

## ***Interactive comment on “Elevating the biogeosciences within environmental research networks” by Daniel D. Richter et al.***

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The ms is much revised.

The two reviews were admittedly critical, but the authorship found the resilience and the perseverance to complete a thorough revision, attempting the address and satisfy nearly all concerns of the reviewers.

The scope of the ms is now thoroughly international, both in the text and co-authorship, with authors from each of the networks reviewed, and a number from outside the network community. We recruited the participation of colleagues from Europe, Asia, Central and South America, and Africa. The content of the text also has an decidedly international scope.

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The tone and narrative presentation are also new and entirely revised, with objective description and evaluation of the networks examined, which now include theILTER, EON, CZO, and FLUXNET networks. The FLUXNET has been added at the suggestion of a physical scientist and we believe greatly impacts the ms. The point of the paper is to discuss the many biogeoscience opportunities for research that often involve the dynamic structure and processes of the subsurface ecosystem.

Our key message is that: While these networks were founded and grown by remarkably interdisciplinary scientists, the preponderance of expertise and funding have gravitated activities of ILTERs and EONs toward ecology and biology, CZOs toward the geosciences, and FLUXNET toward ecophysiology and micrometeorology. Our point is not to homogenize networks, nor to diminish disciplinary science. Rather, we argue that by more fully incorporating the integration of biology and geology in long-term environmental research networks, scientists can better leverage network assets, keep pace with the ever-changing science of the environment, and engage with larger scientific and public audiences.

We sincerely appreciate your work on this ms very much.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:  
<https://www.biogeosciences-discuss.net/bg-2018-67/bg-2018-67-AC3-supplement.pdf>

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Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2018-67>, 2018.

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