

First Announcement

4th Workshop CGMS International Cloud Working Group (ICWG)

(hosted by Ewha Womans University and supported by the National Meteorological Satellite Center of KMA and EUMETSAT)

When: **19 - 23 October 2026**

Where: **Ewha Womans University,
Seoul, South Korea**



<https://www.ewha.ac.kr>



EWHA WOMANS UNIVERSITY



4th Workshop CGMS International Cloud Working Group

From 19 to 23 October 2026 the 4th Workshop of the International Cloud Working Group (ICWG) will be held at the Ewha Womans University in Seoul, South Korea. The workshop aims at enhancing cloud retrieval schemes and their applicability and a better characterization of their validity.

We invite experts working with cloud parameter retrieval schemes from passive imagers, passive microwave, and active lidar and radar observations, as well as lightning sensor applications, to participate in the workshop and to contribute to the workshop's cloud parameter inter-comparison and validation activities. Information on registration and abstract submission will follow in the Second Announcement.

Background and content

The workshop series of the International Cloud Working Group (ICWG) within the Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS) is a continuation of four earlier workshops that were organized under the name of Cloud Retrieval Evaluation Workshops (CREWs). CREW meetings were held in Norrköping, Sweden (2006), Locarno, Switzerland (2009), Madison, WI, USA (2011), and Grainau, Germany (2014). As successors, ICWG-1 was held in Lille, France (2016) and ICWG-2 was held in Madison, WI, USA (2018). After the Pandemic paused most in-person activities, in-person meetings resumed with ICWG-3 held at EUMETSAT in February 2024.

An integral part of the past workshops was discussions on inter-comparison and validation studies done with data from a common database (incl., SEVIRI, MODIS, AVHRR, POLDER and/or AIRS). In this way knowledge was gained on the behavior of the different retrieval schemes over different cloud conditions. For ICWG-4, the intercomparison focus has been directed to the passive VIS/IR sensors of the current geo-ring constellation, e.g. SEVIRI, FCI, ABI, AHI.

Presentations of ICWG-3 can be found here: [ICWG-3 Presentations – Google Drive](#)

More information on upcoming and past meetings can be found here:
<https://www.icare.univ-lille.fr/hosted-content/crew/index.php/Meetings>

During the ICWG meeting, we (re-)organize semi-permanent Sub-Working Groups that provide the focus and continuity necessary for addressing past and future recommendations (from ICWG itself and from CGMS) and key research topics. Furthermore, a number of topical groups are defined within ICWG, which have been used as forums for in-depth discussion on specific scientific/development topics. These topics usually are reflected in the session schedule of ICWG meetings, which will also be the case for ICWG-4.

Tentative list of topics/sessions for ICWG-4:

- **Algorithms:** Including single and multiple sensor retrievals, such as, synergistic use of cloud products from microwave and visible infrared imager, radiative transfer modelling, methods to propagate and provide uncertainty estimates, cloud detection advances.
- **Assessments:** Including assessment of level-2 products from polar orbiting and geostationary satellites for golden days. New for ICWG-4 is the assessments of geo-ring cloud products.
- **Climate Applications:** Including assessments of level-3 climate data records of cloud parameters, aggregation methods, and links to international activities. This includes using retrieved cloud properties for process studies and model evaluation.
- **Weather Applications:** Including the use of cloud products in numerical weather prediction and nowcasting, atmospheric motion winds, precipitation retrievals, severe weather and other applications of high spatial and temporal resolution cloud products from advanced geostationary imagers
- **Lightning Applications:** Including introduction to theory and technology, presentation of results from GOES-16/17 and MTG-LI data and discussion of methods for linking lightning data to Nowcasting and Severe Weather applications.

Note that the above definitions of the topical groups and sub-working groups may be re-evaluated before and during ICWG-4.

Submission of Abstracts

More information on submitting abstracts will follow in the second announcement.

Registration

More information on registering will follow in the second announcement.

Accommodation

All participants are asked to individually make their hotel reservations. There will be no block booking by ICWG nor by the Ewha Womans University. The university campus is easily accessible by subway, thus from hotels in various parts of Seoul.

Conference Venue

ICWG-4 will be held on the Ewha Womans University campus ([google maps](#)). All sessions will be held in the Ewha Campus Complex (ECC). ECC offers lunch opportunities as well as space for potential topical groups meetings during the week.

For more information about Ewha Womans University:

- * Ewha Womans University (Introduction Video):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1zH-DViSQ3w>
- * Ewha Campus Complex (ECC):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SNOKB7zw4es>
- * Dior Fall 2022 Show at ECC (example of international use of the venue):
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hTU4_iWJWQ

Further ICWG Information

Co-Chairs:

Martin Stengel, DWD: martin.stengel@dwd.de
Kerry Meyer, NASA: kerry.meyer@nasa.gov

Rapporteur to CGMS:

Andrew Heidinger, NOAA: andrew.heidinger@noaa.gov

Local ICWG-4 organization:

Yong-Sang Choi, Ewha Womans University, Seoul: ysc@ewha.ac.kr