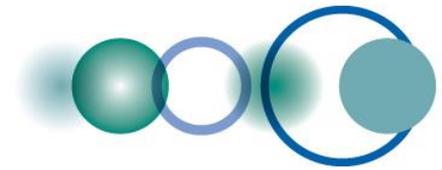


GEO Infrastructure Implementation Board Considerations and Lessons Learned

- **Ivan DeLoatch (US) and Max Craglia (EC)**
- **On behalf of the Infrastructure Implementation Board (IIB)**

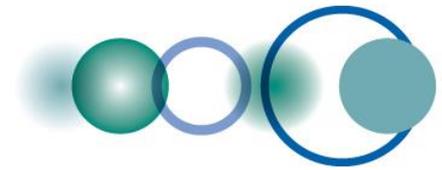




Transition of governing structures

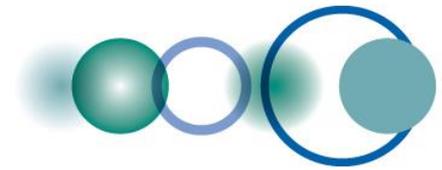
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- 2005: Architecture and Data, Capacity Building, Science & Technology, User Interface.
- 2011: Institutions and Development Implementation Board (IDIB), Infrastructure Implementation Board (IIB), Societal Benefits Implementation Board (SBIB)
- 2015: Programme Board
- A few reflections and recommendations for the future based on the experience developed over the last 10 years by the previous structures.



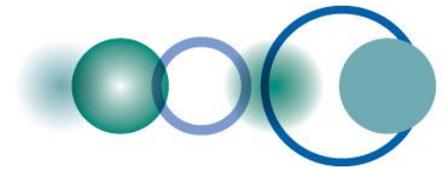
Challenges and Lessons Learned: IIB

- Developing and maintaining a Global Earth Observations System of Systems (GEOSS) relying on voluntary best-effort and in-kind resources is a **formidable challenge** because of the cultural and disciplinary diversity in the GEO community, **rapid technological change**, and organisational practices and investments that are autonomous and moving at different speeds.
- Yet it moves! It is far from perfect but it works if you **accept diversity**, **execute commitments** and build upon it rather than impose top down one size-fit-all solutions.
- Most urgent improvement is making the GEOSS infrastructure more relevant by **closing gap** between policy and scientific **demand** of GEO initiatives, flagships and global initiatives like SDGs and the **supply** of data and services through GEOSS.



Recommendations for the next decade: IIB

- Governance of GCI and its evolution crucial for the sustainability of GEOSS. Need to **avoid fragmentation and maintain service delivery**, particularly during transition period between different key foundational tasks.
- **Increase collaboration and joint activities** between technology and data providers on the one hand and data and scientific and policy-making users on the other.
- **Sustain operations of GCI as a public good** and promote GEOSS architecture principles of openness, effectiveness, flexibility, sustainability, and reliability as basis for the evolution of the GCI, and interoperability with other initiatives at the global and regional level.
- Implementation of **data sharing and data management** principles and practices are crucial to develop reliable products and services utilizing GEOSS.



Specific recommendations for GCI

- Key Messages: from debate at Work Plan symposium, May 2015

Stakeholders

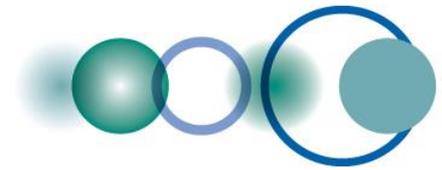
- Understand needs of stakeholder groups
- Deliver high end products (indicators, information)
- Improve Communication & Participation
- SBA link & integration to infrastructure team

Data

- Need to address key Data Services:
 - *Data Access and Use*
 - *Data Integration*
 - *Data Reliability*
- *From data to information products*
 - *Additional new Sources of data*

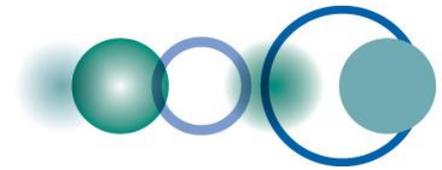
Infrastructure

- System of Systems
- Build on existing but evolve to meet new needs
- Support Real-time collection
- Community Portal Alignment



The challenges ahead

- Although the IIB provided recommendations for the way ahead, we have yet to see how the organization of tasks and the roles of the different groups develop during this transition year.
- The links between GCI development and users needs via selected GEO initiatives or flagships should be coordinated/organized, and the links to data sharing and data management likewise.
- We also need to engage other global partners besides US-EU into the GCI evolution to ensure it responds to the different perspectives represented in GEO.
- The role of the Program Board in relation to the execution of the work programme, and of the operations and evolution of the GCI is critical and it needs to be seen.
- We need to operate in a global context and also be aware and leverage the shifting technology landscape and increased role for the private sector in EO and GEO.



2016 Key GCI Priorities/Deliverables

- Engage stakeholders to advocate the use of ***GEOSS interoperability standards*** to ***enhance GEOSS asset accessibility***
- Engage stakeholders to enhance the ***usability of GEOSS*** through ***pilot projects***
- Engage stakeholders to advocate & implement the ***Data management guidelines*** to ***enhance GEOSS usability***
- **Report** – Evolution of GCI functionalities and architecture
- **Report** – Community Portal Recommendations
- **Report** – GCI Recommendation for 3 year work programme
- **Report** – GEOSS Service Desk Recommendation