Project partners

- Museum für Naturkunde - Leibniz Institute for Research on Evolution and Biodiversity (MfN), Berlin
- University of Tartu Natural History Museum and Botanical Gardens (UTARTU), Tartu
- University of Eastern Finland, Digitisation Centre (UEF), Joensuu
- Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), Copenhagen
- University of Leeds, School of Biology, Leeds
- Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ, Leipzig- Halle
- Spanish Council for Scientific Research (CSIC), Doñana Biological Station, Seville
- University of Cambridge, Centre for Science and Policy, Cambridge
- National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), IMBE, Aix-en-Provence
- Pensoft Publishers Ltd, Sofia
- Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung (SGN), Frankfurt/Main
- Simbiotica S.L., Madrid
- FishBase Information and Research Group, Inc. (FIN), Laguna
- Hellenic Center for Marine Research (HCMR), Heraklion
- The Natural History Museum (NHM), London
- Freie Universität Berlin, Botanic Garden and Botanical Museum Berlin-Dahlem (BGBM), Berlin
- University of Copenhagen, Natural History Museum of Denmark (NHMD), Copenhagen
- Royal Museum of Central Africa (RMCA), Tervuren
- Plazi GmbH, Bern
- GlueCAD Ltd. - Engineering IT Solutions, Haifa
- Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), London
- National Institute for Amazonian Research (INPA), Manaus
- Swedish Museum of Natural History (NRM), Stockholm
- Slovak Academy of Sciences, Institute of Botany (IB SAS), Bratislava
- European Bird Census Council, Forest Technology Centre of Catalonia (EBCC-CTFC), Solsona
- Norwegian Biodiversity Information Centre (NBIC), Trondheim
- Fondazione Edmund Mach, San Michele all'Adige, Trento
- TerraData environmetrics, Monterotondo Marittimo
- European Academy of Bozen/ Bolzano (EURAC), Bolzano
- UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC), Cambridge
- University of Granada (UGR), Granada

EU BON

Key words: biodiversity, data integration, information infrastructure, earth observation, monitoring, remote sensing, ecosystem services, nature conservation, biological resources, science policy

Consortium of 31 partners from 18 countries
Structure: 9 work packages (WPs)
Duration: Dec. 2012 – May 2017

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Building the European Biodiversity Observation Network

EU BON

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Background

Sustainable use of our natural resources requires a scientific basis for informed decision processes. However, current knowledge and data sources on biodiversity are often fragmented, not integrated and partly difficult to access.

This state hinders coherent biodiversity analyses, which are urgently needed as important underlying information for various stakeholders and policy makers on local, national and global level, and to advance an in-depth science policy dialogue.

EU BON will

- advance technological platforms for GEO BON to achieve interoperability through the GEOSS Common Infrastructure.
- improve the methods and tools to assess, analyse, visualise and publish biodiversity information.
- collate and integrate existing biodiversity data.
- improve the linkage of biodiversity and environmental data (e.g. remote sensing).
- develop frameworks and strategies for better management and use of biodiversity information at national and regional levels.
- design concepts for sustaining integrated environmental information systems with active participation of citizens, business and industry.
- contribute important information to IPBES as well as to other policy bodies.

General aim

The main aim of EU BON is to deliver a European contribution to the information infrastructure of the Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network (GEO BON). Specifically it aims at harmonising, standardising, and integrating biodiversity information as well as facilitating its access.

EU BON will build on existing infrastructures, e.g. GBIF, LifeWatch and national biodiversity centres.

Main outcomes

- A European biodiversity portal to enable fast and easy access to integrated data and products
- A strategic roadmap for an EU citizen science gateway for biodiversity data
- A substantial contribution to the European taxonomic backbone
- A prototype of integrated, scalable, global biodiversity monitoring schemes
- An open data publishing and dissemination framework and toolkit
- A policy paper on strategies for data mobilisation and their use in conservation
- A strategy for EU-integrated national and regional biodiversity information infrastructures
- A sustainability plan for regional and global biodiversity information networks

Workflow