

# The concept of assessment and certification, and how to expand the network

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# Emerging need

- How do we tell if a site is meeting GRUAN requirements?
- Who should ultimately be responsible for certifying and assessing sites?
- How do we manage the process of expanding the network?
  - Consideration of site nominations received
  - Assessment of where we would like sites

# Assessment and certification

- Who should have ultimate responsibility?
- How often to assess existing sites?
- Need transparency and objectivity and broad sign-on.

# Possible criteria (finite list)

- Adherence to GRUAN protocols and requirements
- Data quality (GRUAN uncert. Measure)
- Operational standards
- Metadata completeness
- Traceability
- Management of changes
- Temporal sampling
- Commitment to and funding for long-term measurements

# Expansion

- Scientific assessment
- Current capabilities assessment
- Funding assessment
- Analysis of tabled offers against a set of agreed criteria that is transparent.

# GRUAN Imp Plan says

- Set up a site certification and expansion team at this meeting and agree its remit.
- Agree a protocol for site offers arising in the interim at this meeting
- Define assessment criteria by 2011
- Create a priority expansion list by 2012
- Develop operational capability to undertake site assessment by 2013
- Meeting to elicit formal participation (to include existing sites) – GRUAN grand launch as a fully fledged network 2013

# Discussion

- Suggested team
  - Remit
  - Governance
  - Viewpoints to be included
- Assessment criteria
  - Important aspects
  - How to quantify (score, traffic lights, something else)
  - Mechanism to provide feedback – through LC?