



# **Best Practices Wiki**

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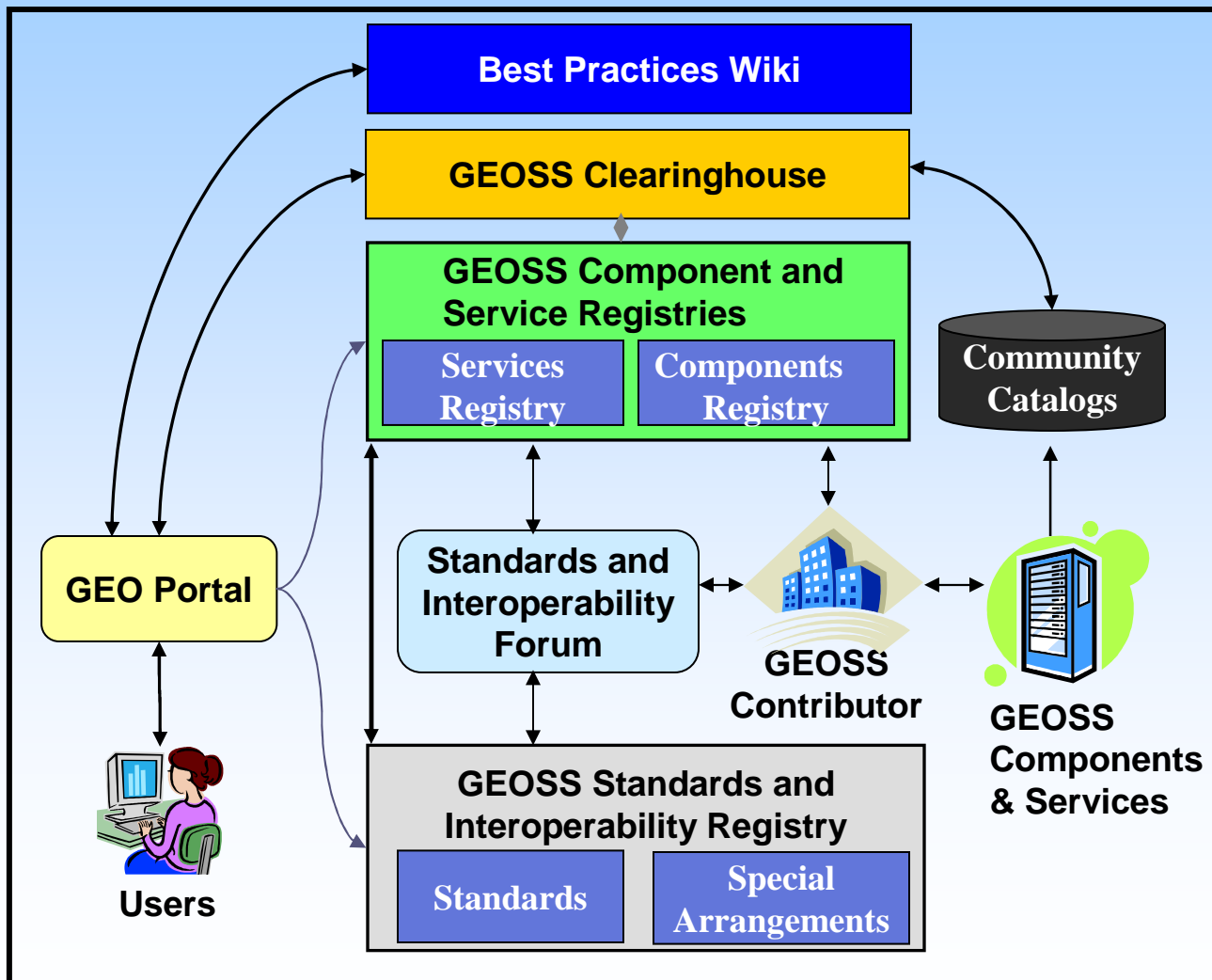
**Report to GEO Committees**

**May 2008**

# What is a best practice?

- **Best practices can be in outreach and capacity building, observation techniques or models and analysis**
- **They can be very simple or complex**
- **They can be local, regional or global**
- **They can (and should?) be determined by peer acceptance**

# Best Practices within the Architecture



# Wiki – what is that?

**Wiki software is a type of collaborative software that typically allows web pages to be created and edited by all participants using a common web browser.**

# How does a “Wiki” work?

Wiki software is collaborative software that allows web pages to be created and edited.

Wiki software is collaborative software that allows web pages to be created and edited **using a common web browser** .

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Wiki software is **a type of** collaborative software that **typically** allows web pages to be created and edited by all participants using a common web browser .

# Why use a Wiki?

- **Provides an open forum for converging on best practice recommendations and reviews**
- **Reaches out to a broad community**
- **Flexible structure can be easily adapted using lessons learned**
- **Can be a clear contribution of GEOSS to the global community**

# Best Practices Wiki



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ICEO Wiki for  
GEOS...

Accepted Best

Sample Best

> Submitted Best

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This page was last modified 6 days ago by Shane

## ICEO Wiki for GEOS Best Practices



This wiki is for the aggregation and community review of best practices in all fields of Earth observation. It is being provided by the IEEE Committee on Earth Observation (ICEO) to the intergovernmental [Group on Earth Observations](#) (GEO), which is leading a worldwide effort to build a Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOS).

If you wish to submit a practice for review, please create a new page for it. The community will comment and once the dialog has been completed, the administrator will either add your submission to the list of standards or retire it.

To add a page or comment you must first register using the button to the left.

Click [here](#) to see the current list of accepted best practices.

Click [here](#) to see the list of best practices under discussion. You may also submit a best practice on this page.



Edit page



New page



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## Sample Best Practice

This page is a sample best practice using a template

*Subject area (pick one):*

*Short summary of Best Practice:*

*Why is there a need for this Best Practice?*

*Provide example application:*

*How widely deployed (if applicable):*

*Owner (Originator) Contact Information:*

*Submitter Contact Information:*

*Detailed Description of Best Practice (or attach a file using button below)*

Also, please provide appropriate keywords in the "Tag" field below.

# BP Wiki Concept of Operations

- **Individual or organization proposes a practice for consideration as a “best” practice by submitting an entry in the wiki.**
- **Submitted practices undergo an open peer review process.**
  - Comments in the wiki are publicly accessible, facilitating a moderated community dialog.
- **Facilitators work with SMEs to encourage dialog and submission of comments**
- **Facilitators also assure that malicious insertions are eliminated.**
  - Original contributors should also monitor activities

# Facilitator Activities

- **review newly submitted practices** for applicability to their subject areas and to address any erroneous or malicious entries
- periodically review and **respond to comments on practices** in their area that are in the review process
- To **solicit comments** on proposed practices from their communities
- **solicit proposed practices** from their communities if needed
- **annotate conflicts between practices in the wiki** in the hopes of eliciting further review and comments leading to resolution of the conflict
- To **keep their communities informed** about the status of the practices that have been proposed in their area
- **correspond with submitters** to keep them informed of the status of their submittal (**this may be automated**)
- **recommend approval, disapproval, or modification of a proposed practice** to the editorial team at the end of the review period, and changes in status periodically thereafter
- **collaborate with other members of the “editorial” team and participate in “team” activities including periodic telecons, etc.**

# Implementation Schedule

**Prototype Wiki was implemented on the web in February 2008 with call for comment.**

**GEO Executive Committee reviewed and approved the Wiki approach for the Best Practices Registry. Suggestions of the Executive Committee were incorporated into a update completed April 2008**

**Wiki will begin initial operations June 1 following ADC meeting in May 2008.**

**Associate Editors are being solicited to overview wiki inputs in their technical experience**

**One year period of initial operations and then review of efficacy of wiki approach to facilitate propagation of best practices for GEOSS.**

# ISSUES (I)

- **How to handle “best” practices that have already been accepted by other international organizations?**
  - For example, after a CODATA committee on data management best practices completes its work in Nov. 2008, upon approved by the full committee these practices will be submitted as best practices for GEOSS. How would CODATA address the responses?
- **Should submitters be expected to place the full text of their practice on a Wiki page or may they supply a full description of the practice as attached files?**

**Some of the considerations are:**

  - Allowing attachments greatly simplifies the submission process thereby increasing the likelihood of submissions at the likely expense to users that are searching for practices on a particular topic.

## ISSUES (II)

- **The scalability of the existing Wiki needs to be assessed**
  - planned at the end of the second pilot
- **How easy it will be to maintain a stable commitment from members of the facilitation team? Will a reward structure be necessary?**
- **What do we do if activity on the Wiki is low and entries are few? It may be necessary to solicit entries.**

# Best Practices Wiki - Summary

- Wiki is on-line at <http://wiki.ieee-earth.org>
- Expert volunteers in the pilot subjects are being solicited
- Entries are welcome and encouraged
- Comments on the process should be provided to Ruth Duerr at [ruth.duerr@ieee.org](mailto:ruth.duerr@ieee.org)
- Your participation is important. Exposure of the Wiki through Members and Organizations and the GEO Secretariat is critical to BP utility