



Thoughts on EU BON Sustainability

A Biodiversity Observation Network for the European Region

4th EU BON Roundtable 17 November 2016 Berlin

Gary Geller Senior Expert for Biodiversity and Ecosystems GEO Secretariat ggeller@geosec.org





Thoughts On An operational EU BON

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Interactive Group Discussions

- **13:30-14:30**
- Group 1: Infrastructure and networks and EU BON sustainability
- Group 2: Strategies, Business Plan and EU BON sustainability (Gary Geller, Dirk Schmeller, Katherine Despot Belmonte)
- Group 3: Monitoring and forecasting, tools for critical biodiversity assessment



Key Questions

- What happens next?
- How can we create opportunities?
- How do we build on what we have?
- What path forward to take?
- How do we prioritize the challenges?

- Who are the users?
- What problems are they trying to solve?
- How can we help them?





Key Questions



Who are the users?



Key Questions



- **■** Who are the users? Who is it for?
- Who are the sponsors?
- Where do national governments fit in?





Answers: Write a Journal Paper

- Introduction
- Why an operational EU BON?
 - What problem does it solve?
 - What is its vision?
 - Who is it for?
- Network description
 - Partners
 - System architecture:
 - Observations
 - Data
 - Connections to users
- Approach
 - What is a realistic path to the vision?
- Challenges



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Approach: Path to the Vision?

Is sponsorship the biggest challenge to sustainability?

- Yes? Focus first on motivating sponsors
- How to motivate sponsors?
 - Prioritize the functions they value most
 - Build them end-to-end
- Grow incrementally



GEO Approach

Help national governments meet their international and internal commitments

