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The French Nature and Landscape Information System (SINP) : a collaborative tool for biodiversity data, information and knowledge sharing

Agnès Pouliquen⁽¹⁾, Romain David⁽²⁾ and Alain Pibot⁽³⁾

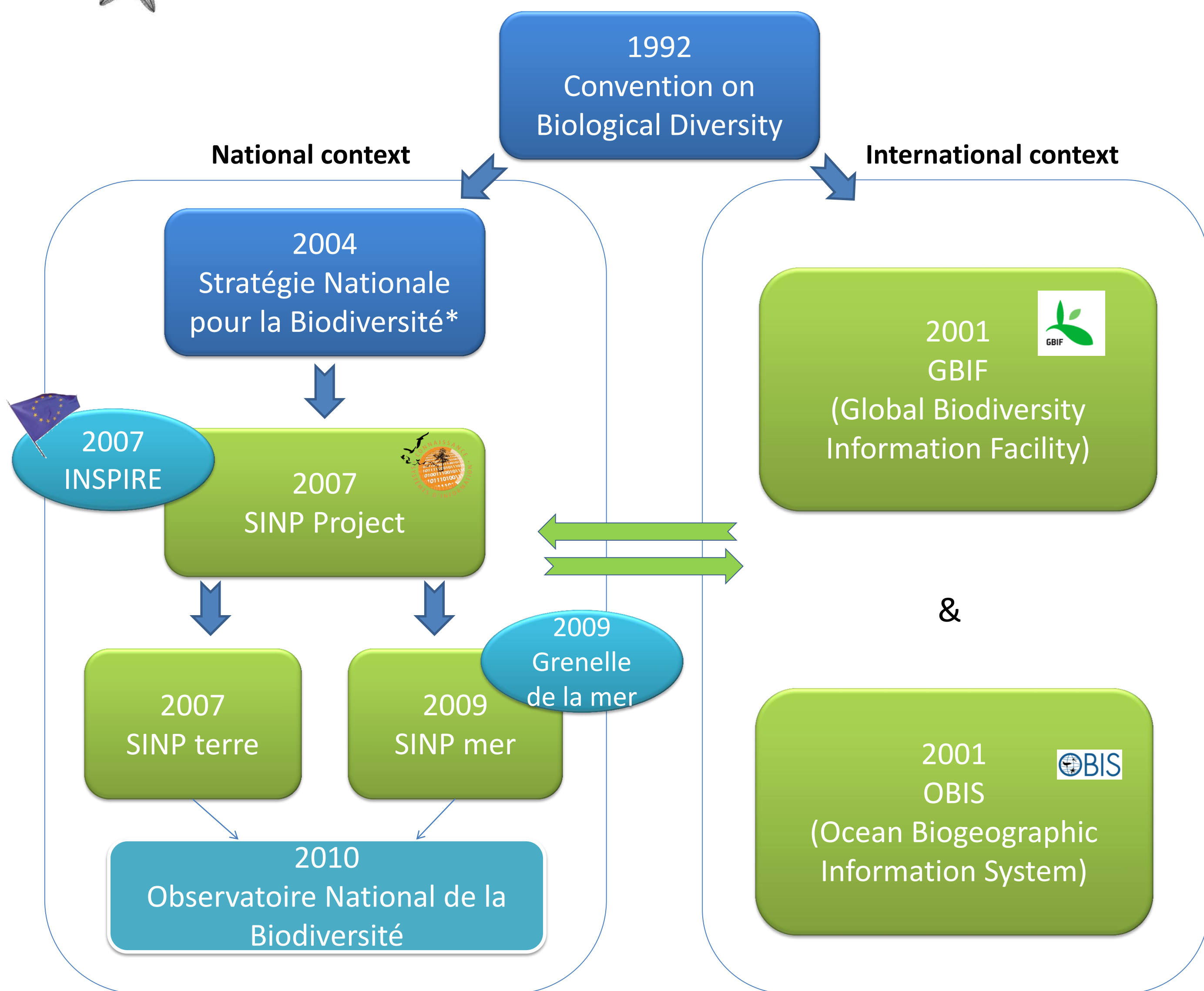
(1) Station Biologique de Roscoff (CNRS, UPMC) – (2) Station Marine d'Endoume (CNRS, Univ. Aix-Marseille) – (3) Agence des Aires Marines Protégées



Introduction

Making decisions on how to protect biological and landscape marine diversity requires knowing *what* is being monitored, *where*, and *when*. France possesses the second largest EEZ (exclusive economic zone) in the world, covering more than 11 000 000 km². In this context, the SINP is a powerful tool for pooling and saving any resources, methods, and geographic data describing marine biodiversity.

Background context



The SINP « mission »

From the data ...

- Recognition of existing databases, from the local to the international level (Worms, Erms, ZNIEFF ...)
- Harmonization of methods and means for a concerted knowledge acquisition
- Promotion of normalized data archiving for improved access to, and reuse of data
- Identification of data gaps and definition of new acquisition and expertise needs

... to a global review of marine biodiversity trends

- Providing National and Regional Biodiversity Observatories with tools to develop pertinent indicators
- Providing tools for summary reports (e.g., Marine Strategy Framework Directive (DCSMM), INSPIRE)
- Sharing scientific knowledge with citizens and providing public authorities with reliable information to monitor, evaluate and support their decisions

Meeting these objectives requires **breaking down barriers between public authorities, citizens and economic and scientific actors** in order to make the information easily accessible. Biodiversity monitoring and conservation will undoubtedly benefit from such a concerted effort to mutualize data and provide free and open access to information.

Methodology

Development of a metadata catalogue : "Who, What, Where, When and How?"

- Inventory of national, regional and local actors
- Inventory of data collection protocols, datasets and databases

Harmonization of data collection methods and normalization of data access

The SINP team also bring its expertise in various matters :

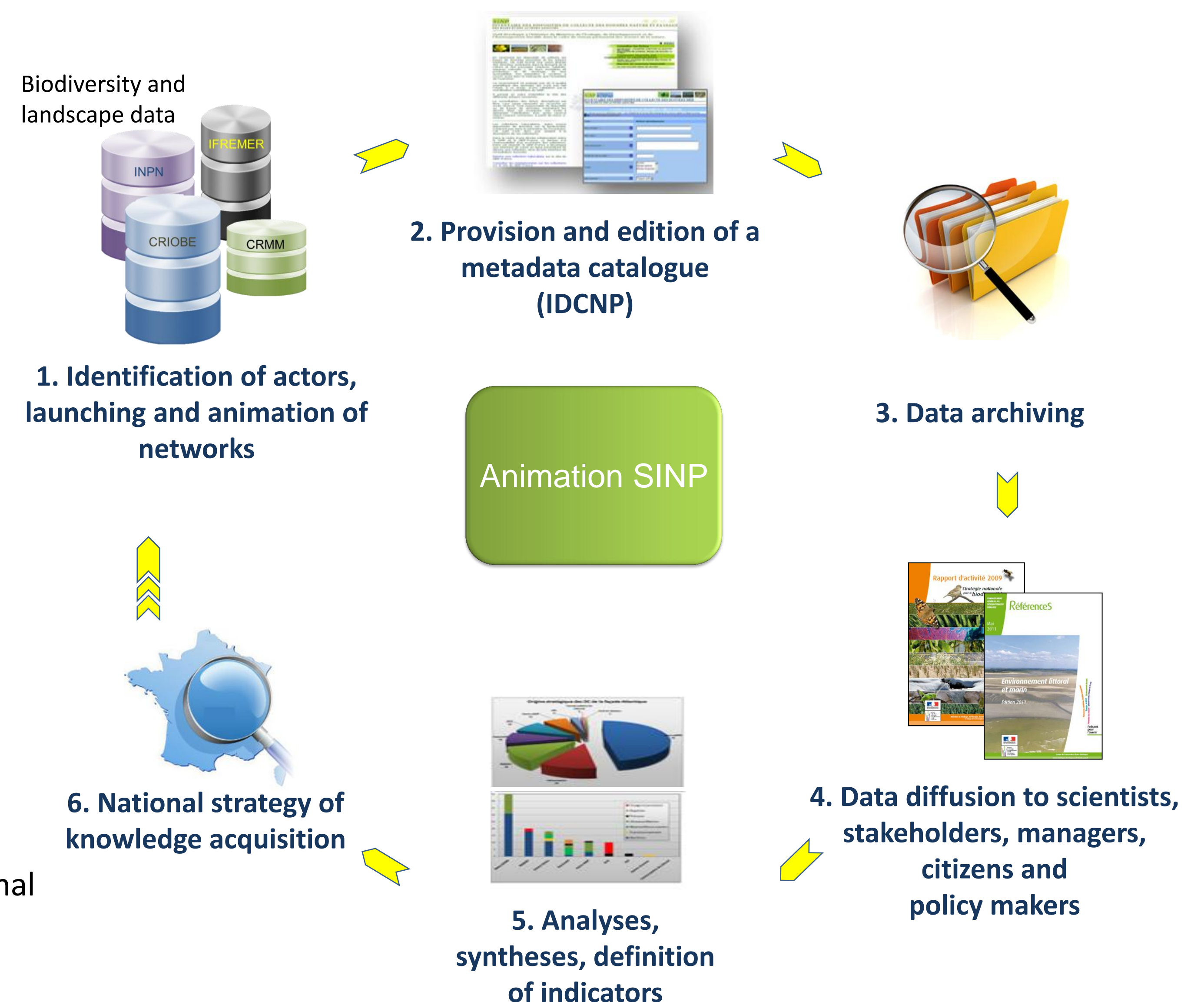
- traceability of data and authorship
- standardization of protocols
- metadata and data normalization
- definition of taxonomic and geographic standards
- methodology for data validation
- data archiving

Initiation - and animation - of thematic networks gathering all competent actors

These networks are meant to be perennial, open, and fully decentralized (to allow for continuous update) at local, regional, national and international scales

Data diffusion through local, regional, national and international reports

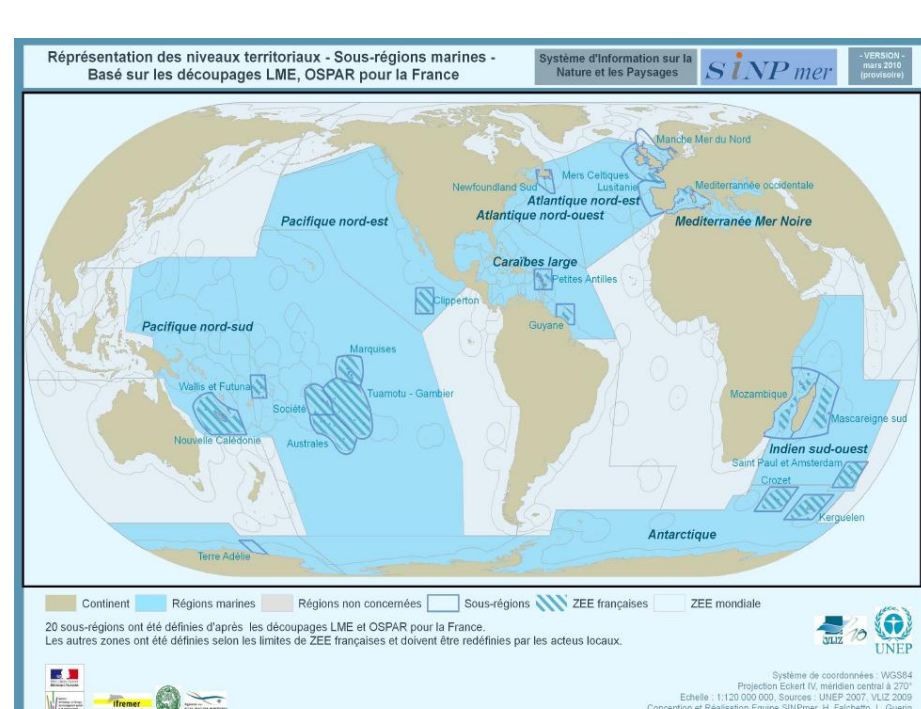
Quality Management System at each geographic level (local, regional, national levels) to ensure continuous improvement



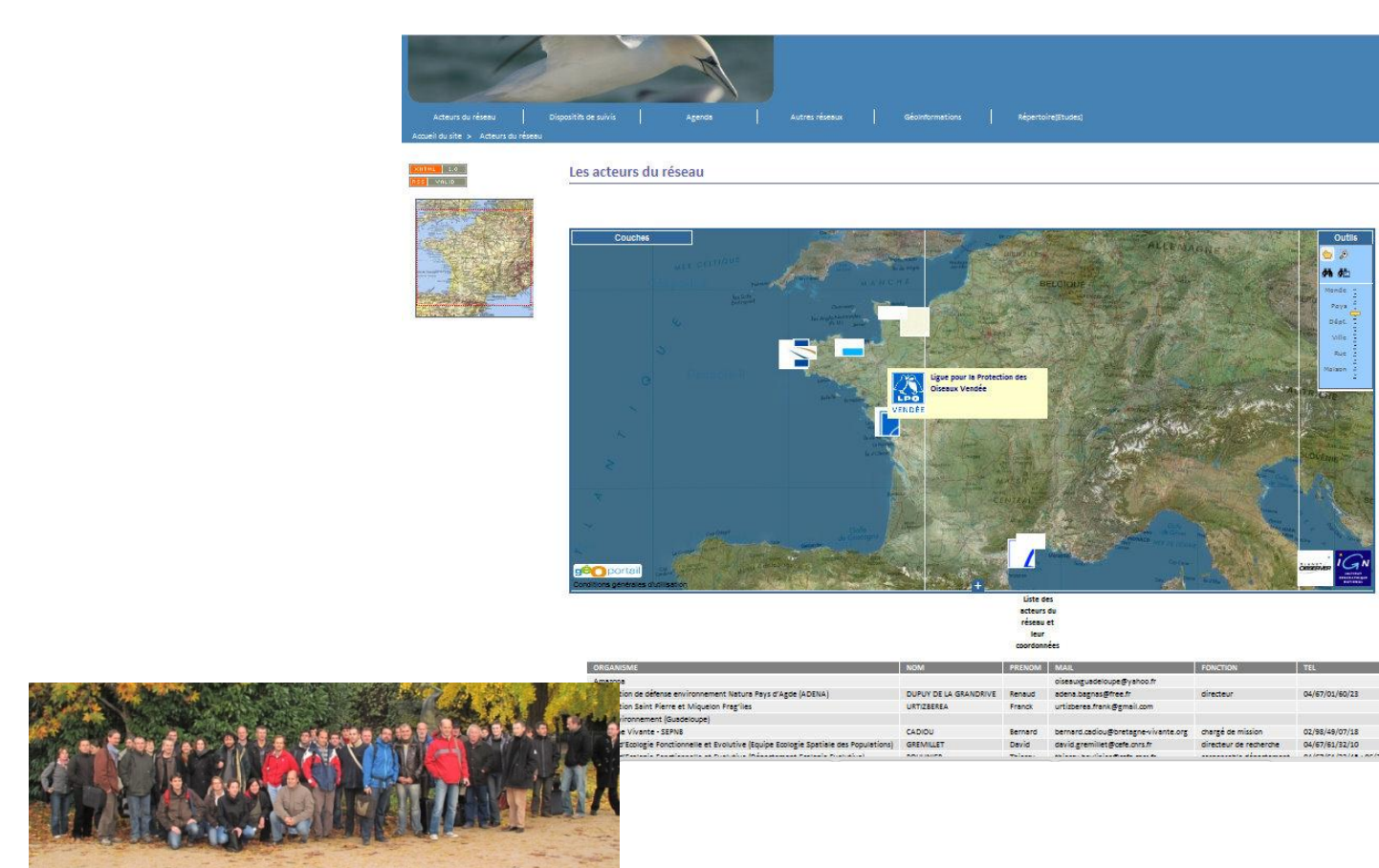
The SINP mer today

More than 450 marine data collection protocols in the catalogue (inventaire.naturefrance.fr)

More than 1000 actors contacted



Launching of a thematic network on marine birds www.oiseaux-marins.fr



Technical assistance for collaborative tools and database conception

