

# Future Directions for Earth Observations and Data Stewardship: A Workshop

*Roles and Responsibilities*

NATIONAL  
ACADEMIES Sciences  
Engineering  
Medicine

## Themes from “Homework” responses

- There needs to be greater integration and more coordination across sectors.
  - We also need more clear delineation of roles.
- Long-term data access is critical.
  - How is this achieved with uncertain and sometimes unstable funding sources?

## Themes from “Homework” responses

- **Earth Observation as a whole benefits from a talented workforce, particularly with modeling and analytics.**
  - **There are issues concerning burnout and challenges of hiring/retaining data engineers.**
  - **What role does each sector play in workforce development?**
- **Data volume is large but accessibility of that data needs improvement.**
  - **Challenging to access/use by non-experts.**
  - **License restrictions and awareness of acceptable use cases.**
  - **Lack and inconsistency of standards and documentation.**

## Themes from “Homework” responses

- **Sluggish pace of development and innovation in EO**
  - **Relatively slow to adopt and incorporate cloud, ML and AI tools.**
  - **Governance delays due to access challenges/policy inertia**
- **Governance works when different sectors have similar goals.**
  - **Fails when different sectors have misaligned goals and expectations.**
- **Engage with end users early and often.**
  - **Which end users get prioritized? Different for different sectors?**