GEOBON Strategy

16th APBON webinar on "GEOBON Strategy"

12 April 2023

Maria Cecilia Londono and Andrew Gonzalez

Presentation Content

- How we build the strategic plan:

  SWOT analysis

- Strategic Plan

- Bon in a Box

SWOT analysis
Provided the baseline for the strategy

Twelve interviews and online consultation from April to May 2021

June 16-18 2021 SWOT Analysis Virtual Workshop (40 GEO BON members,

including representatives from various Biodiversity Observation Networks (BONs), working groups, and task forces; former and present GEO BON Chairs; and members of the advisory board).
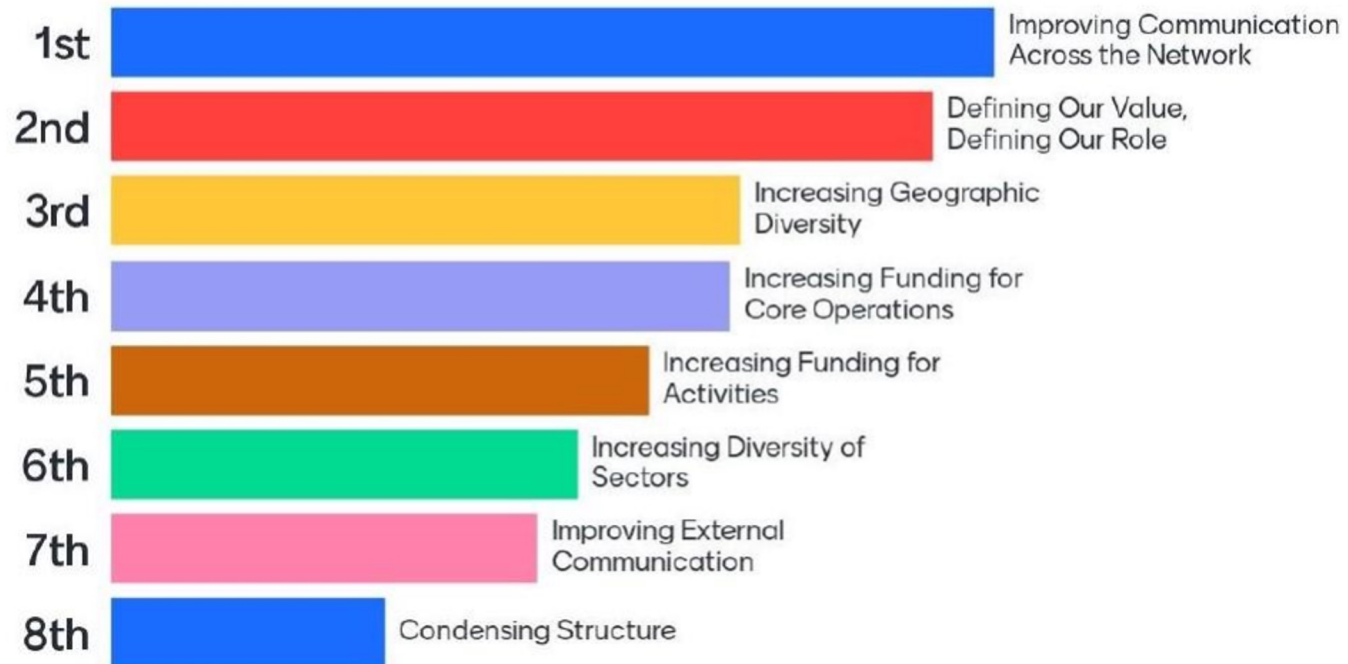
- **Strengths and Weaknesses of GEO BON**
- **Deeper Dive Into Essential Variables and BON´s development**
- **GEO BON a think tank or a network putting science into action?**
- **What Does Putting Science into Action Look Like**
- **Who Are The End Users**
- **What are GEO BON´s roles in science to action**

	Helpful to achieving the objective	Harmful to achieving the objective
Internal origin (attributes of the organization)	Strengths	Weaknesses
External origin (attributes of the environment)	Opportunities	Threats

Results of the SWOT analysis
Challenges and needs identified

Challenges Ranked

1st	Improving Communication Across the Network
2nd	Defining Our Value, Defining Our Role
3rd	Increasing Geographic Diversity
4th	Increasing Funding for Core Operations
5th	Increasing Funding for Activities
6th	Increasing Diversity of Sectors
7th	Improving External Communication
8th	Condensing Structure

EBV´s: need to develop a procedure and policy for updating EBVs and summary documentation to communicate what EBVs are, how they function and how they can be used.

BONs: need to publish guiding principles and a common goal to create a level of consistency and a clear sense of purpose across BONs

First, there is a need to clearly define GEO BON's objectives, needs and target audiences.

Results of the SWOT analysis
Key GEOBON roles

Key roles GEO BON should take on as it moves forward putting science into action:

1. Offer advice and capacity building services to users wishing to apply GEO BON frameworks, approaches, and methods;

2. Develop consensus on a standardized set of monitoring variables to inform international policy. In particular work with CBD developing the monitoring framework of the Global Biodiversity Framework;

3. Support the translation of EBVs into measurable indicators and the integration of EBVs into existing monitoring frameworks.

4. Development of knowledge to action hubs to have co-development of product and solve a particular challenges or knowledge need.

5. Establishment of new BONs and support their integration into a network sharing monitoring methodologies and practices.

https://www.ubjonline.mx/los-roles-y-responsabilidades-mas-importantes-en-un-proyecto/

Strategic Plan
Six versions and IC meetings

W	GEO BON_strategic plan_v2.docx
W	StrategicPlan_GEO BON_v3_2022-2026.docx
W	StrategicPlan_GEO BON_v4_23OCT.docx
W	StrategicPlan_GEO BON_v5_25Nov.docx
W	StrategicPlan_GEO BON_v6_23March2023.docx

Virtual Workshop with the implementation committee

Virtual meeting
30 Nov - 2 Dec 2022

Strategic Plan
Monitoring biodiversity for action

Previous version: W StrategicPlan_GEO BON_v5_25Nov.docx

Tagline: Monitoring biodiversity for action

GEO BON STRATEGY 2023-2026

Vision

Establish a globally coordinated biodiversity observation and monitoring network providing data and tools to decision-makers, scientists, and the public in all sectors and supporting conservation, management and sustainable use of the world's biodiversity and its contributions to people from local to global levels.

Mission

GEO BON and its partners support the monitoring of biodiversity change through the coordination and collaboration among biodiversity observation networks, the generation of Essential Biodiversity and Ecosystem Service Variables, and the development of indicators, forecasts and various information services, making them readily available to all users.

Strategic Plan
Core Values

Guiding principles for its members and maintains a code of conduct for all interactions.

1. **Excellence:** Provide high-level expertise in biodiversity science and monitoring to support research, policy and decision-making.

2. **Collaboration and shared purpose**: Support and encourage members, governments, companies and community institutions, and others to work together to advance the mission. Ensure each participatory effort can make a difference, and that participants are aware of that potential.

3. **Transparency and Openness:** Be clear and open about the processes used to gather and share biodiversity information. Learn and apply information in ways that generate new options and support open community engagement for effective biodiversity outcomes. When possible, use open software code repositories, e.g. github, and similar collaborative environments.

4. **Inclusivity:** Equitably incorporate and acknowledge diverse people, voices, ideas, and knowledge to support biodiversity monitoring and data integration and forecasts. Promote a culture of participation across nations, institutions, and people from all sectors that supports the engagement with the global community.

GEO BON strongly supports the use of **FAIR** and **CARE** principles for scientific data management and stewardship.
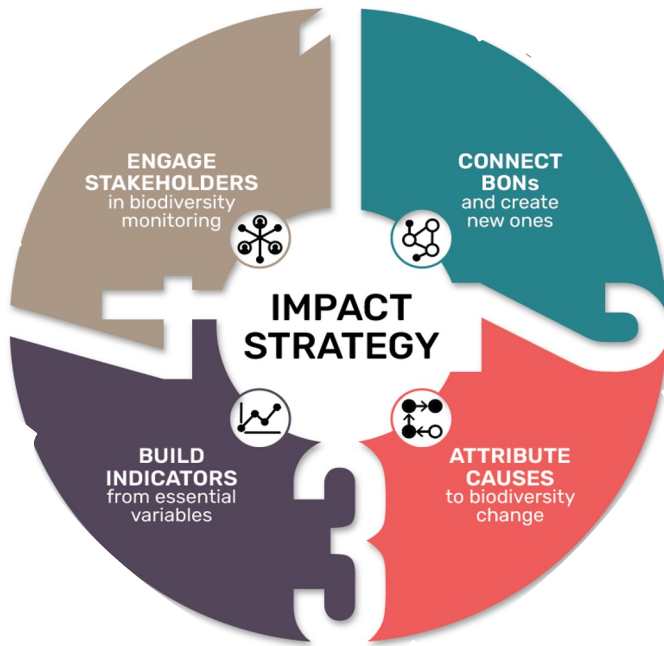

https://www.gida-global.org/care

Strategic Plan
Four Focus Areas

1. Assembling the network of Biodiversity Observation Networks

- High-level of consistency, openness and equity in knowledge production and sharing across the monitoring network.
- Local communities, countries and regions monitor the changing state of nature and their progress toward conservation, management and sustainable use targets and goals

2. Developing a framework for detection and attribution of biodiversity change

- Track and predict changes over time of different dimensions of biodiversity—from genetic through species to ecosystem diversity and break down this information on land, in freshwaters and in the oceans and link it to information on human drivers and pressures.
- Understand the threats to biodiversity and the risks of biodiversity change to ecosystem processes and services and use this understanding to guide new monitoring and conservation, management and sustainable use actions.

3. Linking data to models and indicators with essential variables

- Rapid development of EBV, EESV new indicators and the improvement of existing ones. Development of leading indicators of biodiversity change built from explanatory models.
- The information infrastructure is established to permit the sharing of EBV data sets and derived workflows from data to EBV to indicators.

4. Stakeholder engagement

- Diverse stakeholders, Indigenous People and Local Communities, citizen scientists, Non-Governmental Organizations, companies and others collect and use biodiversity knowledge.
- Actively engaging communities of practice for co-producing knowledge with data users.

Strategic Goal
A Global Biodiversity Observing System (GBiOS)

GEO BON Strategic Goal:

GEO BON's main strategic goal for the next five years is the establishment of a **Global Biodiversity Observing System (GBiOS)** that will monitor how, where, and why biodiversity is changing on land and in the water.

| GEO BON	GBiOS
GEO BON is an international network of networks based on volunteers who contribute their expertise to build knowledge products and services on raw biodiversity observations. Such products include the suite of EBVs, EESVs and indicators used to document biodiversity change at various spatial and temporal scales, and services such as the advice on designing and implementing monitoring networks.	GBiOS is a system of linked BONs and monitoring schemes that include dedicated infrastructure and human resources to collect, store, analyze and interpret biodiversity observations to predict biodiversity trends under different scenarios to directly support national sustainable development and conservation policy and better guide action towards the 2050 UN vision of 'living in harmony with nature'. The knowledge needed to build GBiOS will be provided by GEO BON and its partners.

Strategic Plan
Outcomes

1. A **prototype GBiOS** will be assembled as a system of observation, data provider, and other partners to guide further development. GEO BON's two knowledge platforms, namely **BON-in-a-Box and the EBV Data Portal**, will support this process.
   A dedicated **K2A Hub will support BON development** and enhancement.

1. The **Detection and Attribution framework will be built** via a dedicated K2A Hub, tasked with the creation of products, models and methods to formalize and standardize the detection and attribution of biodiversity change to anthropogenic drivers.

1. A **pipeline for data-to-indicators workflows** will be built via a K2A Hub designed to **respond to the need of CBD Parties** for national reporting based on headline, component and complementary indicators in GBF, and will be available to use by different stakeholders through BON-in-a-Box.

1. **Provide projections of the future of global biodiversity** informed by monitoring under different social and economic scenarios including the formation of standards for model intercomparison.

1. All GEO BON members and other partners will be invited to engage in this work via regular meetings, conferences and GEOBON´s online platforms. **A special focus will be given to the inclusion of communities that traditionally may have been overlooked in biodiversity monitoring schemes** (citizen scientists, Indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth).

Strategic Plan
Stakeholder engagement- Enhancing partnerships

K2A Hub
Knowledge to Action Hubs

Temporary groups whose purpose is to convene different GEO BON members with the end users - to collectively work through a process (co-development) from product to application and solve a particular challenge or knowledge need.
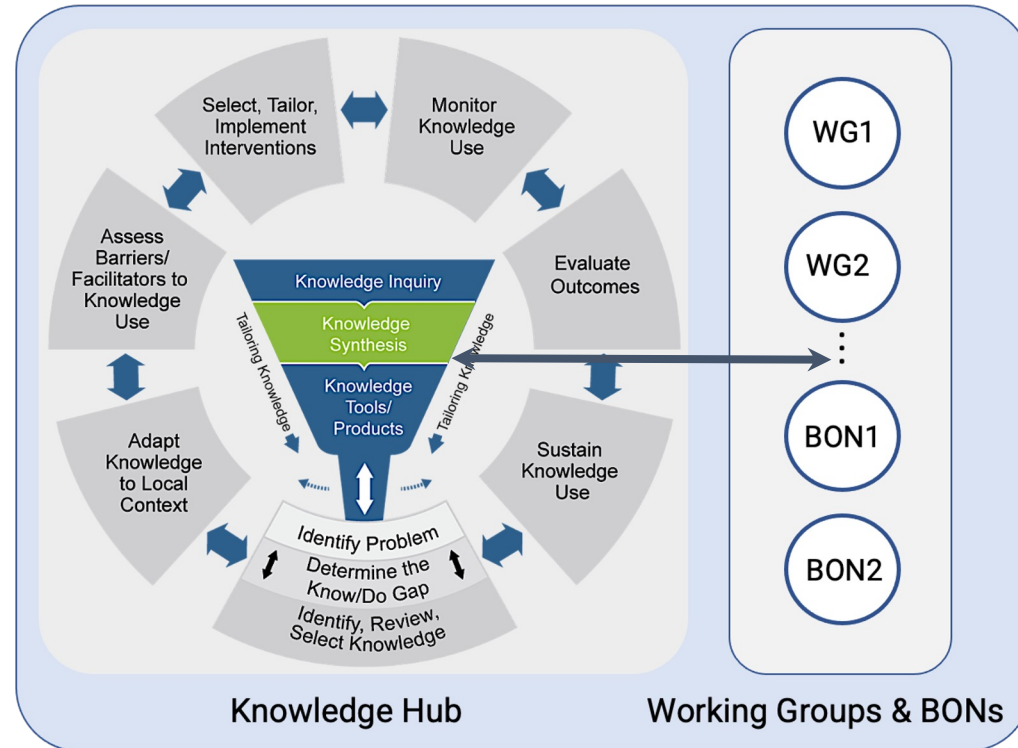
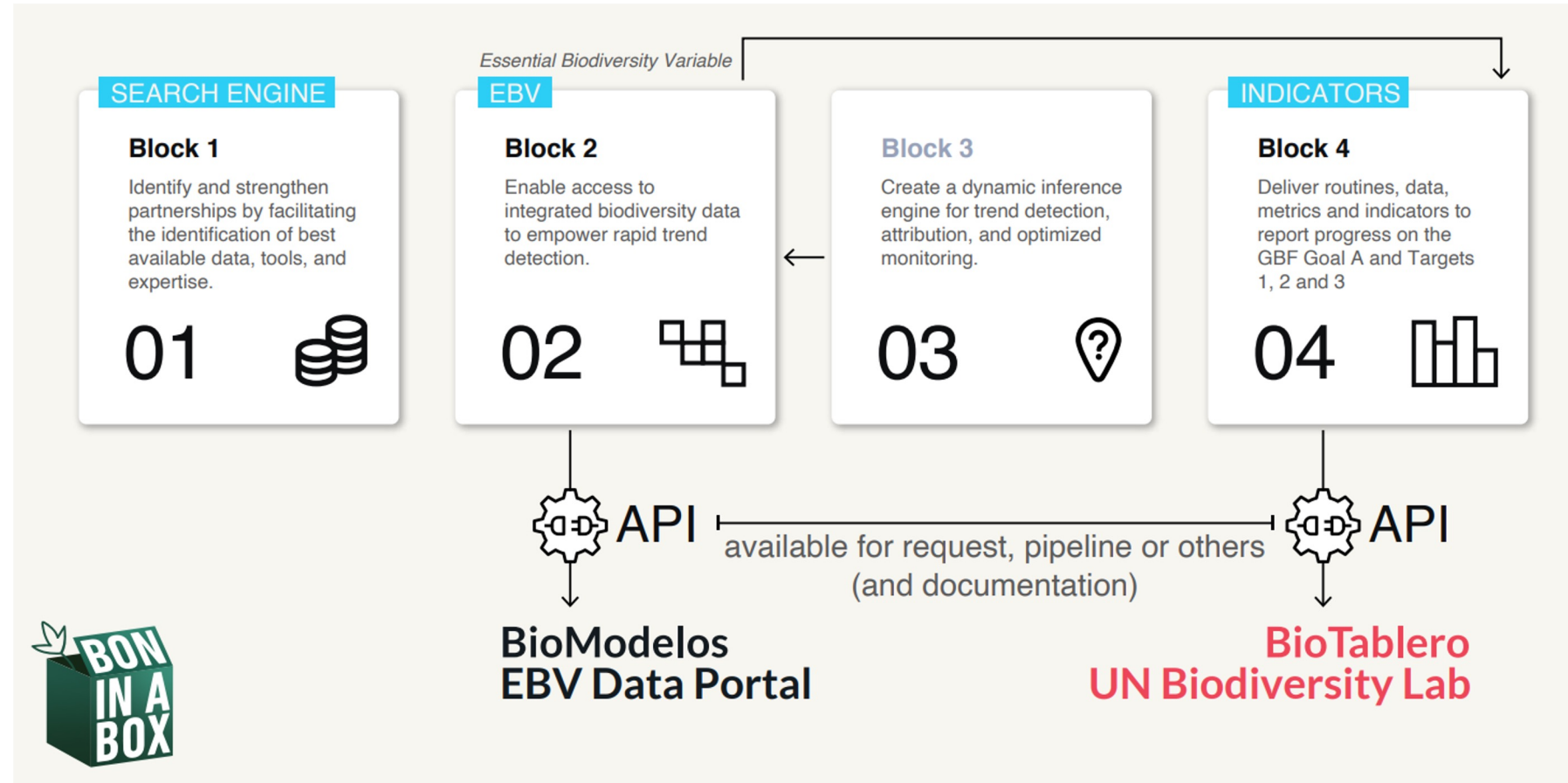Inclusive communication

Coordinated action

Bon in a Box

- BON IN A BOX is a web platform that supports the setting up and running of Biodiversity Observation Networks
- Build up in modules (blocks) each one providing specific tools for setting up or enhancing a BON

Thank you

www.geobon.org

Results of the SWOT analysis

Strengths

- Scientific expertise; high impact papers produced
- Reputation and recognition in both science and policy communities
- Engagement in CBD Process
- The network itself; open community; strong international network
- Increasing the diversity of network composition
- Emphasis on monitoring; potential for monitoring at different scales
- EBVs - demonstrated capacity to provide excellent products; great conceptual framework
- BONs
- Capacity to attract funds from major organizations

Weaknesses

- Capacity - lack of time
- Implementation; insufficient operationalization
- Communication challenges
  - Communication across EBVs, across BONs, across whole network
  - Rigid model for working groups and task forces that creates silos
- Limited diversity - global representation
- Difficult to mobilize non-academics to participate
- Need more cross-sector operations; interdisciplinary projects
- Inclusiveness of GEO BON in strategic planning
- Funding