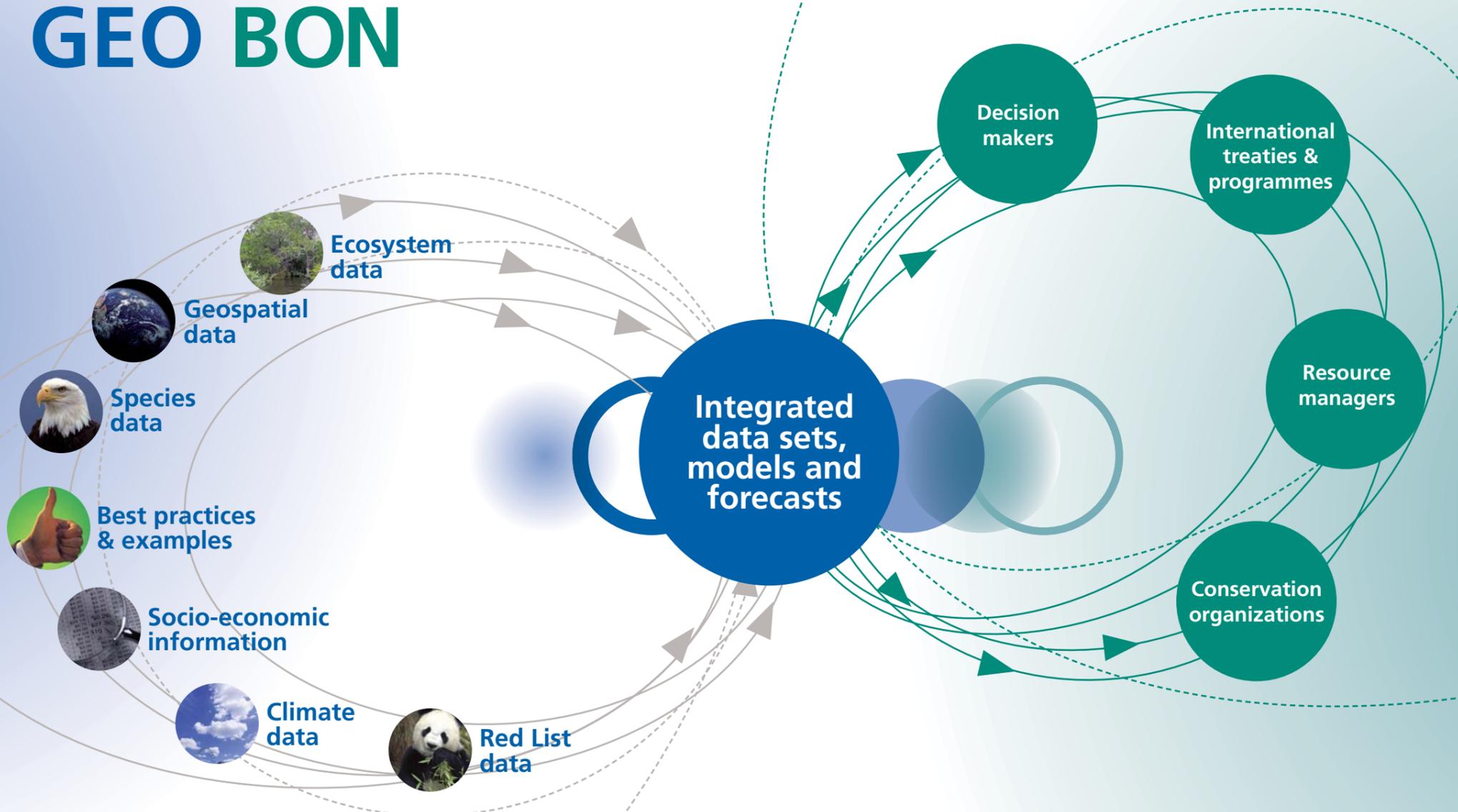


The Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network **GEO BON**



Why GEO BON?

Protecting and managing biodiversity over the coming decades will require better access to timely and comprehensive data and analyses. This is why the Group on Earth Observations is building the Biodiversity Observation Network – “GEO BON” – to serve as the biodiversity arm of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS).

The Earth’s biosphere is such a complex system that a universal monitoring network for simultaneously tracking individual species and populations, monitoring trends in forests and other ecosystems, and integrating this mass of information with data on climate change, pollution and other threats to biodiversity has never been built. GEO BON promises to fill this gap.

For more information:
GEO Secretariat
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www.earthobservations.org

What will GEO BON do?

GEO BON will monitor and assess the world’s genetic resources, species and ecosystems in order to prevent their further loss. It will also promote synergies, collaboration and data-sharing amongst researchers and the users of biodiversity information. In this way, GEO BON will strengthen the capacity of scientists to monitor and analyze biodiversity and the ability of decision makers to manage biological resources.

How will GEO BON work?

By interlinking the diverse, stand-alone observation instruments and systems now tracking trends in the world’s genetic resources, species and ecosystems, GEO BON will:

- create a global platform for integrating various types of biodiversity data as well as data on climate and other key variables;
- fill gaps in taxonomic and biological information;
- speed up the pace at which information is collected and disseminated;
- ascertain the data requirements of decision makers, researchers and other user groups; and
- disseminate data sets, decision-support tools and forecasting models through a user-friendly GEO Portal that will provide a single gateway to all the resources of GEOSS.

GEO BON’s mission

- To provide a global, scientifically robust framework for observations on the detection of biodiversity change
- To coordinate data gathering and the delivery of information on biodiversity change
- To ensure long term continuity of data supply
- To provide, and be known for, a set of innovative and relevant products based on the integration of key data sets (e.g. global maps of ecosystem service delivery, predicted areas of rapid degradation, key biodiversity sites facing rapid climate change).



and



are leading the construction of GEO BON

