Global Ecosystem Dynamics Investigation Lidar (GEDI)

Earth System Science Pathfinder (ESSP) Program
Earth Venture Instrument-2 (EVI-2)
Launched December 5, 2018
Phase E, Flight Operations
Project Website: https://gedi.umd.edu

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Mission Overview:
GEDI was competitively selected as a NASA Earth Ventures Instrument (EVI) mission in 2014. GEDI is led by the University of Maryland in collaboration with NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. GEDI science data algorithms and products are created by the GEDI Science Definition Team.

Science Overview:
GEDI provides high quality laser ranging observations of the Earth’s forests and topography required to advance our understanding of important carbon and water cycling processes, biodiversity, and habitat.

Instrument Overview:
GEDI is a full-waveform lidar instrument that makes detailed measurements of the 3D structure of the Earth’s surface. GEDI has the highest resolution and densest sampling of any lidar ever put in orbit.