

“The Digital Observatory for Protected Areas ([DOPA](#)) developed in the frame of EuroGEOSS was presented at [Planet Under Pressure 2012](#), a major international conference attended by around 3000 scientists addressing the challenge of global sustainability. The organizing committee issued at the end of the conference a "State of the Planet" declaration in advance of the major UN Summit Rio+20 in June. The talk on DOPA was given on the invitation of Bob Scholes (*Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, South Africa*) who coordinated a session entitled “How international collaboration can strengthen biodiversity monitoring”. A press release was further made by GEO-BON [on the need for international collaboration to provide better biodiversity data and observations to policymakers.](#)”