



In conjunction with the 2009 GEO-VI Plenary, the United States Group on Earth Observations (USGEO) and the Canadian Group on Earth Observations (CGEO) are organizing a GEOSS in the Americas Forum on Coastal Zone Management. The forum, planned in cooperation with the GEO Coastal Zone Community of Practice, will take place at the Embassy of Canada in Washington, 501 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, D.C., on **Friday, November 20 from 8:30AM to 1:00PM.**

In previous *GEOSS in the Americas* symposiums in Brazil and Panama, coastal zone issues were identified as a key issue of concern for the Americas region, especially the small Island developing states in the Caribbean. The *Forum* will help to demonstrate how the use of Earth observations, and the development of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), will position the Americas region to facilitate the discovery and access to data and information to provide essential science-based decision support on a wide range of coastal zone issues. The *focus on coastal zones* will include discussions on the issues, challenges and opportunities that the GEO framework brings to this critical societal and environmental issue.

The *Forum* presentations and discussions are aimed at:

- Identifying observational and analysis activities where the Americas region can collaborate within the GEO framework to accelerate progress towards common goals
- Discussing the ways in which Americas region countries, along with regional and international organizations and programs, can work together to ensure that the capabilities, interests and concerns of all are effectively addressed.

For the latest version of the agenda, location map and on-line registration please visit the website [www.cgeo.gc.ca](http://www.cgeo.gc.ca).

