ESIP Federation: Enhancing interoperability by facilitating cross-domain collaboration

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As the volume and complexity of Earth science data grows, with the addition of newer and finer-scale data sets, there is an increasing need for collaboration infrastructure. A variety of connections are needed across distributed communities to reach consensus on issues around formats, data structures, and management systems between multi-scale models and diverse forcing, parameterization, assimilation, and validation data. The Federation of Earth Science Information Partners (ESIP) formed in 1998 by NASA, serves an important facilitation role for the Earth science data and technology community by disseminating current practices more efficiently to distributed communities nation-wide. ESIP now includes more than 125 member organizations, including NASA, NOAA and USGS Earth observing data centers, government research laboratories, research universities, education resource providers, technology developers, and various nonprofit and commercial enterprises. Working across economic sectors and with a focus on the entire data lifecycle, the ESIP community is an information commons that draws on the expertise of its partners to discuss current trends, problems and emerging issues affecting the community. Because of this, ESIP is a responsive community and partners drive how the community will approach data and systems development across the widely distributed systems that deliver Earth science data to users at every point in the data lifecycle. This poster will highlight a variety of activities being done through ESIP to support data management and preservation as well as the importance of a collaborative, open approach in tackling these complex issues.