

October 21, 2025

# **From Observation to Impact:** Co-created tools emphasize the role of data management in global biodiversity observing systems

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*Sweden*

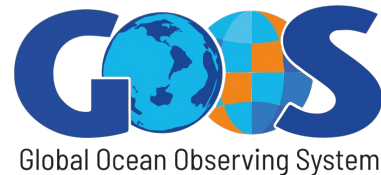
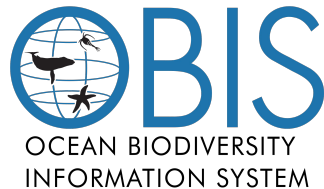


The slide features a light blue background with a large white circle in the center. Five thin blue circles are scattered around the white circle: one in the top-left, one in the top-right, one in the bottom-left, and two overlapping in the top-center. A vertical dotted line separates the text on the left from the text on the right.

**Ocean  
observations are  
fundamental to  
society**

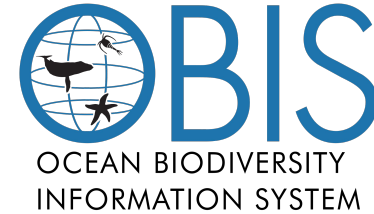
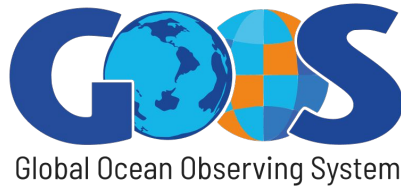
No **one** country  
can observe the  
ocean effectively  
on its own

# Towards a more integrated Ocean observing system



# How?

.....

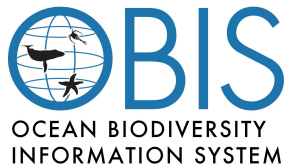


- Identification of 36 GOOS **Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs)** by ocean experts
- Development of **EOV Specification sheets**

- Makes marine biodiversity **data accessible and interoperable**
- Standardize, quality control and integrate marine biodiversity & EOV (meta)data







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## Objectives

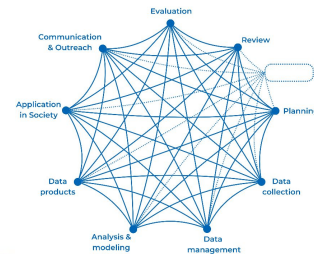
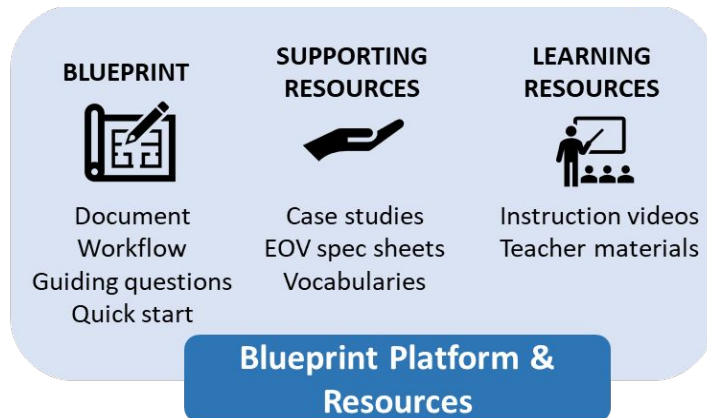
- Enhance BioEco ocean observing capacity
- Increase utility of ocean observations
- Accelerate and improve BioEco EOVI implementation
- Co-create a **Blueprint for Integrated Ocean Science**

2024

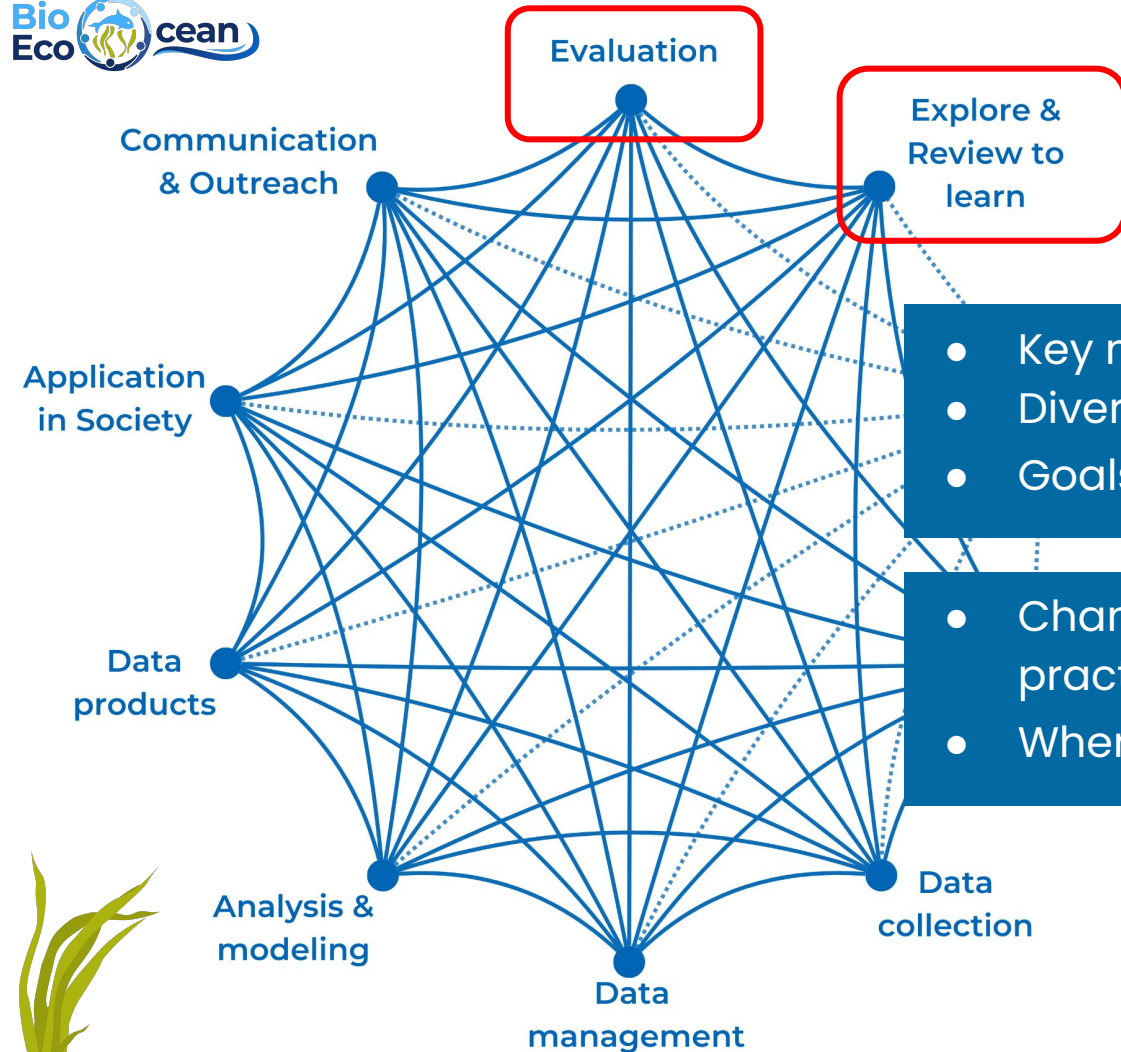
2028

# What is the Blueprint?

- Question-based “**support tool**”
- To spark and encourage **collaboration**
- **Communication** support across sectors
- Identifies areas where collaboration is advantageous
- Enable future visions with more **integrated approaches**



# Applying OBIS Data to the Blueprint

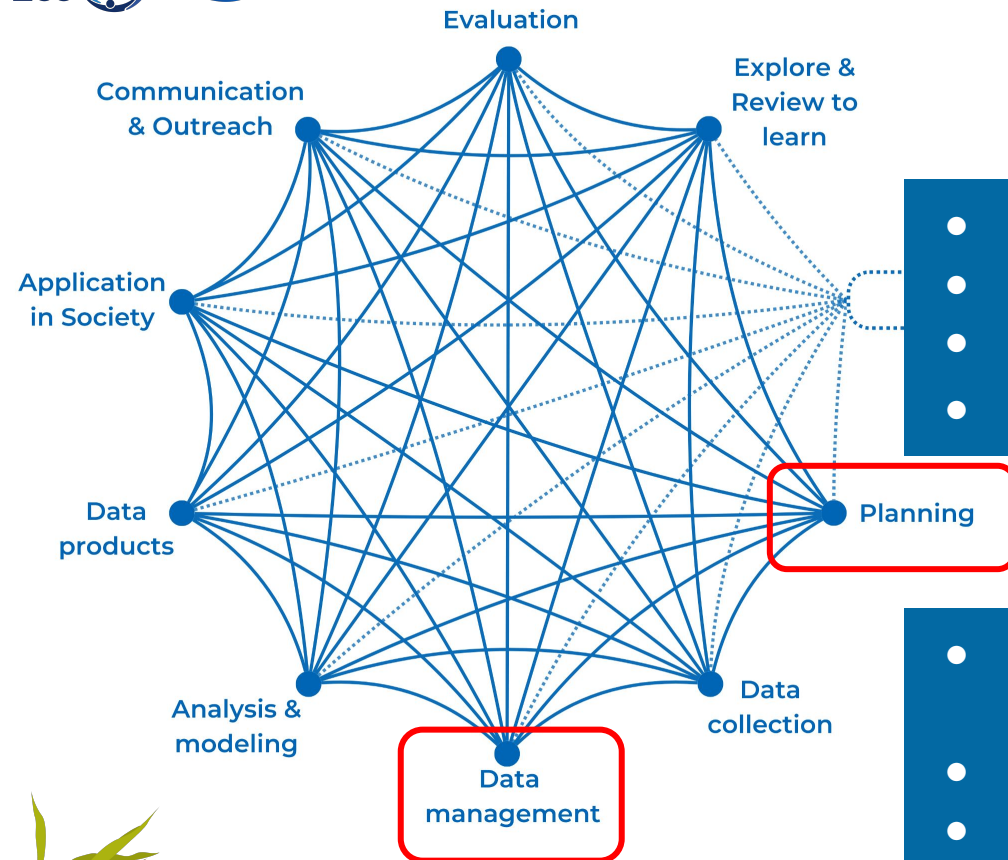


- Key metrics to track effectiveness?
- Diverse perspective included?
- Goals achieved?

- Changes to data management Best practices?
- Where are gaps in data?

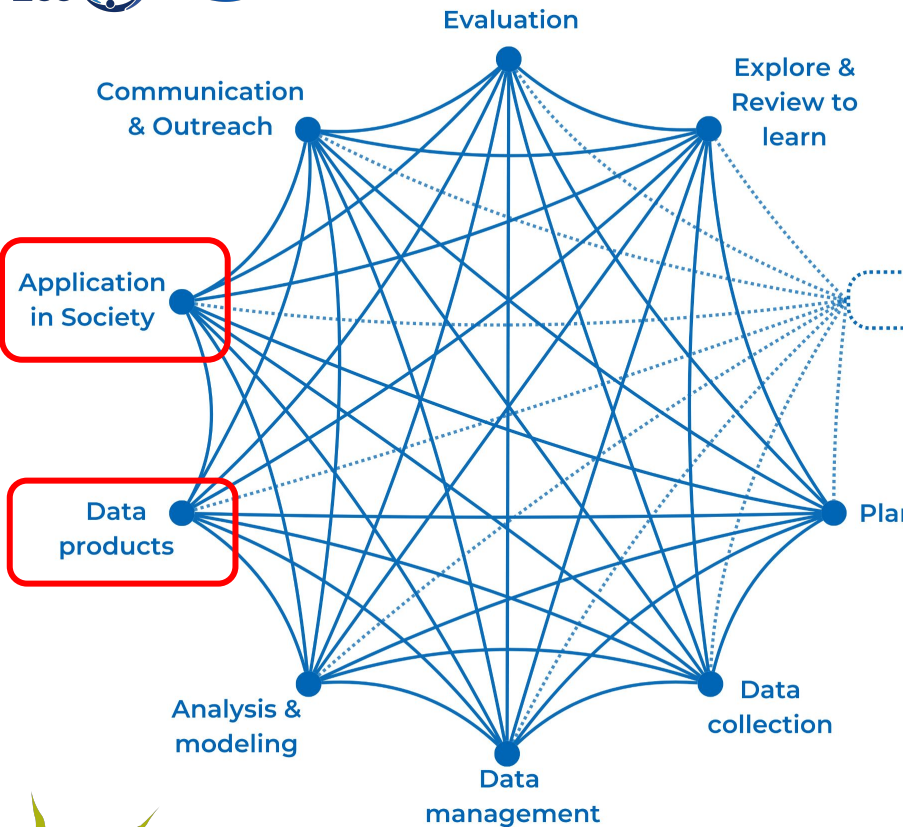


# Applying OBIS Data to the Blueprint



- New technologies to be implemented?
- Changes in data standards?
- Collaborations to strengthen?
- Clearly delineated objectives?

- Data management practices clearly outlined?
- Current infrastructure up to date?
- How are backups implemented?



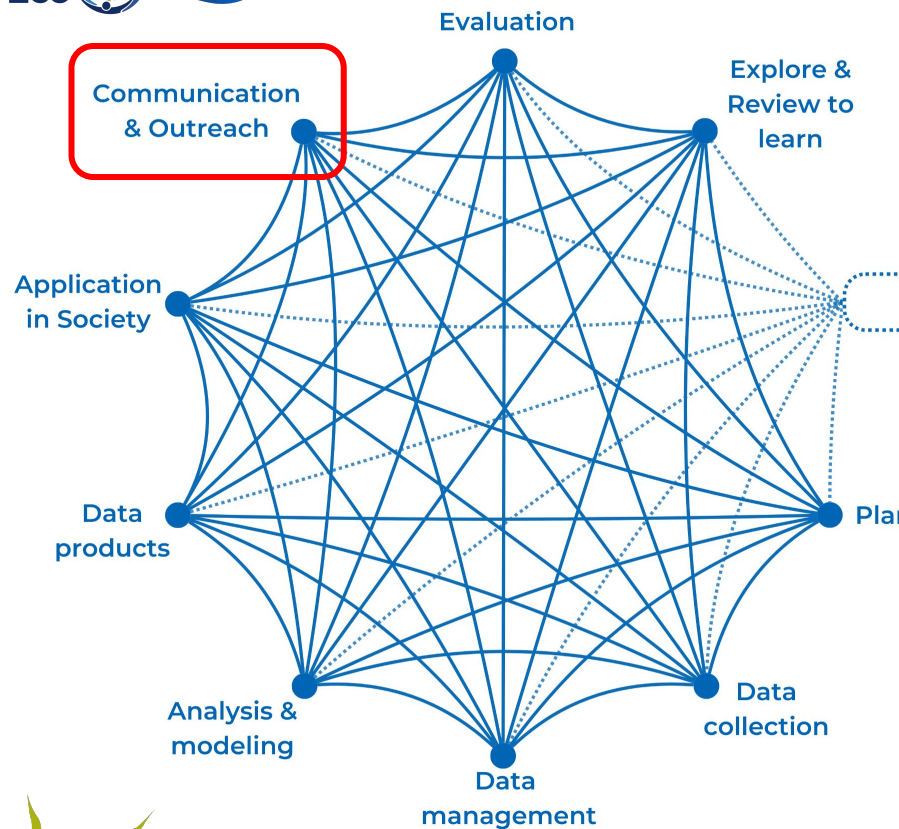
# Applying OBIS Data to the Blueprint

- Indicators?
- Community wants/needs?
- Products appropriately understandable?
- Is uncertainty communicated?

- Are we meeting societal needs?
- How can we (better) integrate with decision-makers?



# Applying OBIS Data to the Blueprint

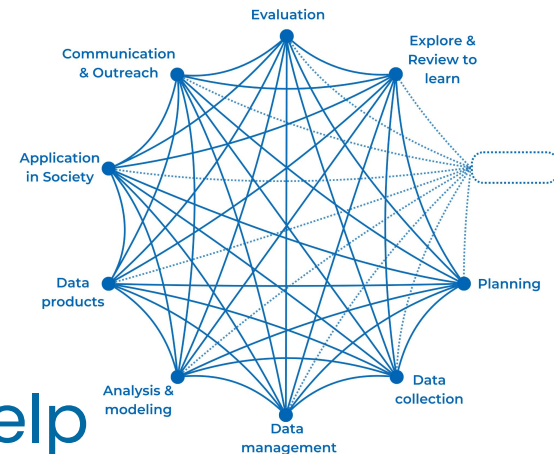


- Reaching target audience(s)?
- How can we track communication efficiency?
- Audience language(s)?



# Summary

- **Data management** is critical for turning observations into action
  - OBIS & GOOS lead data workflows
- **Holistic, reflective thinking** can help design & strengthen ocean observing systems
- Blueprint is **co-created**
  - See [bioecoocean.org](https://bioecoocean.org) for collaboration opportunities





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## Partners



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## Physics



Sea state\*



Ocean surface stress\*



Sea ice\*



Sea surface height\*



Sea surface temperature\*



Subsurface temperature\*



Surface currents\*



Subsurface currents\*



Sea surface salinity\*



Subsurface salinity\*



Ocean surface heat flux\*



Ocean bottom pressure



Turbulent diapycnal fluxes

## Biogeochemistry



Oxygen\*



Nutrients\*



Inorganic carbon\*



Transient tracers\*



Particulate matter



Nitrous oxide\*



Stable carbon isotopes



Dissolved organic carbon

## Cross-disciplinary



Ocean sound



Ocean colour\*



Marine debris

## Biology & Ecosystems



Phytoplankton\* biomass & diversity



Zooplankton\* biomass & diversity



Fish abundance & distribution



Sea turtles abundance & distribution



Seabirds abundance & distribution



Marine mammals abundance & distribution



Hard coral\* cover & composition



Seagrass\* cover & composition



Macroalgal canopy\* cover & composition



Mangroves\* cover & composition



Invertebrates abundance & distribution



Microbes biomass & diversity

\*Also identified as Essential Climate Variables (ECVs)



Pilot EOVs



THE LAW OF THE SEA

Unify data collection methodologies and data sharing practices



Comparable observations



Improved understanding of ocean processes



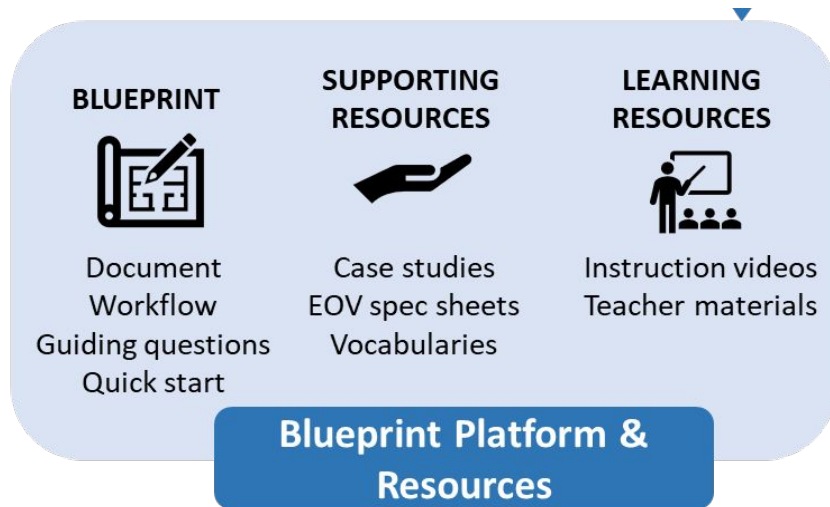
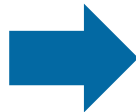
Informed decision-making

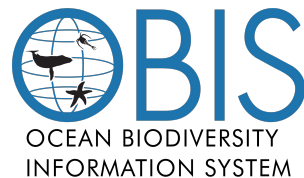
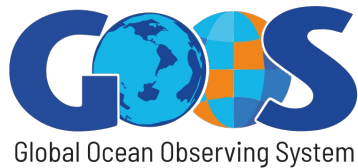


Convention on Biological Diversity

# 36 Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs)

We need **coordination** and **interoperability**  
but *how?*  
...more consistent communication and  
collaboration among sectors and stakeholders





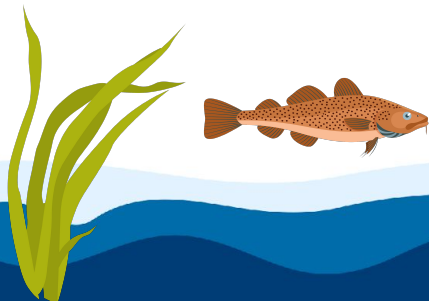
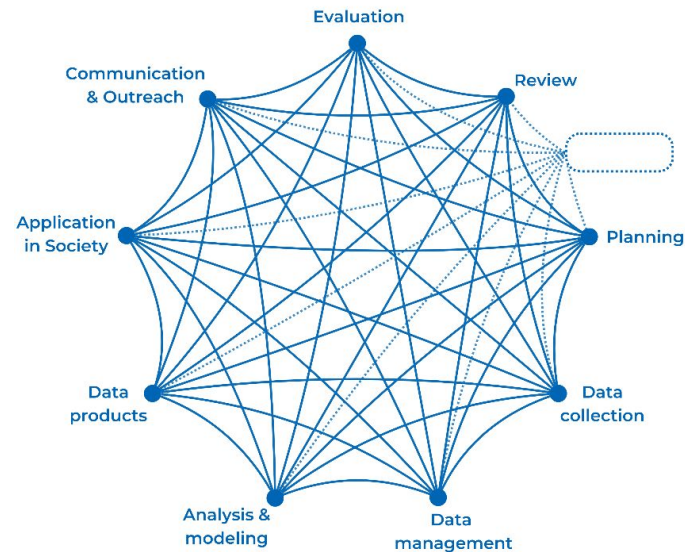
# Leading the ocean observing community

- Together:
- **Support & connect** a community of ocean observing community partners
  - Ensure ocean data is turned into actionable information
  - Promote **best practices, data and metadata standards**



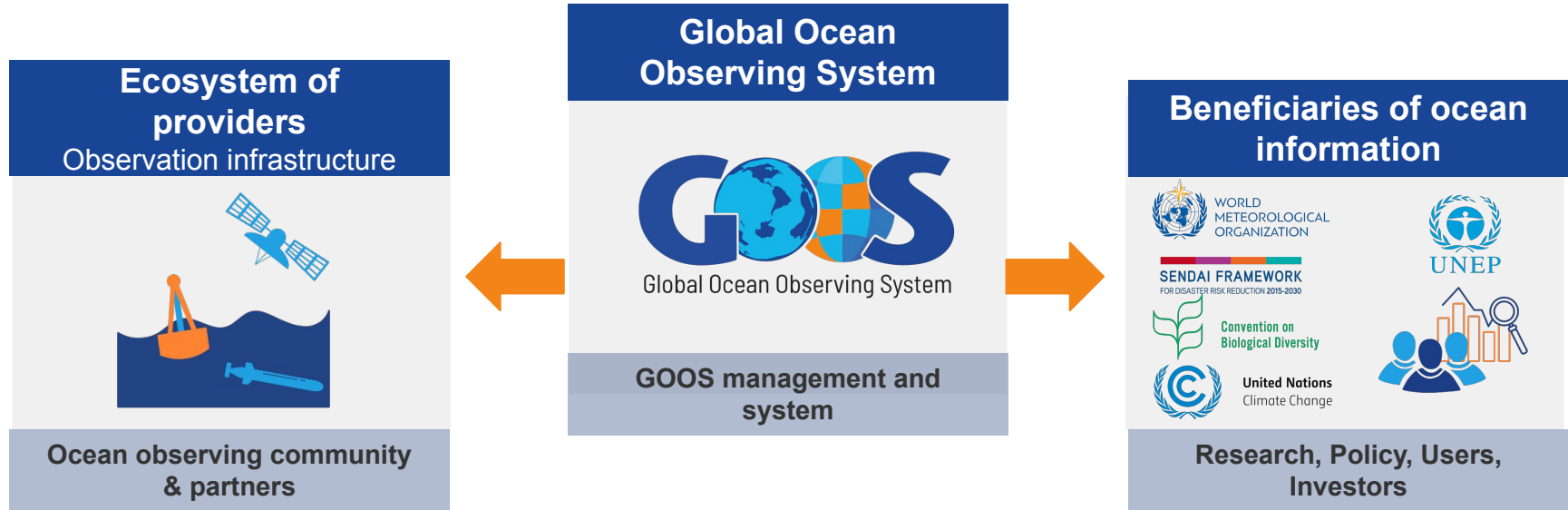
# Building on and connecting

Co-creative approach useful in identifying and realising challenges in the workflow and creating new, more effective solutions and pathways





# Leading the ocean observing community



# Strategic Alliance



**OBJECTIVE:**  
Develop and implement a coordinated, sustained, and integrated ocean observing system.

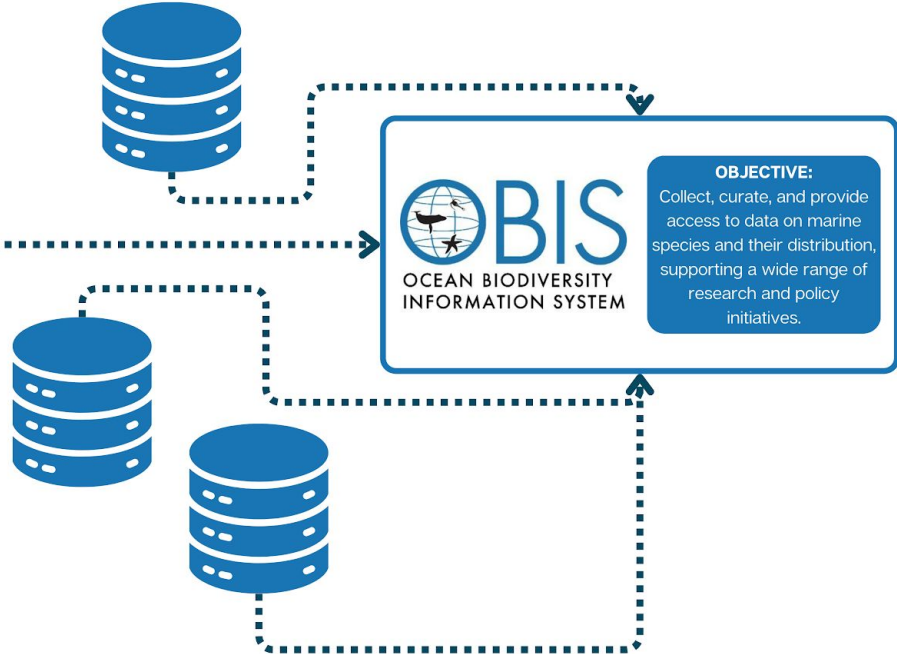
**DATA FOCUS:**  
Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs)

**DATA FOCUS:**  
Essential Biodiversity Variables (EBVs)

**OBJECTIVE:**  
Establish a global, standardized approach to monitoring marine biodiversity.

**MBON**  
Marine Biodiversity  
Observation Network

Other  
examples



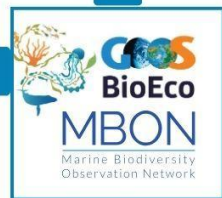
Requirements: international,  
regional, national



Data discovery  
and access



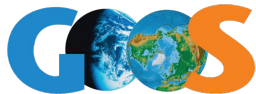
Partnerships  
Decision support tools



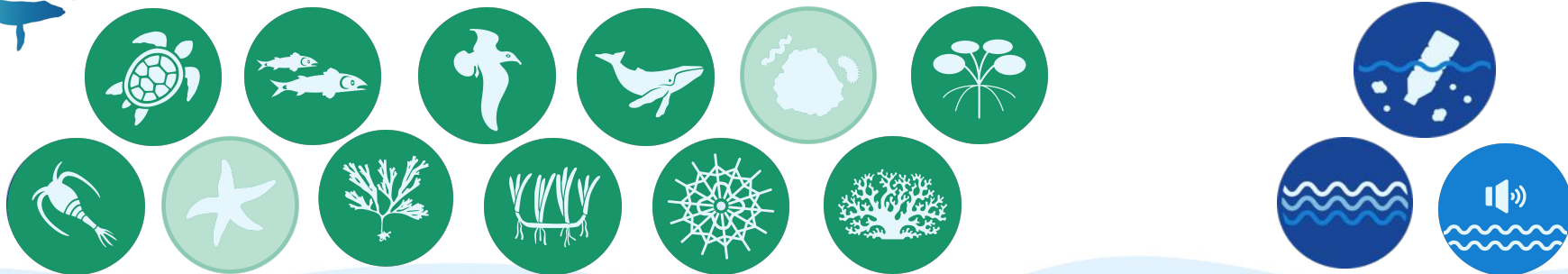
Ocean biodiversity observations

# Key Project Objectives

**Accelerate and improve the implementation and usage of EOVs for biology and ecosystems**, while ensuring seamless interoperability with Essential Climate and Biodiversity Variables (ECVs and EBVs), to drive progress towards global biodiversity, ecosystem and climate assessments.

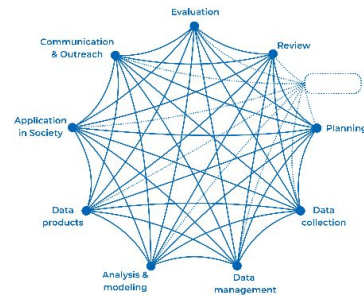
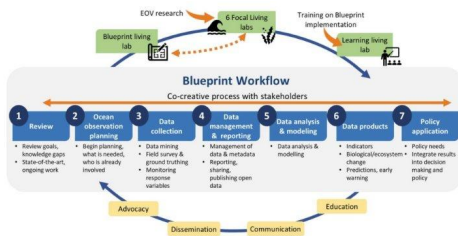


Biology and Ecosystems Panel

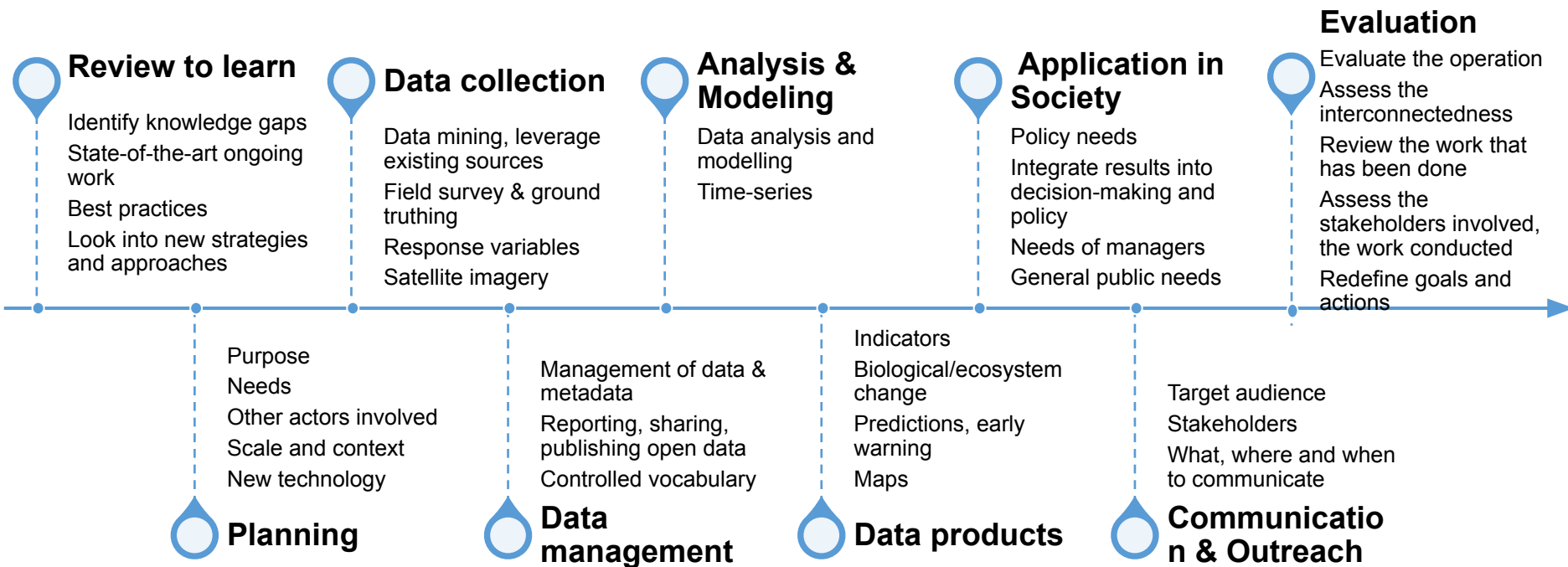


# Key Project Objectives

**Co-create a comprehensive, fit-for-purpose, and inclusive Blueprint for Integrated Ocean Science (BIOS)** that promotes a holistic approach, fosters effective communication and collaboration among stakeholders and sectors, and enables interoperability.



# The Blueprint components



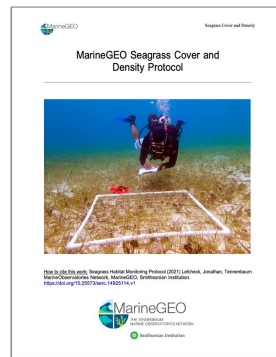




Are we getting the info we need?

Best practices  
Drivers of change  
New technologies

Standardized protocols



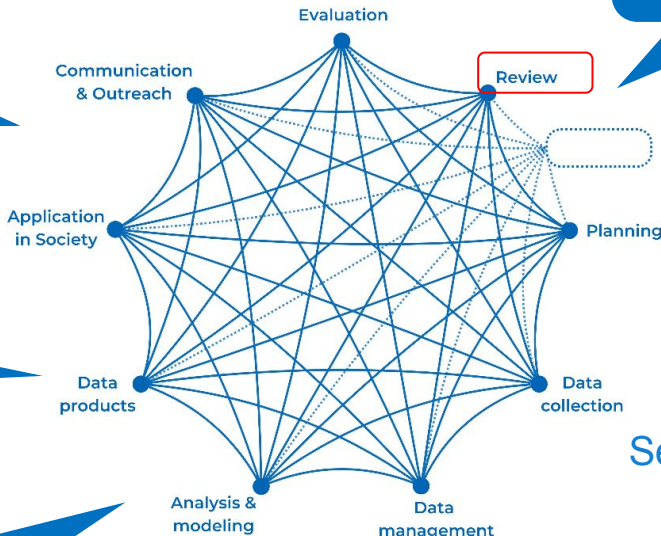
Needs of managers, policy?  
Global assessments



Distribution maps  
Maps with cover change

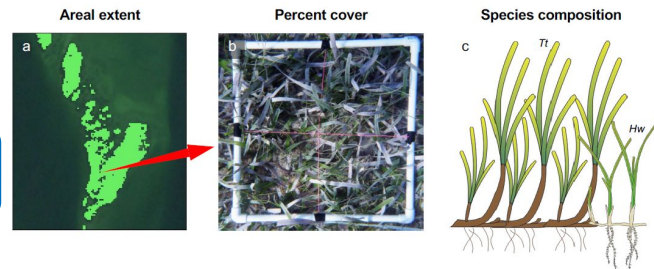


Time series analysis?  
Change in cover?

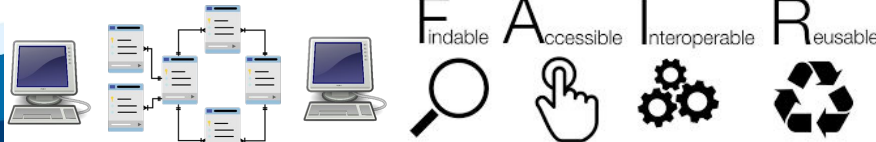


Who else?  
When?  
Where?

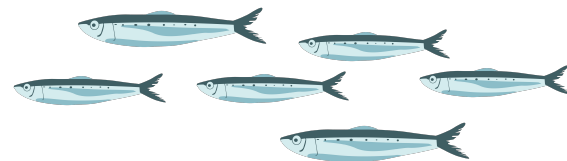
Seagrass EOV + other variables



Where? Standards?



# How to participate in the co-creative process?



- BioEcoOcean website
  - Find the most up-to-date version of the Blueprint
  - Feedback forms
  - Surveys
  - Upcoming workshops etc.
- Possibility to be a Blueprint tester

**[bioecoocean.org](https://bioecoocean.org)**

