



Special Initiatives

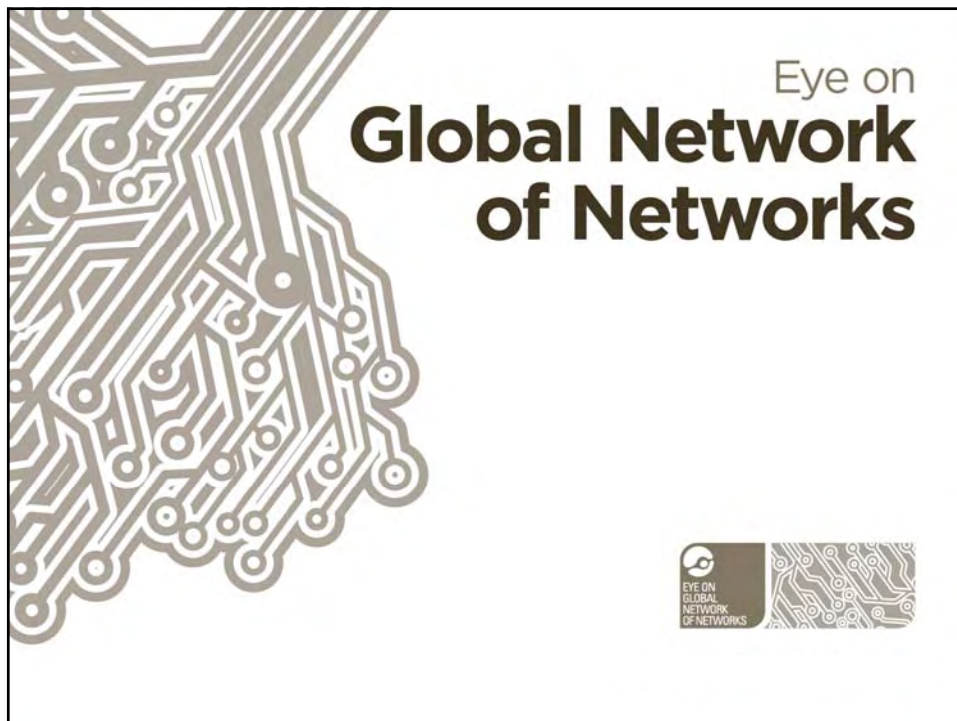
- **Foundation Initiatives**
 - Eye on Global Network of Networks
 - Eye on Access for All
 - Eye on Environmental Education
- **Thematic Initiatives**
 - Eye on Biodiversity
 - Eye on Community Sustainability and Resiliency
 - Eye on Disaster Management
 - Eye on Oceans and Blue Carbon
 - Eye on Water Security

Status and the Way Forward

FOUNDATION SPECIAL INITIATIVES

EYE ON EARTH | Special Initiatives

July 2012



Summary

- The Global Network of Networks initiative aims to link networks to promote the availability of information from the global to local level and support this by establishing strong institutional arrangements and synergies between current or planned networks.
- The concept recognizes three components which need to be interconnected and developed in balance:
 - Networking and partnerships;
 - Content development
 - Shared tools, technology and
- GNON is foreseen to encourage, connect, inspire, advise, support and promote sharing and learning and help build the relevant capacity for all SIs.



Key Stakeholders

- Over sixty stakeholders have engaged this Special Initiative. They include governmental organizations, NGOs, private firms, and other interested organizations
- AGEDI, UNEP, EEA, GEOSS, GeoSUR/CAF, CSIRO, EPA, OGC, IEEE, Ila, GSDI, Microsoft, Esri, JRC, EUROGI



Affiliated Projects

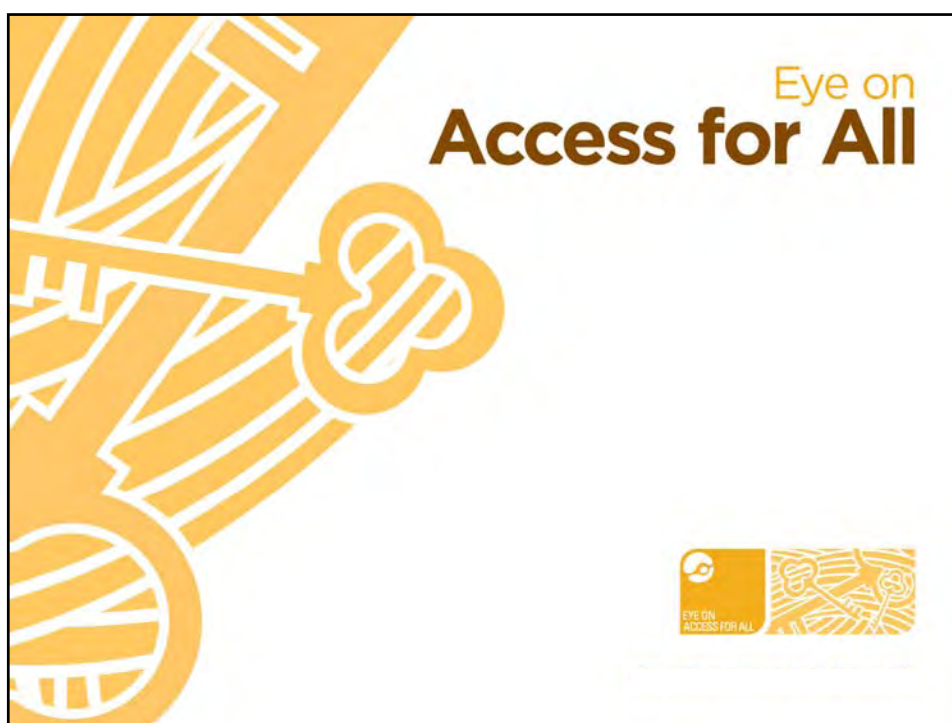
- 10 projects listed in Rio GNON side event summary:
 - One preparatory project focused on mapping existing networks;
 - Four projects focused on developing institutional cooperation;
 - Two projects focused on developing access to content;
 - Three projects focused on shared infrastructure and tools.
- Two Affiliated Projects were announced in Rio:
 - Eye on Earth - A Global Public Information Network
 - UNEP Live Showcase Project,
- Ireland?



Status and Next Steps

- **Status**
 - The SI Group had regular conference calls weekly or every other week during January and mid-February 2012, but has not convened since mid-February
 - Useful side meetings were held about GNON at the time of the UNEP Governing Council meeting, January 2012, in Nairobi
 - A successful side event was held at Rio +20.
 - A small group of GNON stakeholders developed a draft Outcome Statement, per the request of Cathrine in Nairobi
- **Next Steps**
 - Reconvene SI stakeholders
 - Vet Outcome Statement with all Stakeholders (should be living document)
 - Establish targets/roadmap for Summit 2014,
 - Projects: Identify, describe, engage, resource, report





Summary

- This SI furthers the implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration requiring that environmental information be made available to all by leveraging modern geospatial and access technologies.
- Outcomes will focus on information, participation and justice mechanisms which can help nations, regions and individuals



Key Stakeholders

- WRI
- UNEP
- EEB
- UNITAR
- AGEDI
- UNECE
- REC
- INECE
- And some 40 other organizations and individuals



Affiliated Projects

- P10 implementation project including capacity building and legislation development support
- A monitoring and tracking system for P10 implementation
- Transferring regional approaches to environmental information access and public participation and access to justice from Europe to Africa



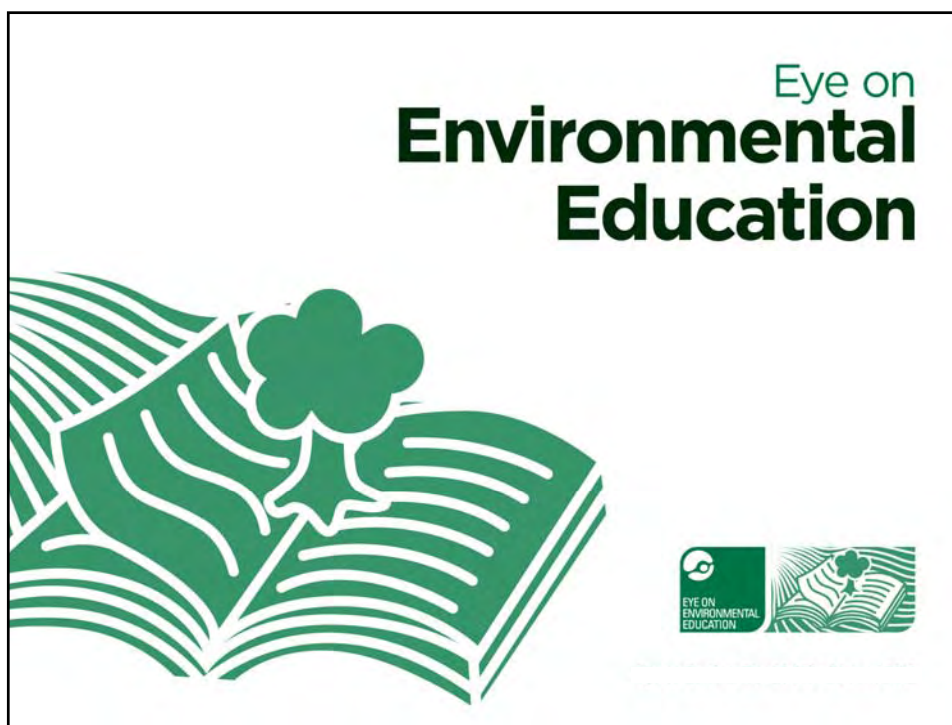
Status and Next Steps

- **Status**

- WRI has provided support services
- The initiative partners have been meeting via Skype calls and email exchanges since the 2011 EoE Summit
- Project proposals are being circulated to donors
- A successful Rio+20 promotion of the topic has created demand for action

- **Next Steps**

- Organize and fund long term secretariat
- Implement selected projects
- Inject P10 principles in other Sis
- Plan annual meeting of stakeholders



Summary

- This initiative seeks to build a networked commons of collaborating entities and resources, based on the alignment and strengthening of existing environmental education and awareness programs and networks around the world.
- Eight flagship initiatives for educational support around the world targeting six regions has been proposed including a Global Environmental Education Academy/Coordinating Unit.



Key Stakeholders

- **UNEP**
- **National Geographic**
- **UNESCO**
- **Foundation for Environmental Education**
- **AAG**
- **Earth Institute – CIESIN**
- **AGEDI**
- **Esri**



Affiliated Projects

- Environmental Atlas of Abu Dhabi Emirate
- The SI promotes 8 additional projects, however, these are not affiliated as of yet:
 - Comunicacion y Educacion Ambiental SC
 - Global University Partnership for Environment and Sustainability (GUPES)
 - My Community Our Earth (MyCOE)
 - Environmental Communications and Outreach (ECO) Worldwide
 - GeoSUM – GeoInformation for Sustainable Urban Management – Building Outreach
 - In-Service ICT Training for Environmental Mid Career Professionals to Secure Access and Ability to Use Available Environmental Information (ISEPEI)
 - The Seasons Project
 - Environmental Information System Hub



Status and Next Steps

- **Status**
 - The SI Group has not convened since the 2011 Summit.
 - A successful side event occurred at Rio +20.
- **Next Steps**
 - Reconvene SI stakeholders
 - Develop Outcome Statement
 - Establish targets, identify potential projects, funding sources and partners



Status and the Way Forward

THEMATIC SPECIAL INITIATIVES

EYE ON EARTH | Special Initiatives

July 2012



Summary

- This SI concentrates on the incentives required to motivate people and organizations to share information and data on biodiversity.
- The delivery is envisioned through:
 - A transparent platform for recognition and profile;
 - A movement to encourage, recognize and require data sharing;
 - Tools to visualize, explore and manage data;
 - A distributed network for sharing and managing data;
 - Unlocking EIA data; and
 - Providing data for Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)



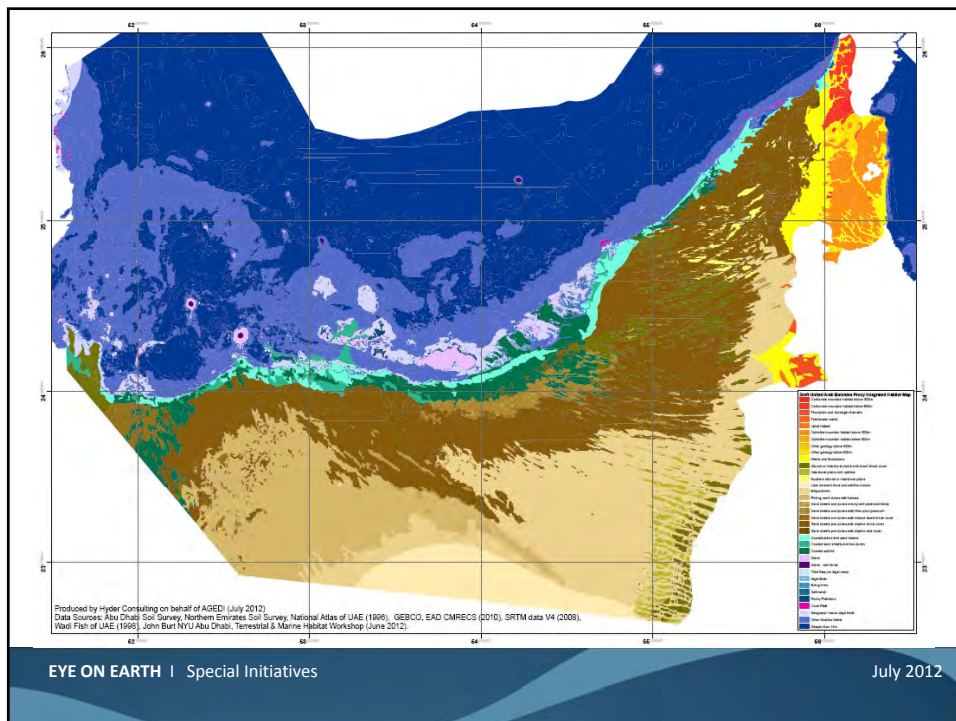
Key Stakeholders

- AGEDI
- EAD
- UNEP
- UNEP - WCMC
- IUCN
- Conservation International
- Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)
- Jane Goodall Institute
- NatureServe



Affiliated Projects

- **Local, National and Regional Biodiversity Assessment**
 - Funded by AGEDI to conduct a systematic rapid biodiversity assessment for Abu Dhabi, UAE and the Arabian Peninsula.
 - Hyder Consulting and Dr. Stephen Holness are implementing the project.
- The SI provides an implementation strategy for its outcome products



Status and Next Steps

- **Status**

- The SI Group has not convened since the 2011 Summit, however, they are eager to do so.
- UNEP-WCMC is able to support coordination and make further connections with partners.
- A successful side event occurred at Rio +20.
- AGEDI has scoped a rapid biodiversity assessment project.

- **Next Steps**

- Reconvene SI stakeholders
- Develop Outcome Statement
- Establish targets, identify potential projects, funding sources and partners



Summary

- This initiative responds to the need for coordinating urban sustainability and resilience initiatives to facilitate the sharing of information, concepts, challenges and solutions
- Three objectives are targeted
 - Build a common sharing platform
 - Connect urban practitioners and researchers
 - Build the capacity of urban professionals and civil society to use available urban geospatial data



Key Stakeholders

- **USG Department of State**
- **AAG**
- **ESRI**
- **US GBC**
- **ICLEI**
- **Ecocities**
- **AGEDI**
- **And 20 other organizations and individuals**



Affiliated Projects

- GeoInformation for Sustainable Urban Management and Resilience (GeoSUMR)
- Building Ecocities: Geodesign for boosting urban sustainability and resilience
- Geospatial Sciences for sustainable development in Africa (GSSDA)
- UN Habitat Sustainable Urban Development network (SUD-Net)
- MEDEEM
- My Community Our Earth (MyCOE)
- World Bank Urbanization Knowledge Platform



Status and Next Steps

- **Status**
 - A core group of stakeholders (US DoS, AAG, ESRI and US GBC) has been meeting to organize the initiative and develop a governance structure
 - A strong presence in Rio+20 was assured through efforts of AGEDI, as well as the SI core group
 - Partnerships opportunities are strong, including the creation of a new Local Urban Initiative.
- **Next Steps**
 - Convene broader group of SI stakeholders
 - Develop Outcome Statement
 - Establish targets, identify potential projects, funding sources and partners





Summary

- This SI focuses on helping communities anticipate heightened risks due to disasters, develop better plans, respond more quickly and recover more effectively by taking advantage of new observation, assessment and decision support technologies. It provides a unique opportunity to define a new business model in which the mandate of each stakeholder can be leveraged to better support disaster management.



Key Stakeholders

- AGEDI
- AAG
- ESRI
- GFDRR
- UNISDR and UN-SPIDER
- GEO
- UNEP
- Ushahidi
- And 10 other organizations



Affiliated Projects

- A Public Private Partnership project to strengthen existing networks and support GIS and spatial infrastructure capacity building for more effective planning and mitigation.
- Develop and pilot a new business model for DM under which stakeholders can use geography and time as a way to integrate and better organize responses to disasters . The pilot will be implemented in a nation ready to commit resources and top policy support, and take advantage of ongoing work on other SIs



Status and Next Steps

- **Status**

- The SI Group has not convened since the 2011 Summit
- A successful side event occurred at Rio +20.

- **Next Steps**

- Reconvene SI stakeholders
- Develop Outcome Statement
- Establish targets, clarify potential projects, funding sources and partners



Summary

- This SI will transform the quality and accessibility of coastal ecosystem data and build local capacity to develop, interpret and use it for the benefit of blue carbon sequestration potential and sustainable management of coastal ecosystems.
- Short-Term Objectives:
 - Use innovative technology and citizen science to develop interoperable spatial datasets
 - Develop internationally approved methodologies and data standards
 - Build user communities, networks and local capacity
 - Integrate work across on-going and future activities in Blue Carbon around the world
- Long-Term Objectives:
 - Increase ecosystem based approaches to maximize climate change mitigation
 - Reduce uncertainty and risk in trade-offs
 - Greater local capacity to use market-based mechanisms



Key Stakeholders

- AGEDI
- EAD
- UNEP
- UNEP-WCMC
- UNEP-GRID-Arendal
- UNESCO-IOC
- Conservation International
- Forest Trends
- GEF



Affiliated Projects

- **Blue Carbon Demonstration Project**
 - Funded by AGEDI to conduct an assessment of Abu Dhabi's coastal ecosystems for Blue Carbon sequestration potential
 - GRID-Arendal is taking the lead with UNEP, UNEP-WCMC, Forest Trends, AGEDI and IUCN as partners
- **GEF funded, UNEP Blue Forests Initiative**
 - Currently being scoped by GRID-Arendal



Status and Next Steps

- **Status**
 - The SI Group has not convened since the 2011 Summit, however, they are eager to do so.
 - GRID-Arendal is taking the lead on the Abu Dhabi Blue Carbon Demonstration Project and scoping the UNEP, GEF funded Blue Forests initiative
 - A successful side event occurred at Rio +20.
- **Next Steps**
 - Reconvene SI stakeholders
 - Develop Outcome Statement
 - Establish targets, identify potential projects, funding sources and partners





Summary

- Focuses on the information and data management needs of more effective and integrated water resource management across all sectors.
- Seeks to optimize the collaboration of existing water networks through data sharing across the trans-national boundaries of the five hydrogeological regions of the world.
- Aim is to support and realize the potential of collaboration of data sharing implementing best practice standards, protocols and methodologies to support decision-makers to make informed determinations on water management policy, practices and processes.
- Development of a data resources and assets framework for a regional water management information infrastructure is a primary goal of Eye on Water Security. It is proposed that in time the framework will be implemented into one or more hydrogeological regions to demonstrate the effectiveness of data and information in addressing water security issues.

Key Stakeholders

- There are about 30 stakeholders signed up for this SI. They include government, NGOs, private industry, and other interested organizations. There are also many organizations listed as pending, which may join as the SI moves forward.
- AGEDI, GEF-IW, SIWI, UNEP, UNESCO, GeoSUR/CAF, CSIRO, GEOSS, JRC



Affiliated Projects

- Announced at Rio:
 - Local, National and Regional Water Assessment
- Listed in Water Security White Paper:
 - A Reference Architecture and Design for Community-Based Data Interoperability Brokers
 - An Online Collaborative Framework for Community Development of Earth Observation Ontologies
 - GeoSUR Regional Network Showcase Project for the GNON SI
 - Water Security White Paper itself could be considered a proposal
- Under development
 - A draft project (CSIRO and GeoSur)



Status and Next Steps

- **Status**

- The full SI Group has not met since the Summit. Some email messages were sent out among many of the participants soon after the Summit, but not recently.
- Water Security SI issues were discussed during side meetings at the time of the UNEP Governing Council meeting, January 2012, in Nairobi
- A factsheet was given out at Rio +20, along with discussions of Water Security issues in related events
- An Affiliated Project was announced in Rio
- Some work is going on between GeoSUR and CSIRO to develop a project

- **Next Steps**

- Reconvene SI stakeholders
- Develop Outcome Statement with all Stakeholders (should be living document)
- Establish targets/roadmap for Summit 2014,
- Projects: Identify, describe, engage, resource, report



SPECIAL INITIATIVES FACILITATION AND APPROACH

SI Facilitation

- Support the development of Outcome Statements that identify achievable targets
- Facilitate coordination meetings and provide structured support to help each SI move forward towards achieving its contribution to the SI Outcome Statement and individual project goals
- Develop Meeting Minutes for all SI Group meetings
- Identify issues, opportunities and constraints, stimulate potential solutions and report to the Secretariat as needed

EYE ON EARTH | Special Initiatives

July 2012

SI Facilitation

- Act as the “conduit” between the SI Groups and the Secretariat to support the SIs on behalf of the Secretariat
- Stimulate engagement within the SIs
- Ensure the progression of each SI and affiliated projects embrace and demonstrate the principles of the Eye on Earth Summit Declaration
- Identify, support and accelerate cross-SI collaborative opportunities
- Provide monthly reporting to the Executive Secretariat on planned activities and quarterly progress reports

EYE ON EARTH | Special Initiatives

July 2012

SI Organization and Governance

- Each SI is different and may need its own stakeholder operating/engagement model
- Ideally, they should be organic and the required level of organization and/or governance should occur naturally as the SI matures

EYE ON EARTH | Special Initiatives

July 2012

Status and the Way Forward

SPECIAL INITIATIVES ACTION PLAN

EYE ON EARTH | Special Initiatives

July 2012

Major Activities and Milestones

