For the past ten years, GEO BON and its members have been developing the Biodiversity Observation Networks that underlie the acquisition and mobilization of biodiversity observations (BONs), as well as Essential Biodiversity Variables (EBVs) that help assess the status and trends of biodiversity across all levels of its organization, from genes to ecosystems.

We are now at a pivotal time for global biodiversity conservation with the approval of the Global Assessment of IPBES, the on-going assessment of the Aichi biodiversity targets and discussions on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

All of these activities fundamentally rely on and point to the need for strengthened efforts to monitor and observe the Earth’s biodiversity.

With the 2020 GEO BON Open Science Conference and All Hands meeting we invite all members and interested parties to come together and present progress, achievements, and frontiers in BON and EBV development, as well as to plan and shape the future of GEO BON. The conference will also be the occasion to officially launch the outcomes of the “EBV 2020” initiative with the mobilization of EBV data products covering all EBV classes into the GEO BON portal.

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