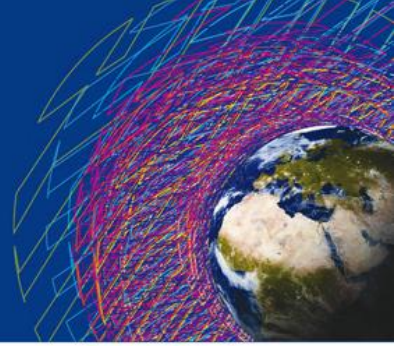
6TH GEO EUROPEAN PROJECTS' WORKSHOP

European Commission | National Research Council of Italy | ISPRA | GEO GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS

ROME, 7 & 8 MAY 2012



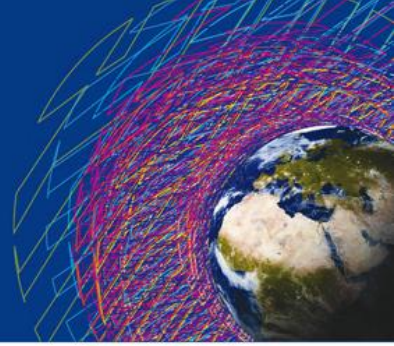
Rapporteur comments; Biodiversity & Ecosystems splinter session

The views presented in these slides are those of the rapporteurs, based on the presentations and discussions of the splinter session

Overall Task Coverage

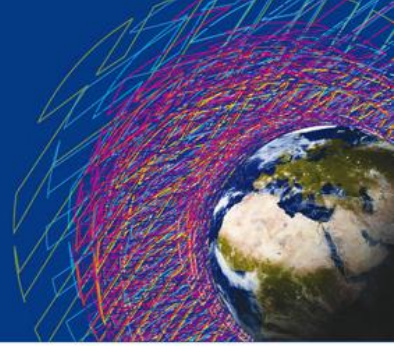
Quite good on Biodiversity (BI) and Ecosystems (EC), of course, but also on Health (HE) Infrastructure (IN) and Development (ID), except building User-driven GEOSS and finding resources for it.

No mention of biotic causation/remediation of disasters (DI) water refreshment (or fresh water in general), agriculture (AG), urban biodiversity, in other words rather poor on Societal Benefit (SB) except Blue Planet and Impact Assessment.



Rapporteurs noticed:

- **Much progress but few recommendations for remaining challenges**
- **Differentiation of new projects from old not clear: more coordination is needed**
- **Too few presenters were thinking about societal benefits at individual stakeholder level, most were talking for scientists or policymakers as users.**
- **Heavy dependence on indicators; we are beyond that to mechanisms now.**



ACTION POINTS:

1. Resources and mechanisms are needed to link and coordinate projects before new projects are funded.
2. Resources and mechanisms are also needed for continuity of successful projects; on the other hand, projects with long-term funding easily become complacent at a time of rapid change.
3. Project impact sections need to stress communication with the public, not just policymakers and other researchers.
4. Biocomplexity cannot be broken down into indicators or simple variables.
5. Data quality issues are not all being resolved.
6. General agreement that data sharing and access needs to improve dramatically.
7. Still insufficient coverage on microbes, genetic diversity, parasites/pathogens.