Mechanism/Organization
Breakout Group

CI for EOs workshop
February 26, 2008
Need for Coordination Across Environmental Observing Networks (EONs)

• EONs share common science interests that require common standards and interoperability

• EONs share common technology needs, and unnecessary duplication should be avoided
  – Reduce O&M fees

• Investment in coordination is required to address these needs
Federation of Environmental Observatory Networks (FEONs)

- Goal: Coordinate and advance activities of emerging and established scientific EONs focused on observing and understanding Earth systems on continental to global scales, focusing primarily on cyberinfrastructure (including sensors)
Proposed Structure

- EON 1
- EON 2
- EON 3
- Steering Committee
- Working Group 1
- Working Group 2
- Working Group 3
- Task Force

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Working Groups’ Roles

• Focus on cross-cutting issues
• Each has specific tasks to carry out (identify technologies, publish best practices, help evolve best practices to standards, organize training workshops and tutorials, etc.)
  – Chair and ½ to 1 FTE post-doc or staff to coordinate activities
• Topics cover technical and science issues (CI, sensors, cross-cutting science, etc.)
• Representatives from EONs and technical experts appropriate to particular topics, including CI users
• Monthly teleconferences and participate in annual in-person meeting
Steering Committee’s Role

- Review and approve membership applications
- Set up and populate working groups, short-term task forces
- Coordinate working group activities, special sessions at conferences, education and outreach activities annual meeting
- Represent EONs’ needs with NSF OCI, industry, and other national and international organizations (e.g., GEOSS)
- Include all EONs that are research networks
Coordination Mechanisms

• Near term:
  – Peter Backlund’s project can help with coordination, travel, setting up Web tools
  – Steering committee with representatives from EONs to define initial activities, write proposals (consider OCI’s inter-op program, RCN for BIO?)
    • Needs a chair
    • Representatives should be senior-level representatives who can speak for their network, and ideally understand both science and CI
  – EONs to budget for staff time to participate in monthly calls

• Longer term:
  – Program office with director (full or part time)
  – Steering committee/board with representatives from EONs
  – Working groups funded
Next Steps

- Form steering committee
- Pick and launch initial working groups
- Develop plan for meetings and workshops
- Write proposals