

"INTER-AMERICAN BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION NETWORK (IABIN)"



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Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network
Red Interamericana de Información sobre Biodiversidad
Rede Interamericana de Informação sobre Biodiversidade
Réseau interaméricain d'information sur la biodiversité

Caribbean Marine Protected Areas

March 10-13, 2008

Dionne Newell

Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN) - Background

✓ An initiative of the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development (Santa Cruz de la Sierra, 1996)

Mission:

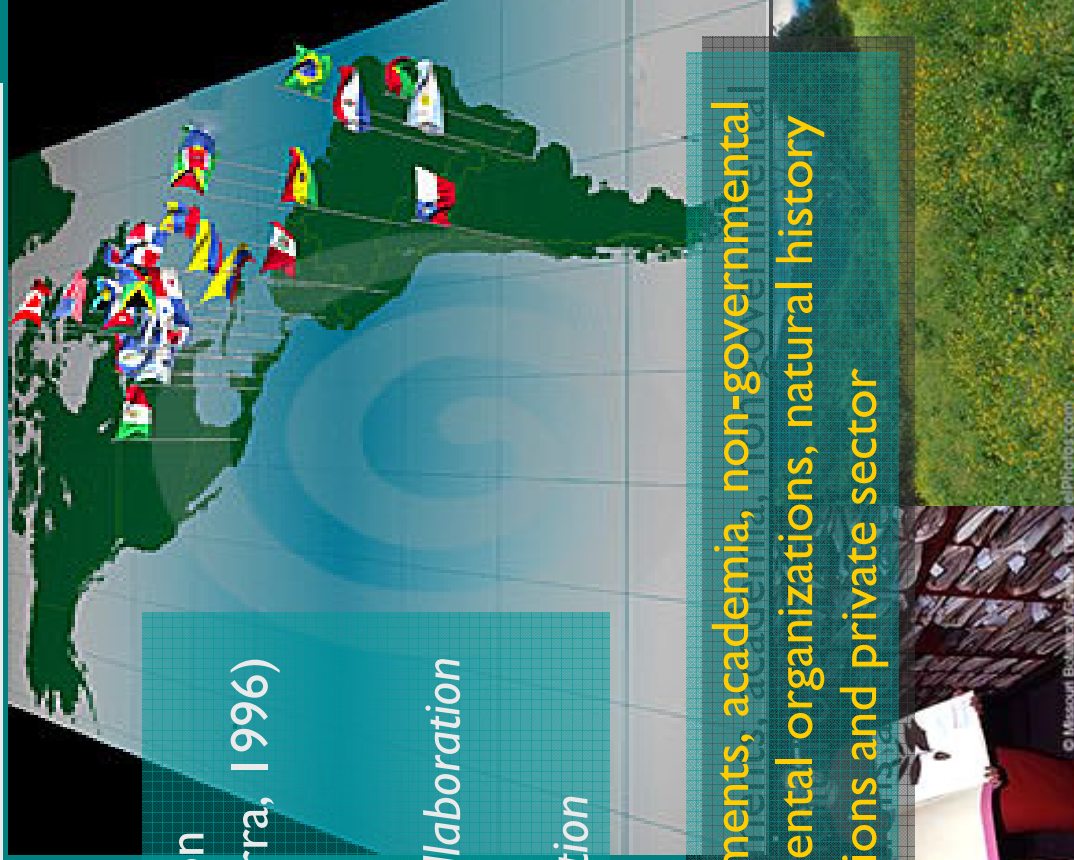
Internet-based forum for technical and scientific collaboration for the collection, exchange, and use of biodiversity information relevant to decision-making and education

34 national governments, academia, non-governmental and inter-governmental organizations, natural history collections and private sector



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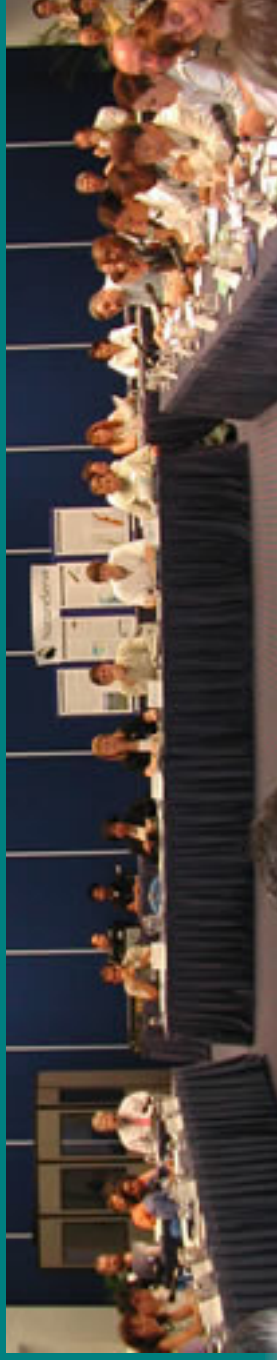
Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network



Governance

- ✓ IABIN Council (Last Meeting – May 9-11th, Punta del Este, Uruguay)
 - Official National Focal Points (34 countries)
 - IGO representatives (e.g., CHM, GBIF)
 - NGO representatives (e.g., TNC, NatureServe)
 - ✓ IABIN Executive Committee
 - 8 countries + 2 IGO/NGO
- ↳ Secretariat

Consensus decisions



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IABIN MAIN GOALS

- ✓ Create infrastructure for a distributed information sharing network
 - *Institutional structure*
 - *Standards (taxonomy, metadata, etc.)*
 - *Interface development*
- ✓ Identify existing resources
- ✓ Increase Internet access and connectivity
- ✓ Fill information gaps relevant to decision-making



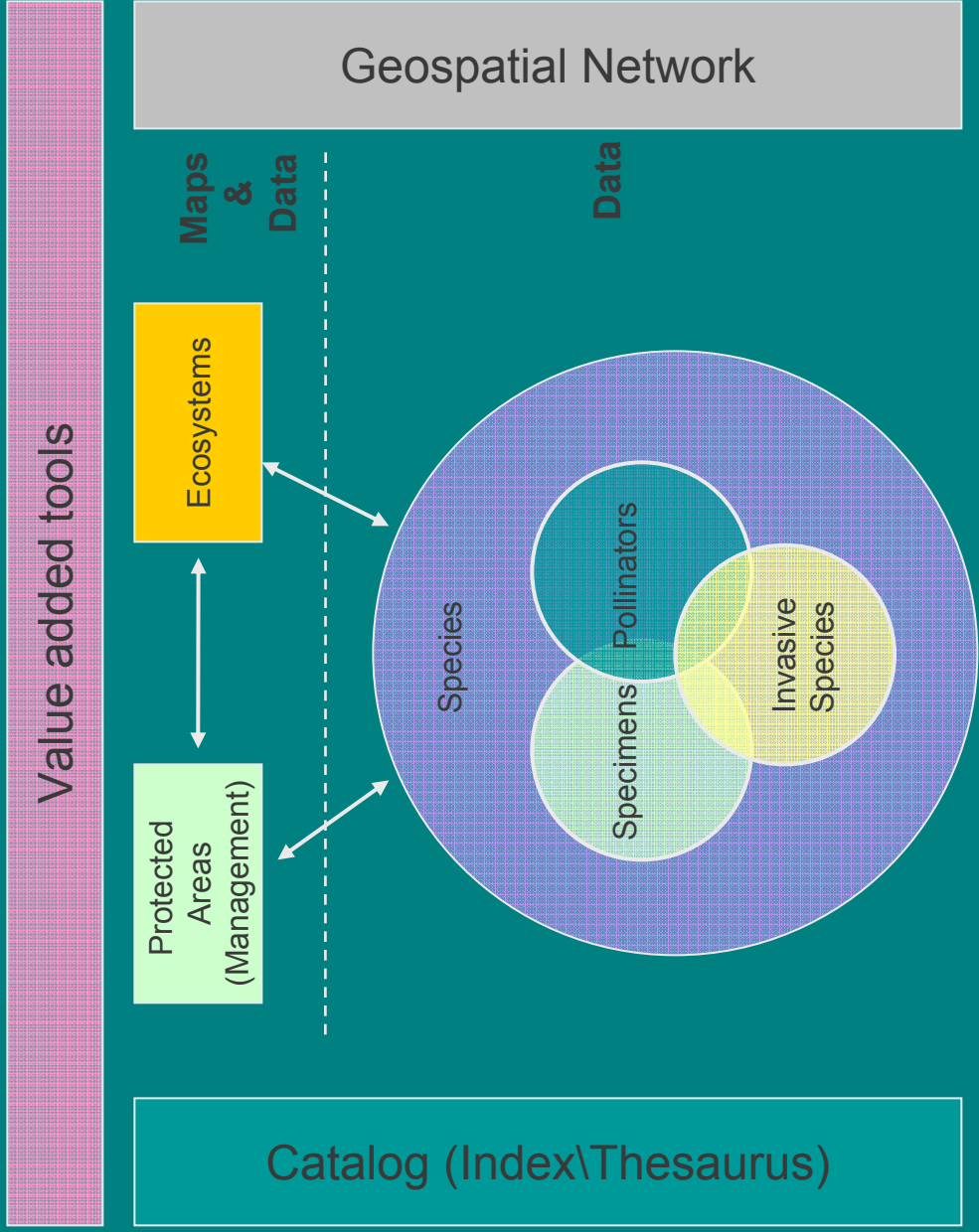
Sharing biological knowledge across international borders



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IABIN Thematic Networks



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IABIN Standards and Protocols

Part of IABIN Architecture	Standard or Protocol Adopted
Architecture	Web Services
Registry Services	UDDI
Interface description	WSDL
Access protocols	TAPIR DiGIR (if the provider has it integrated)
Data coding	XML
Data transport	HTTP over TCP/IP
Metadata	
○ For bibliographical data	Dublin Core
○ For specimen collections and observations	Darwin Core ABCD Schema
○ For Species	Plinian Core
○ For Protected Areas	WDPA Core Version 1.2
○ For Invasive Species	I3N Standard
○ For Spatial Data	FGDC
○ For general biological resources	CSDGM with Bio Profile
○ For geographical data processing	Open GIS Consortium (OGC) WFS WMS (only if WFS is not available)
For document format	HTML, PDF, and ASCII
Graphic format	PNG, JPEG, GIF, WebCGM

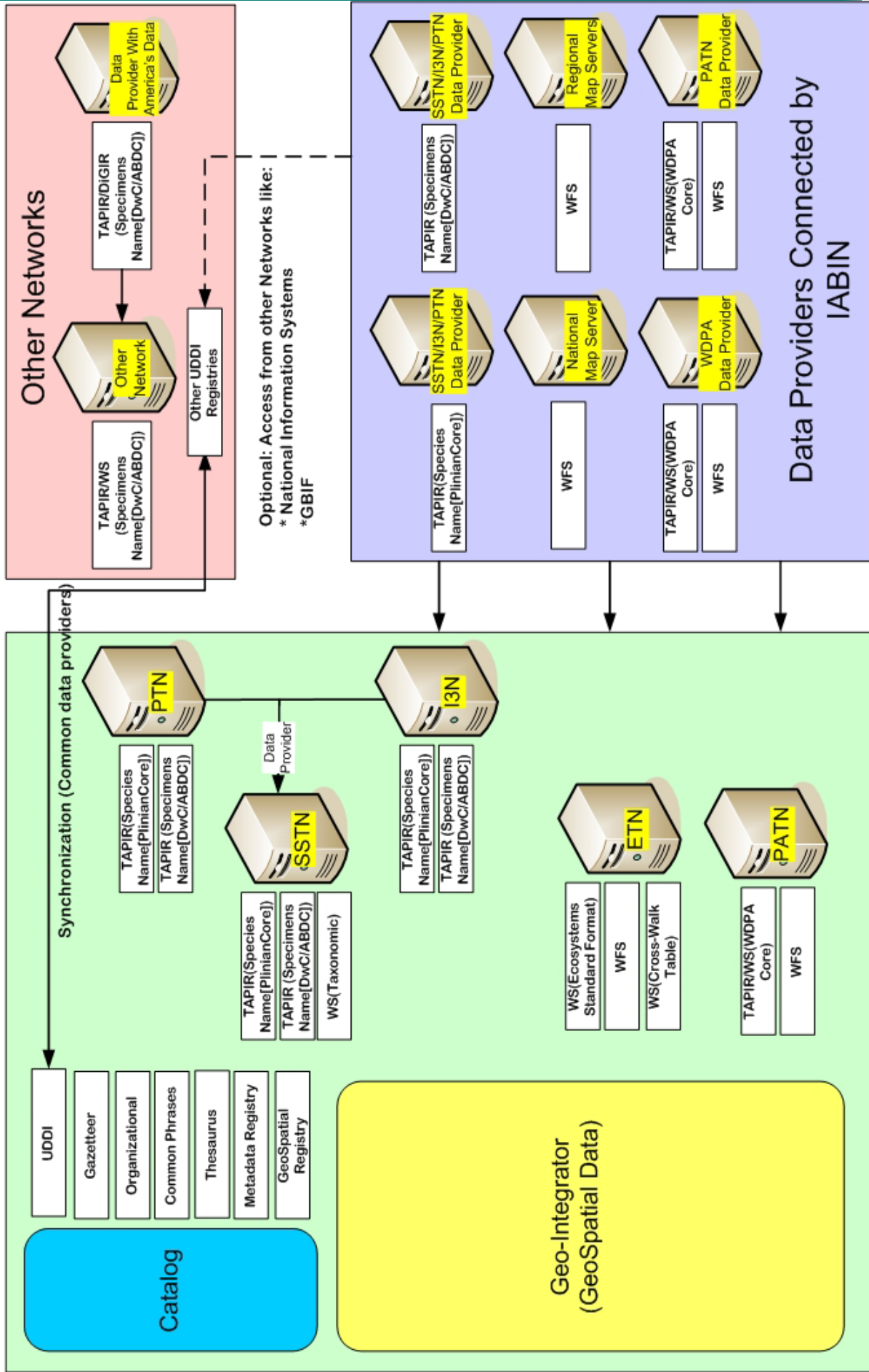
Standards Promoted Directly by IABIN



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IABIN Architecture



IABIN Collaboration with Other Initiatives



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Predicting geographic distributions with primary data makes possible ...

- ✓ Projecting species invasions
- ✓ Designing reintroduction programs
- ✓ Understanding the effects of global climate change and other types of change
- ✓ Understanding rare and endangered species' distributions
- ✓ Designing biodiversity conservation plans
- ✓ Many models such as Bioclim, GARP



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Summary

Overall approach:

- ✓ build on existing strengths - adopting, adapting and implementing technical standards, reference authority archives, methods and approaches that have been successful elsewhere
- ✓ focus on supporting regional needs for decision-making - providing information exchange capacity directed at solving identified problems



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Summary

Technical standards:

- ✓ clearly identify and document user needs for information exchange and interoperability services and related applications before choosing and implementing technical standards
- ✓ always emphasize agreed “open” standards and systems rather than proprietary solutions



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Summary

✓ **A network...** is a collaborative effort

Where we IABIN and IWCAM can initiate collaboration:

- Link performance indicators
- Information technologies
- Development of information / Decision making products



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Data Content Grants 10-15k

- ✓ Internet-accessible and interoperable national, regional and sub-regional databases provide the building blocks for information exchange.
- ✓ As example: The IABIN Species and Specimens Thematic Network Content-Building Grants seek to provide Internet access to existing but currently inaccessible information and data so as to facilitate Species information exchange and management.
- ✓ Making this digitized data available on Internet will open up new opportunities for scientific analysis and provide new sources of data for decision making for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of the natural resources in the Americas Region.



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Data Content Grants 10-15k

- ✓ Also, organizations from the above IABIN participating countries can apply if vested with legal personality and have high-quality data and metadata on species. For instance,
 - ✓ Non-Governmental Organizations,
 - ✓ Government agencies (only if they can establish that they (i) are legally and financially autonomous, (ii) operate under commercial law, and (iii) are not dependent agencies of the GS/OAS or any Coordinating Institution of IABIN),
 - ✓ Academic and scientific institutions



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Some of our partners:

CAF, CCAD, CI, CIAT, City of Knowledge, Ecociencia, EROS-USGS, Fund. Boticario, GBIF, INBio, IUCN, I. von Humboldt, NASA, NatureServe, NBII, OBIS, PAIGH, STRI, SERVIR, SIAM, TNC, UNEP-WCMC, WB, WWF.