BioSpace25 - Biodiversity insight from Space
10 - 14 February 2025 | ESA-ESRIN | Frascati - Italy

WS 6 - Operationalizing biodiversity monitoring - organised by EEA & WENR

Key questions for workshop

1) How can we get the most of our investment in satellite technology?

2) What are the needs for in situ data & who will produce them?

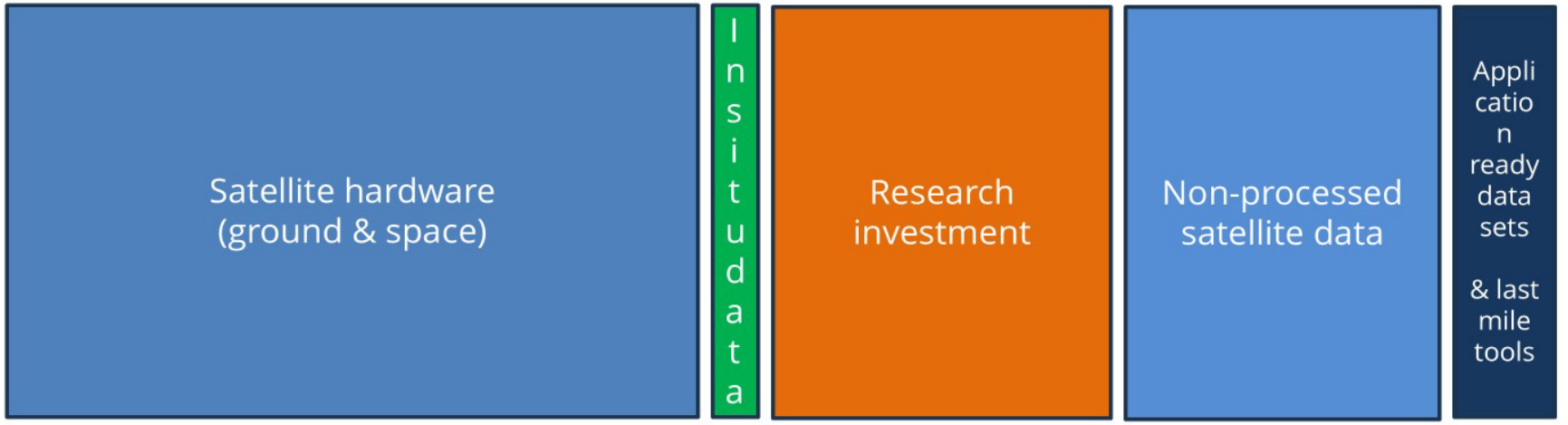
3) How to make EO data as useful as possible to end users?

4) Who has what role in the EU system?

Steps from satellite data to application-ready data sets

The production chain from infrastructure to user-friendly output :

Relative investment across the production chain:



European Environment Agency

Summary and recommendations

The workshop reviewed the following themes:

- What are the current Copernicus land monitoring products & how can they support EU ecosystem accounts
- What makes a biodiversity monitoring system ‘operational’ ?
- Approach focused on a policy user perspective
- Satellite-based monitoring as part of an overall integrated biodiversity monitoring approach

Recommendations:

- Biodiversity monitoring needs in relation to EU policy targets are often clear -> focus on what we know we need and less on complex analytical challenges that require further refinement
- There is a clear need for strengthening the *in situ* biodiversity data foundation; we discussed:
  - Tools and platform for extracting and hosting already available in situ data; defining standards and protocols for in situ data characteristics; developing the governance of in situ data generation and curation
  - Targeted investment for collecting biodiversity in situ data via ground surveys & other tools

Developing a new satellite mission takes ~15 years – building the *in situ* data foundation that matches future satellite capabilities is also a very complex task => let's start now!

We need to decide how to do that and who to take the lead.