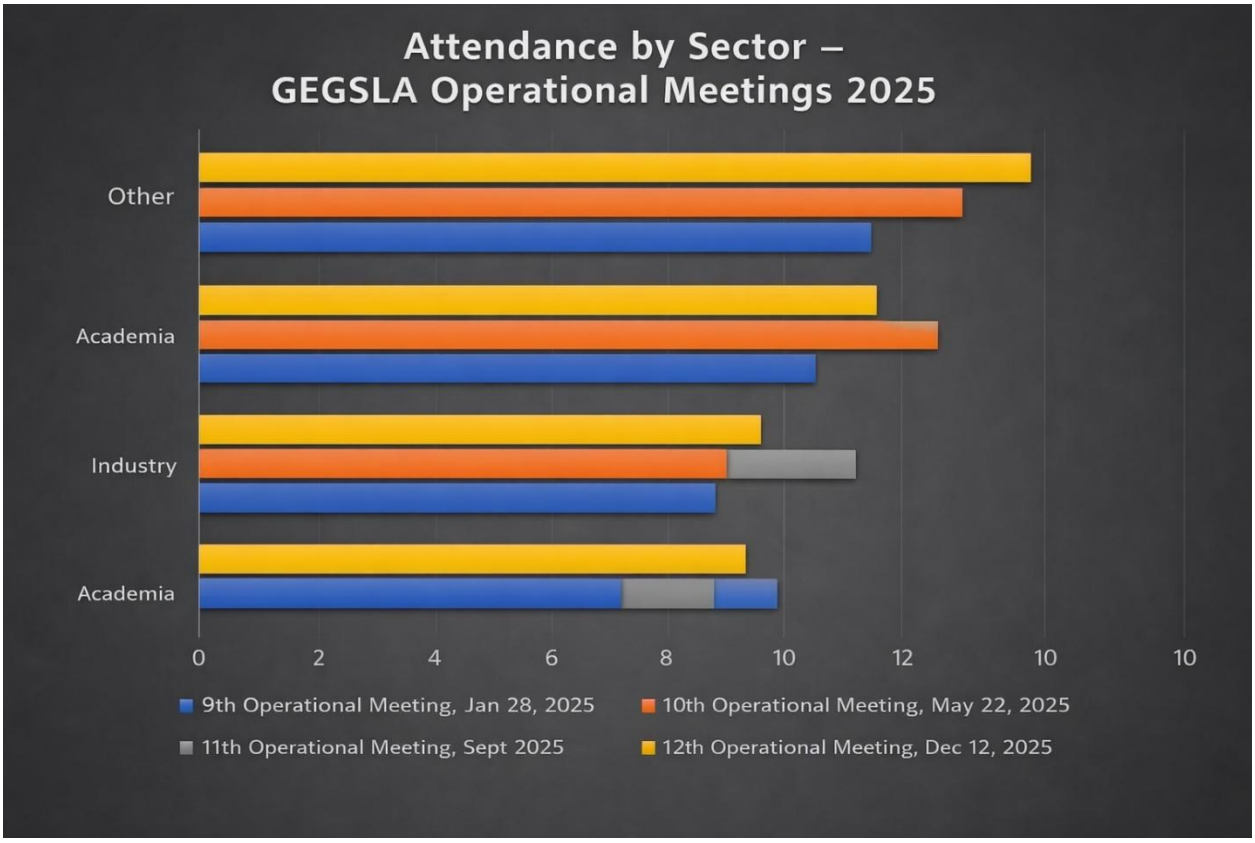
3 Working Groups

TO TACKLE MOST THE PRESSING ISSUES

1. Lunar Environmental Protection
2. Lunar Technical Coordination
3. Lunar Multi-stakeholder Coordination

GEGSLA Meetings

The Group continued its work throughout the Operational Phase in 2025 through four plenary operational meetings, each structured to engage specific stakeholder communities while ensuring cross-sector representation and continuity of discussions across the year.



The **9th Operational Meeting (28 January 2025)** focused on reviewing progress across the three Working Groups and aligning GEGSLA's priorities with the upcoming session of the UN COPUOS Scientific and Technical Subcommittee. Discussions addressed lunar environmental protection, including Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), interoperability and transparency in lunar activities, and

multistakeholder coordination across international lunar exploration frameworks. The meeting also considered sponsorship opportunities and preparations for COPUOS STSC contributions.

The **10th Operational Meeting (22 May 2025)** focused on advancing the technical and operational dimensions of GEGSLA's work. Discussions included the development of an open, real-time lunar activities database, interoperability initiatives in cooperation with international partners, and progress across all three Working Groups. The meeting also aligned GEGSLA's outputs with the outcomes of the UN COPUOS Legal Subcommittee and further supported the work of the Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultation (ATLAC), including preparations for intersessional consultations.

The **11th Operational Meeting (16 September 2025)** continued to consolidate coordination across stakeholders and Working Groups, integrating outcomes from interoperability initiatives, international workshops, and cooperation frameworks across lunar exploration programmes. The meeting also contributed to preparations for subsequent GEGSLA activities and upcoming international engagements, including the planning cycle for the end-of-year operational meeting and related deliverables.

The **12th Operational Meeting (12 December 2025)** marked the conclusion of the 2025 operational cycle and provided a comprehensive review of the year's activities. The meeting included detailed updates from all three Working Groups, including progress on lunar environmental protection and SSSI frameworks, interoperability and technical coordination initiatives, and multistakeholder cooperation across lunar exploration programmes such as Artemis and ILRS. Discussions also addressed the activities of the Friends of SSSI initiative, outcomes of international events (including IAC 2025 and the MVA Workshop in Turin), coordination with UNOOSA initiatives, and preparations for 2026 activities, including ATLAC inputs and international workshops.

The attached charts, “Attendance by Sector” and “Participation to GEGSLA Operational Meetings in 2025,” illustrate the evolving engagement patterns across academia, industry, governmental institutions, and other stakeholders.

Across the four operational meetings, participation reflects a sustained and balanced engagement across stakeholder groups. Academic participation remained strong throughout the year, particularly in relation to foundational research, governance frameworks, and environmental protection issues. Industry participation increased in relevance, particularly in discussions related to interoperability, technical coordination, and operational frameworks. Governmental representation remained consistent, supporting policy alignment and multilateral dialogue within the COPUOS framework. Participation from NGOs, international organizations, and independent experts also expanded, contributing to the diversity of perspectives and expertise brought to GEGSLA discussions.

This balanced and evolving participation demonstrates the Group’s continued commitment to inclusive, cross-sector collaboration and its

ability to adapt to emerging priorities in lunar governance.

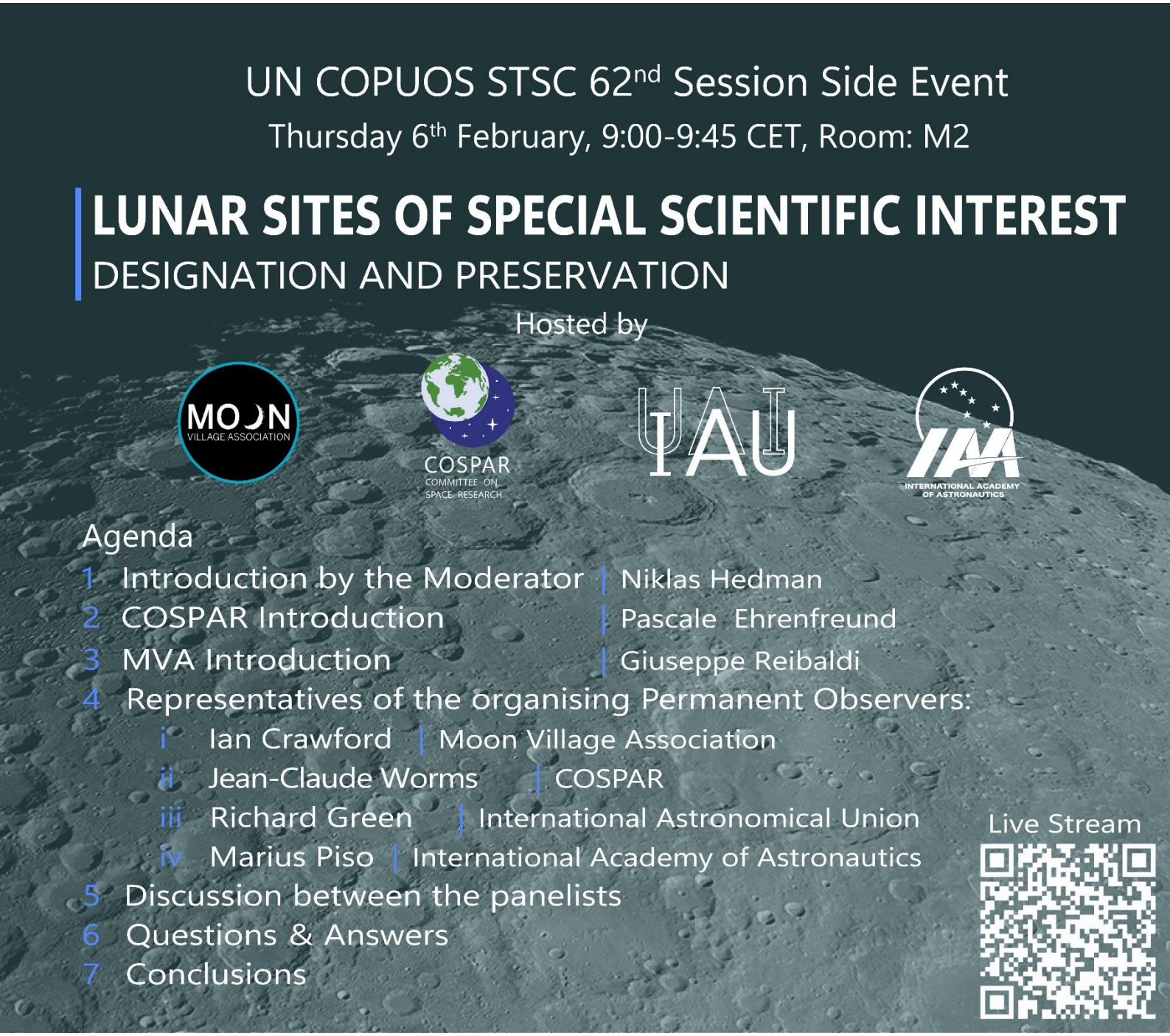
Each operational meeting addressed specific thematic priorities while contributing to a coherent strategic trajectory focused on safety, sustainability, interoperability, and international cooperation in lunar activities.

Looking ahead, the Group will continue this structured engagement model in 2026, further strengthening its contribution to UN COPUOS processes, ATLAC activities, interoperability and technical coordination initiatives, environmental protection and SSSI frameworks, and the broader global dialogue on sustainable lunar governance.

GEGSLA Events

COPUOS STSC 62nd Session Side Event, February 2025

Lunar Sites of Special Scientific Interest



On Thursday, 6 February 2025, GEGSLA contributed to the organization of a dedicated side event held during the 62nd session of the UN COPUOS Scientific and Technical Subcommittee. The event, hosted in cooperation with the Moon Village Association (MVA), COSPAR, the International Astronomical Union (IAU), and the International Academy of Astronautics (IAA), focused on the designation and preservation of Lunar Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

The session was moderated by Mr. Niklas Hedman and brought together representatives of the organizing Permanent Observers, including experts from MVA, COSPAR, IAU and IAA. Discussions addressed the importance of identifying, designating, and preserving scientifically significant lunar sites, as well as the need to develop cooperative international approaches to ensure their long-term protection.

The event provided a platform for sharing perspectives on sustainable lunar activities and for advancing dialogue on how scientific, environmental, and operational considerations can be balanced in the context of increasing lunar exploration.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) emerged within GEGSLA through WG1 on Lunar Environmental Protection, highlighting the need to identify and preserve scientifically valuable lunar areas amid expanding exploration. What began as a thematic strand evolved into a structured workstream, reflecting growing recognition that such sites require special consideration to avoid harmful interference, contamination, or irreversible alteration.

GEGSLA WG1 served as the incubator for the Friends of Lunar SSSI initiative, enabling the issue to move beyond internal discussions and onto a broader platform for interdisciplinary exchange. In doing so, WG1 not only framed the importance of SSSI but also fostered a dedicated community of practice.

Throughout 2025, this work gained significant momentum. The issue of lunar SSSI was increasingly reflected in GEGSLA discussions, side events, conference contributions, and relevant COPUOS documentation, demonstrating that the initiative had moved from a conceptual discussion toward a more recognized element of the wider international conversation on sustainable lunar governance. The Friends of Lunar SSSI initiative has thus become an important channel for advancing expert-level reflection on how scientifically valuable lunar areas may be identified, discussed, and preserved within cooperative international frameworks.

Individuals interested in contributing to the Friends of Lunar SSSI initiative or WG1 activities may contact GEGSLA at gegsla@moonvillageassociation.org, with expressions of interest in SSSI discussions encouraged.

International Virtual Workshop on Interoperability and Lunar Activities Database

On 19 June 2025, a 3.5-hour international virtual workshop was held on the topics of interoperability and the need for a lunar activities database. The workshop planning was led by the Technical Coordination Working Group of the Global Expert Group on Sustainable Lunar Activity (GEGSLA). GEGSLA is a project of the Moon Village Association (MVA). The virtual workshop was co-hosted by MVA, the Lunar Operating Guidelines for Infrastructure Consortium (LOGIC), and the Lunar Surface Innovation Consortium (LSIC). The Moon Village Association is a non-governmental organization that aims to promote international collaboration in the exploration and settlement of the Moon. GEGSLA is a neutral forum for multi-stakeholder discussions on lunar exploration with the goal of de-risking future lunar missions and increasing global cooperation. LOGIC brings together the international and commercial lunar community around adopting, adapting and potentially authoring interoperability standards. LSIC facilitates communication between commercial, academic, government, and nonprofit sectors to advance development and deployment of the technologies required for successful lunar surface exploration.

The goals of the virtual workshop were to establish an international community to work on interoperability, gain consensus on the need for a lunar activity database, identify the type of database we need, and decide on a coordination system and a leading body. A wide community was invited, including space agencies, industry, academia,

non-profit organizations, and anyone who was interested in interoperability and information sharing. 64 attendees participated. 32 countries were represented by those who registered.

The workshop included a video message from Aarti Holla-Maini, the Director of U.N. Office for Outer Space Affairs on the importance of the topics the workshop addressed, a one-hour expert panel discussing interoperability and the need for a lunar activities database, 1.5 hours for attendees to work in small breakout groups to address the most pressing questions, and time for open discussion. The expert panel included:

- Ekaterina Seltikova, Moderator, Founder of Parsec Scale
- Mehak Sarang, Director of Industry Integration, Open Lunar Foundation
- Frederick A. Slane, Executive Director, Space Infrastructure Foundation
- Ulpia-Elena Botezatu, Co-Chair, Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultation (ATLAC)
- Marchel Holle, U.S. Government Affairs Lead, ispace technologies U.S.

The panel addressed questions such as “Are there existing solutions?”, “Which information was included in the Open Lunar Foundation’s Lunar Ledger database?”, “What are the most valuable pieces of information would you need to get from other operators?”, and “What are the core principles for ATLAC especially when it comes to shaping future lunar activities?” The participants were then broken into five breakout groups to address these questions:

In your view, what are the most urgent challenges around space interoperability that justify the creation of a shared database to mitigate potential harmful interferences?

What specific types of data should be included to ensure we effectively capture and prevent harmful interferences, while adhering to the principle of 'do no harm'?

Who should own or oversee the database, including consideration of institutional mandates and legal authority (e.g., a global coalition, a specific agency, a new coordinating body), and why?

Should there be one unified international database or multiple specialized databases, and how do we avoid duplication and confusion?

How can we ensure all stakeholders—space agencies, companies, academia, nonprofits—contribute to and agree on a single database architecture and data standards?

How should data be validated or verified (e.g., open input vs. official confirmation), and who should be responsible for overseeing data accuracy?

What existing policies, norms, or technical standards can we build upon to streamline data collection, sharing, and interoperability?

What funding mechanisms (e.g., subscriptions, grants, government funding) would sustain the database long-term, and how can we incentivize participation?

Beyond the database, what governance or coordination system do we need to ensure alignment, prevent conflicts, and foster ongoing collaboration?

What concrete steps or actions would you recommend to build an international community dedicated to interoperability, and how can we sustain momentum post-event?

There were some common themes in the ideas generated by the breakout groups. There was consensus that a lunar activities database was needed so that organizations planning to operate on the surface

of the Moon had the information to understand who else was operating on the Moon, where they were operating, and how to contact them. An idea that there may need to be multiple tiers of a database was also introduced. This would allow for sub-databases with more detailed information for certain communities, like for a particular country, that could also be tied to the higher-level, more generic and available database. There was consensus that it may be difficult for the United Nations to host the database, and that a non-profit supported by donations or user fees may be a solution. It is very important for the lunar activity database to provide clear value to those organizations who participate.

The group agreed it was important to build an international community around the importance of interoperability, and that the workshop was one step toward that goal. It was also noted that there are many different advocacy organizations working towards lunar interoperability and that an international organization whose goal was

to coordinate these groups' efforts to achieve concrete action and progress may be a next step. Further next steps and a plan of action for forward work are in development. This virtual workshop achieved its goals in building consensus for a lunar activity database, generating ideas on how to develop the database, and building an international community to work towards lunar interoperability.

Individuals interested in contributing to the WG2 activities may contact GEGSLA at gegsla@moonvillageassociation.org, with an expression of interest for participating to the group's discussions.

GEGSLA at UN COPUOS in 2025

Scientific and Technical Subcommittee 62nd Session 2025

- Statement of MVA under “General exchange of views”;
- A/AC.105/C.1/2025/CRP.19* - Report of the Moon Village Association on the Global Expert Group on Sustainable Lunar Activities – Status/Deliverables/Plan
- A/AC.105/C.1/2025/CRP.18, The need for the designation and preservation of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) on the Moon, Conference room paper by the Committee on Space Research, the International Academy of Astronautics, the International Astronomical Union and the Moon Village Association

Legal Subcommittee 64rd Session 2025

- Statement of MVA under “General exchange of views”;
- A/AC.105/C.2/2025/CRP.19 - Report of the Moon Village Association on the Global Expert Group on Sustainable Lunar Activities – Status/Deliverables/Plan

COPUOS 68th Session 2025

- Statement of MVA under “General exchange of views”;
- A/AC.105/2023/CRP.18 - Report of the Moon Village Association on the Global Expert Group on Sustainable Lunar Activities – Status/Plan
- A/AC.105/2025/CRP.23 - Designation and Preservation of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) on the Moon – Report Update

GEGSLA at IAC in 2025

The "MVA Meetings at IAC 2025", held during the International Astronautical Congress (IAC) 2025 on 2 October 2025, provided a dedicated platform for advancing the work of the Moon Village Association (MVA) and the Global Expert Group on Sustainable Lunar Activities (GEGSLA) within the global space community.

The programme brought together stakeholders from academia, industry, government, and international organizations in a structured sequence of sessions, including the 2025 IPC Workshop, the MVA General Meeting, and a dedicated GEGSLA face-to-face meeting with Working Group-specific discussions. The agenda reflected MVA's broad portfolio of activities, covering the Industry Working Group outlook, International Moon Day 2025 (IMD25) preparations, outreach and academy initiatives, and the evolving role and priorities of GEGSLA.

The GEGSLA session provided an opportunity for in-depth coordination among experts engaged in lunar environmental protection, technical interoperability, and multi-stakeholder governance. Discussions focused on the implementation of the Recommended Framework, ongoing work on lunar environmental protection and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), and progress on interoperability and coordination mechanisms for lunar activities. The meeting also supported alignment with ongoing international processes, including COPUOS-related initiatives and the work of the Action Team on Lunar Activities Consultation (ATLAC).

The event reaffirmed the importance of in-person dialogue for strengthening trust, coordination, and practical cooperation across the global lunar community. By bringing together MVA members and the wider IAC community, the meeting contributed to reinforcing GEGSLA's role as a platform for operational coordination, knowledge exchange, and policy dialogue in support of safe, sustainable, and cooperative lunar activities.

Overall, the MVA Meetings at IAC 2025 demonstrated the continued evolution of GEGSLA from a conceptual framework into an active, operational coordination platform, capable of connecting stakeholders, supporting international dialogue, and advancing concrete actions for the long-term sustainability of lunar exploration.

GEGSLA Publications in 2025

The Global Expert Group on Sustainable Lunar Activities (GEGSLA) has continued to advance the international discourse on sustainable lunar exploration through targeted research and high-level academic contributions. At the 76th International Astronautical Congress (IAC 2025) in Sydney, Australia, GEGSLA experts presented two significant papers that further demonstrate the Group's role in shaping emerging frameworks for lunar governance and environmental sustainability. Both papers have been accepted for peer review in Acta Astronautica, reinforcing GEGSLA's position as a leading contributor to policy and research in this domain.

The first paper, "Lunar Governance in the 21st Century: A Framework for Long-Term and Coordinated Exploration" (IAC-25,D4,2,3,x101625), examines the evolving governance landscape for lunar activities and proposes a comprehensive framework to support coordinated, long-term exploration. The paper highlights the need to align technological development, operational coordination, and policy instruments with broader environmental and sustainability objectives, including the contribution of lunar activities to climate-related innovation and responsible resource management. **DOI:** https://doi.org/10.52202/083094-0008

The second paper, "Designating and Protecting Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)" (IAC-25,D4,2,8,x101626), focuses on the identification, classification, and protection of scientifically valuable lunar sites. It advances practical recommendations for safeguarding these areas against contamination, interference, and unsustainable activities, while preserving the conditions necessary for future scientific

research and international cooperation.
DOI: https://doi.org/10.52202/083094-0013

Together, these publications reflect GEGSLA's continued contribution to the development of evidence-based policy, technical standards, and cooperative approaches that support the safe, sustainable, and responsible exploration of the Moon.

GEGSLA Newsletter

To further enhance our visibility and ensure the public and decision-makers remain informed about the Group's progress, we publish a monthly Newsletter. This Newsletter serves as a key communication tool to highlight GEGSLA's activities, achievements, and updates, ensuring consistent engagement with our community of participants, sponsors, and other stakeholders. By referencing the Newsletter in your outreach efforts, you can gain deeper insights into our mission and contribute to fostering a global understanding of sustainable lunar activities.

The GEGSLA Newsletter has proven to be a vital communication channel, enhancing visibility and ensuring that public audiences, decision-makers, and stakeholders are consistently informed about the

Group's progress and initiatives. With a total of 1,359 dedicated followers by the end of 2025, the newsletter has successfully built a robust community engaged with GEGSLA's mission to promote sustainable lunar activities.

In 2025, **GEGSLA published 10 editions**, each offering detailed updates on the Group's activities, including operational meeting highlights, working group advancements, and key milestones. The newsletters also featured expert insights, interviews with stakeholders, and summaries of significant events, such as presentations at major international conferences like IAC and the UN COPUOS sessions. Each edition provided a unique opportunity for participants, sponsors, and supporters to stay connected and actively contribute to the broader discourse on lunar sustainability.

By leveraging the GEGSLA Newsletter in outreach efforts, readers not only gain a deeper understanding of the Group's mission but also become active participants in fostering global awareness and collaboration for sustainable lunar exploration.

Subscribe on LinkedIn to GEGSLA Newsletter.

GEGSLA Sponsors 2025

LOCKHEED MARTIN

COSPAR
Committee on Space Research

Participants

If you are interested in becoming a Participant or a Sponsor or you need any other information, please contact gegsla@moonvillageassociation.org.
Additional details on participation and sponsorship opportunities, including available packages, can be found here: Join & Sponsor GEGSLA.

Sponsors

Sponsors are individuals or organizations that financially contribute to the activities of the Group. The Sponsors will be recognized in all public events and may be invited to take part in a consortium created to coordinate global events to inform the public and decision-makers in their country about the progress and the results of the Group. A sponsor is not a member of the Group by default and should express their interest, if they want to become a member or observer.

A dedicated GEGSLA sponsorship brochure outlining engagement modalities, benefits, and contribution levels is available and provides further practical guidance for interested partners: https://moonvillageassociation.org/gegsla/join-sponsror/

Value Proposition

By sponsoring GEGSLA in 2026, you are directly contributing to the advancement of lunar exploration and the establishment of a sustainable presence on the

Moon. Your sponsorship will provide valuable support for the planning and execution of these activities, ensuring their success and impact. In return, we offer a range of benefits tailored to your organization's needs and objectives, including prominent visibility at our events, acknowledgment in our publications, and opportunities for collaboration and networking with leading experts and stakeholders in the field.

Join us!

We invite you to join us on this exciting journey toward a sustainable lunar future. Your sponsorship will not only demonstrate your commitment to responsible space exploration but also position your organization as a key player in shaping the future of lunar activities.

GEGSLA Newsletter

Subscribe to

GEGSLA Newsletter HERE

GEGSLA in 2026

As we look ahead to 2026, we are proud to highlight one of GEGSLA's most significant achievements: the consolidation of its operational phase as a structured, global platform for advancing sustainable lunar exploration. This milestone reflects the sustained commitment, expertise, and engagement of the GEGSLA community and its growing role within the international space governance landscape.

Building upon its strong foundation of best practices and multi-stakeholder engagement, GEGSLA continues to contribute to the development of cooperative approaches, shared standards, and practical solutions addressing emerging challenges in lunar activities. Through its meetings, reports, and technical contributions, the Group supports dialogue among States, international organizations, industry, and the scientific community.

A key pillar of this work is interoperability, which has become central to ensuring safe, efficient, and coordinated lunar activities. GEGSLA has actively supported discussions on interoperability frameworks, including data-sharing practices, operational compatibility, and coordination mechanisms among diverse lunar actors. These efforts contribute to reducing risks of interference, enhancing mission safety, and enabling more effective collaboration across international programmes and commercial initiatives. The continued development of interoperability principles and tools remains essential for the long-term

sustainability and scalability of lunar exploration.

GEGSLA will continue to play a vital role in shaping discussions on policy, governance, environmental protection, and technical coordination frameworks for lunar activities. This sustained contribution reinforces its position as a catalyst for impactful initiatives and global partnerships in support of safe, sustainable, and responsible lunar exploration.

In parallel with this continued development, GEGSLA remains committed to advancing its mission through the dedicated work of its three Working Groups (WGs):

WG1: Lunar Environmental Protection

In 2026, WG1 continues its mission to safeguard scientifically valuable lunar sites by advancing strategies for identifying and preserving Sites of Special Scientific Importance (SSSI). The group is prioritizing the development of guidelines to protect Permanently Shadowed Regions (PSRs) and unique geological features from contamination and damage caused by human activities. Key initiatives include collaboration with international organizations like COSPAR and the International Astronomical Union (IAU) to establish frameworks for the identification and conservation of these critical areas, ensuring sustainable exploration while minimizing harmful impacts.

In addition, the WG1 works to support the applicability of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention to cultural heritage sites, proposing an extension of the report into a second stage involving broader consultation with organizations such as the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The discussion addressed differences between terrestrial and space governance, noting that planetary protection policies are non-binding guidelines. Consideration was also given to frameworks such as the Convention on Biological Diversity Beyond National Jurisdiction for transboundary areas. MVA will undertake consultation

with other NGOs, involved in these issues

WG2: Lunar Technical Coordination

WG2 is focusing on enhancing compatibility and interoperability across lunar missions in 2026. A significant milestone for the year includes the establishment of an International Lunar Activity Database to facilitate information sharing on mission planning, technical specifications, and operations. The group is organizing a virtual workshop to engage stakeholders in shaping this initiative and to foster international cooperation. WG2 is also emphasizing recruitment from underrepresented countries and sectors to ensure a diverse and inclusive approach to technical standardization for sustainable lunar activities. Interoperability among various Lunar platforms represents one of the priorities.

WG3: Lunar Multi-Stakeholder Coordination

In 2026, the WG3 group aims to address challenges like landing site coordination, avoidance of harmful interference, and the protection of sites of cultural, natural, and scientific significance. By promoting transparency and trust, WG3 seeks to enhance collaboration across diverse stakeholders, fostering a unified approach to sustainable and peaceful lunar exploration.

These Working Groups will continue to tackle critical issues and opportunities in lunar exploration, ensuring that GEGSLA's contributions remain at the forefront of shaping sustainable and cooperative lunar activities.
As we embark on this exciting new chapter, the GEGSLA community remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering global dialogue, partnerships, and actionable outcomes, ensuring a brighter and more sustainable future for lunar exploration.

Annex 1: GEGSLA WGs Participants in 2026

WG 1: Lunar Environmental Protection

Co-Chairs
Alice Gorman, Flinders University, Australia
Farah Diya Yasmine, Farah Law School, Indonesia

Members
Anne-Sophie Martin, Institute for International Legal Studies (ISGI-CNR), Italy
Jean-Claude Worms, COSPAR, France
David Kendall, Outer Space Institute, Canada
Edvaldo Silva, CESMAC University Centre, Brazil
Ian Crawford, Birkbeck University of London, UK
Flavia Alvim de Carvalho, EJUSP and PUC Minas, Brasil
Frank Koch, Orbit Recycling, Germany
Naresh Kannan, University of Rostock, Germany, United Kingdom
Green Richard F, International Astronomical Union (IAU)
Saleem Zoghbi, United Nations University
Steve Brown, Adjunct Professor (Heritage), University of Canberra, Australia
Anel Snyman, Professor of Law, Department of Jurisprudence, School of Law, University of South Africa
Anna Raab, Germany/ Switzerland
Javier Maldonado Romo, Hyoksi Tech (Digital Manufacturing & Circular Space Systems Initiative), Mexico
Luo Yaowen, Deep Space Exploration Laboratory (DSEL), China

WG 2: Lunar Technical Coordination

Co-Chairs
Timothy Cichan, Lockheed Martin, USA
Rosario Nasca, (former) European Space Agency, The Netherlands
Yao Jianting, Secretary General of IDSEA, Senior Advisor of DSEL

Members
Arvind Ramana, Australian Space Agency, Australia
Ekaterina Seltikova, Technical Unit Research for a Thriving Lunar Ecosystem, SGAC France
Hassan Abouseada, Egyptian Space Agency, Egypt
Laura Champion, Lockheed Martin, USA
Madison Feehan, Space Copy / NASA, Canada
Omolade Odetara Leanspace, France
Suzanne Gillen, Redwire, USA
Bernd J. Hoefer, A9C Capital WLL, Bahrain / DiMOS Operations GmbH, Germany Bahrain
Shreya Santra, Department of Aerospace Engineering, Tohoku University, Japan
Tufan Kayaci, Turkish Space Agency (TUA), Turkiye
Quan Haofang, Director of CASI, China
Jiang Yicheng, Deep Space Exploration Laboratory (DSEL), China
Veronique Gaude, International Telecommunication Union, Switzerland
Eshet Tesfaye Tafes, Researcher, and Comm. Sat. Project manager, Ethiopia

WG 3: Lunar Multi-stakeholder Coordination

Co-Chairs
Mary-Christine Sungaila, Complex Appellate Litigation Group, USA
Dr. Wang, Zhongmin, Deep Space Exploration Laboratory

Members
Alper Oren, Department of Aerospace and Aeronautics, Eskisehir Technical University, Turkey
Ariel Silverman, The George Washington University Law School, USA
Christophe Bosquillon, Autonomous Space Futures Ltd, Greece
Dennis O'Brien, The Space Treaty Project, USA
Antonino Salmeri, Lunar Policy Platform, Spain
Gennaro Russo, Italian Institute for the Future, Italy
Irina Chernykh, RUDN University, Russia
Itir Toksöz, Dogus University, Turkey
Jennifer Warren, Lockheed Martin, USA
Kesniel Bravo, Mexican Space Agency, Mexico
Parameswaran Sreekumar, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, India
Setsuko Aoki, Keio University Law School, Japan
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