

Lessons Learned on Data Governance “Journey”

September 22, 2022

Dan McCarthy

Dan McCarthy – EarthSoft Account Manager

- Hydrogeologist/Environmental Consultant for 25 years
- 30+ years working with environment data management systems
- Implemented data governance programs for environmental, asset liability and product stewardship management systems
- Member of ITRC's Environmental Data Management Best Practices Team

Agenda

- Overview
 - What is data governance?
 - What are the elements of a data governance program?
 - What is data governance for EQUIS?
 - How can EarthSoft help?
- Lessons Learned Examples
- EQUIS Data Governance

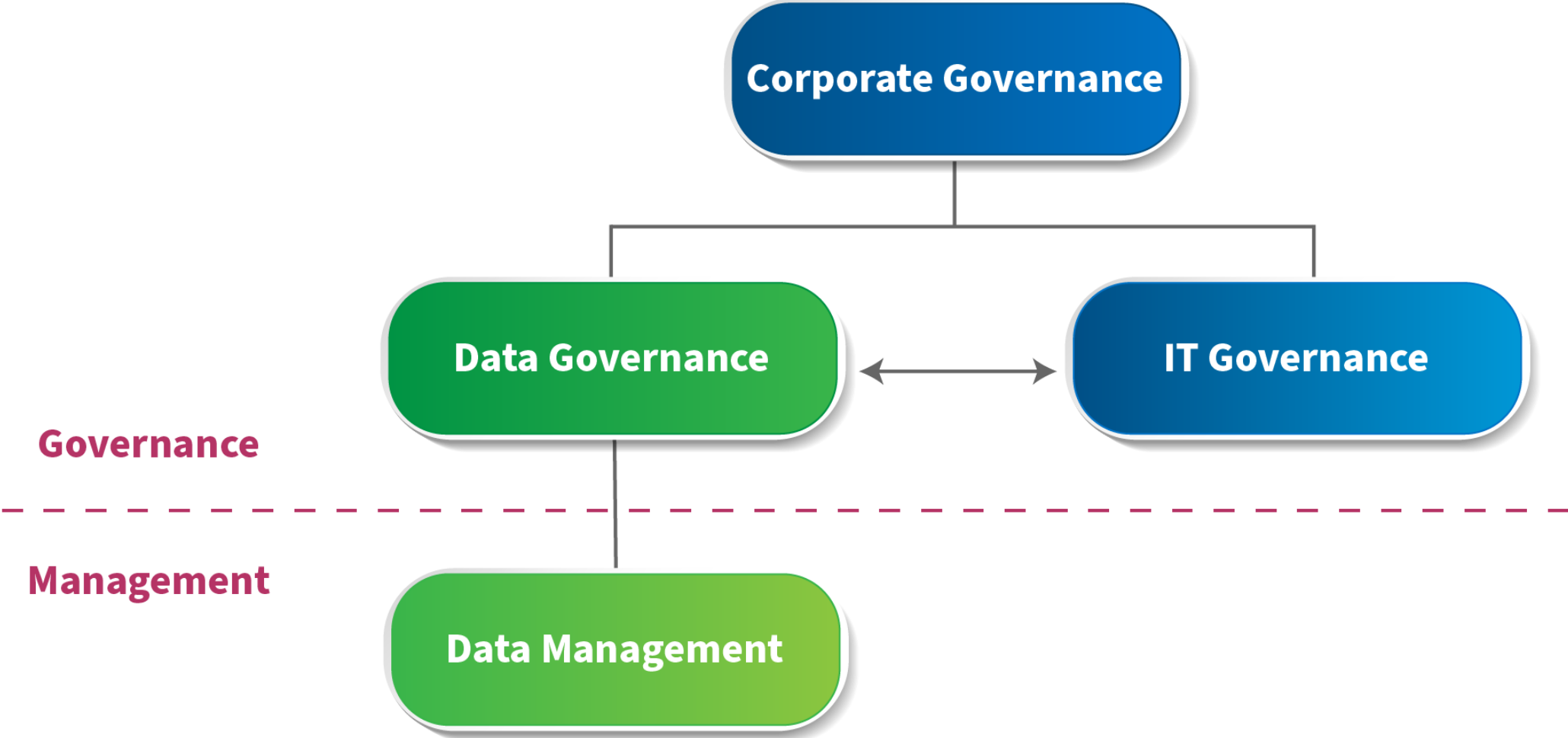
EQulS Data Governance – What Is It?

Planning, monitoring, and enforcement for EQulS Implementations.

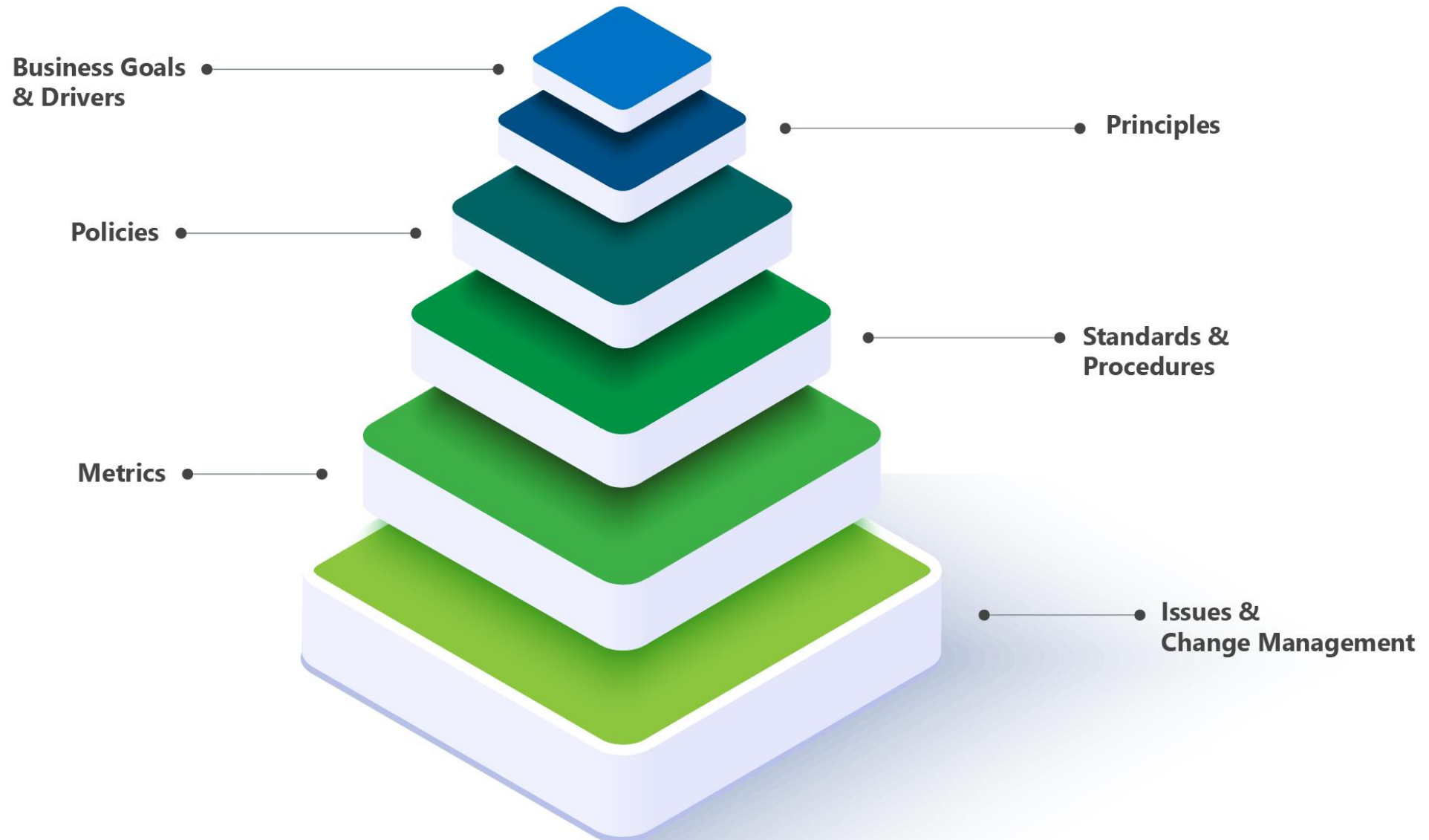
EQulS data assets must be protected and managed.



Governance Programs



Elements of Data Governance Program



Data Governance Business Drivers

- **Growth / Business Agility** – Arrive at decisions and recommendations faster with increased efficiency and accuracy.
- **Lower Cost / Operational Efficiency** – Streamline workflows and automate data-related business processes.
- **Risk Management / Compliance and Security** – Define data standards, policies, and processes with clear roles and responsibilities to ensure compliance internal and external policies and regulations.
- **Improve Quality** – Ensure data are accurate, complete, timely, consistent with all requirements and business rules, and relevant for a given use.
- **Sustainability** of the investment.

EarthSoft Business Drivers for EQuIS Data Governance

- **Growth / Business Agility** – EarthSoft wants to help our EQuIS end users grow their operations with increased efficiency and accuracy.
- **Lower Cost / Operational Efficiency** – EarthSoft seeks to streamline EQuIS workflows and automate EQuIS data-related business processes.
- **Risk Management / Compliance and Security** – Want successful EQuIS implementations to reduce risks and ensure compliance with internal and external policies and regulations.
- **Improve Quality** – Quality is in our name and a key value-add of our software...Quality data, quality implementations, quality reports...
- **Sustainability** of our clients' EQuIS investment.



Lesson 1: Regulated Utility

Challenges

- Multiple business units
- Inconsistent approach to valid values
- Existing field processes were optimized for data collection, but had significant office labor post field event to roll up to management
- Laboratory Program in place created resistance to change

Solutions

- ✓ Committee to align valid values
- ✓ Engage with field personnel early
- ✓ Demonstrate time and cost savings to Lab Program



Lesson Learned: A team is stronger than an individual champion



Lesson 2: Government Research Facility



Challenges

- Lots of legacy data, with ownership of that data
- Highly structured EDMS in place, but was bespoke and few understood the schema
- Data Quality program had unique vocabulary
- Significant number of nuanced laboratory contracts
- Programs had nuanced sampling requirements

Solutions

- ✓ Document valid values with meaningful descriptions
- ✓ Provide a path for the bespoke experts for the future
- ✓ Plan for course-correction during EDMS implementation

Lesson Learned: Change will happen. Leave no one behind. Plain language.



Lesson 3: Oil and Gas (Among Others)

Challenges

- Implementation went OK
- Systems were monitored by a single individual
- Individual left, governance languished, and program ground to a halt

Solutions

- ✓ Design governance plans with fault tolerance
- ✓ Make data providers own the quality of their deliverables
- ✓ Socialize location of governance documents



Lesson Learned: Governance is bigger than one person



Lesson 4: Mining Company

Challenges

- No centralized platform for management or analytics
- Lack of consistency in data standards (collection methods, QA/QC, validation)
- Existing systems did not integrate well
- Majority of operations and surveillance performed remotely by third parties
- Lack of efficiency in sample collection/time burned on sample planning
- “We are very good at having standard processes and procedures for H + S but fall short on the E”

Solutions

- ✓ Keep solutions simple
- ✓ Invite everyone to the party (avoid myopia)
- ✓ Start develop governance approach early
- ✓ Find the right tool to visualize metrics



Lesson Learned: See the big picture (transactional vs. data as asset)



Lessons Learned Summary

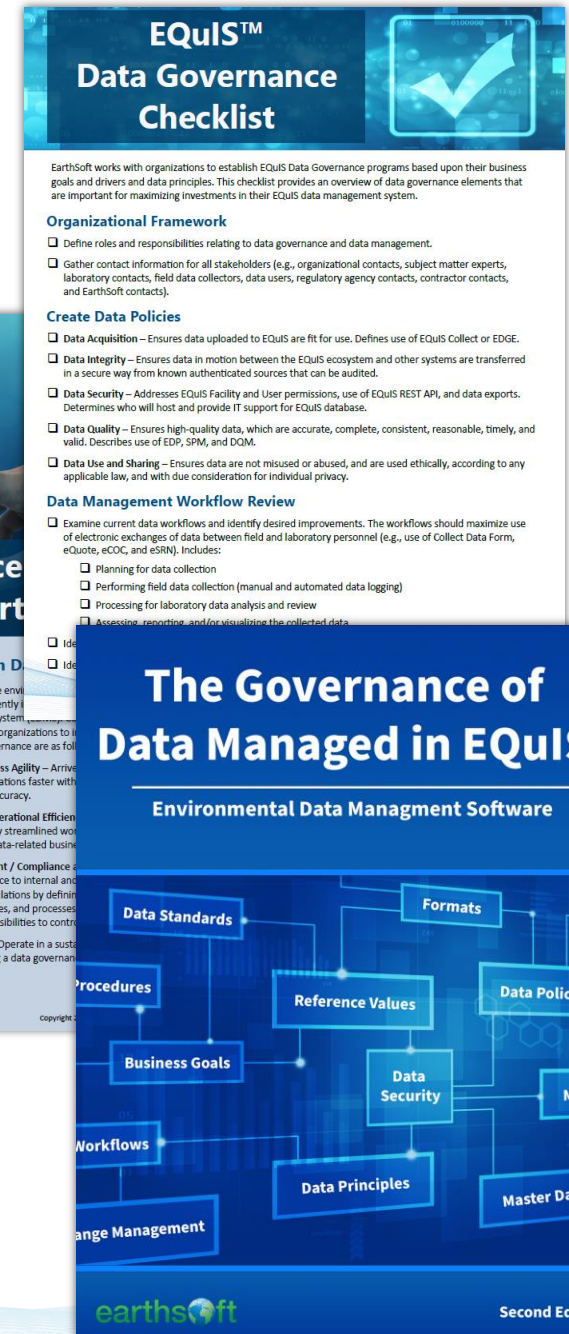
- ✓ A team is stronger than any individual champion. Governance is bigger than one person or department.
- ✓ Leave no one (department) behind
- ✓ Standards are needed
- ✓ Change Management
- ✓ Use plain language
- ✓ See the big picture (transactional vs. data as asset)
- ✓ Select the right Metrics



Ongoing
earthsoft
Data Governance

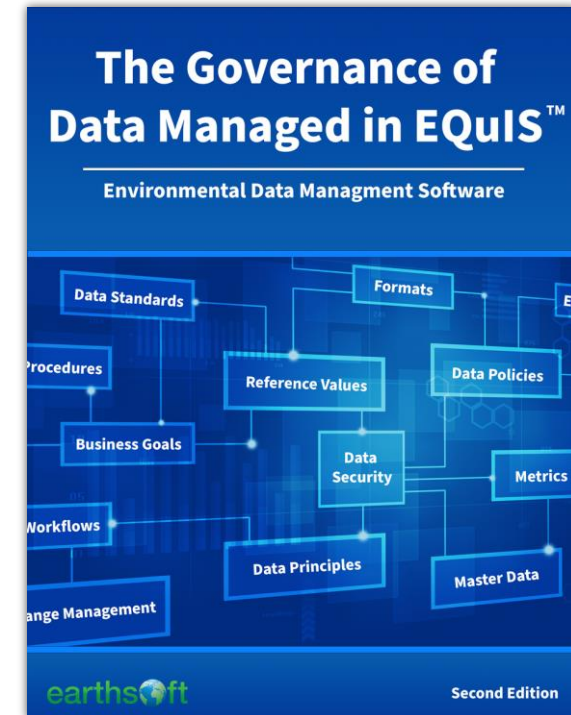
EQUS Data Governance Documents

- Covers some of same topics as ITRC, but specific to EQUS nomenclature and products
- Suggested Master Data and Reference Data
 - Sample Planning Module
 - Data Qualification Module
- Establish Format Specifications
- Guidelines for Generating High Quality Data
- Business Intelligence / Metrics
- Historical Data Migration Best Practices and Tools



EQUS Data Governance

- **Most data governance issues are data quality issues**
- Releasing Second Edition of *The Governance of Data Managed in EQUS*
- Phased Distribution



Preferred Laboratory Program

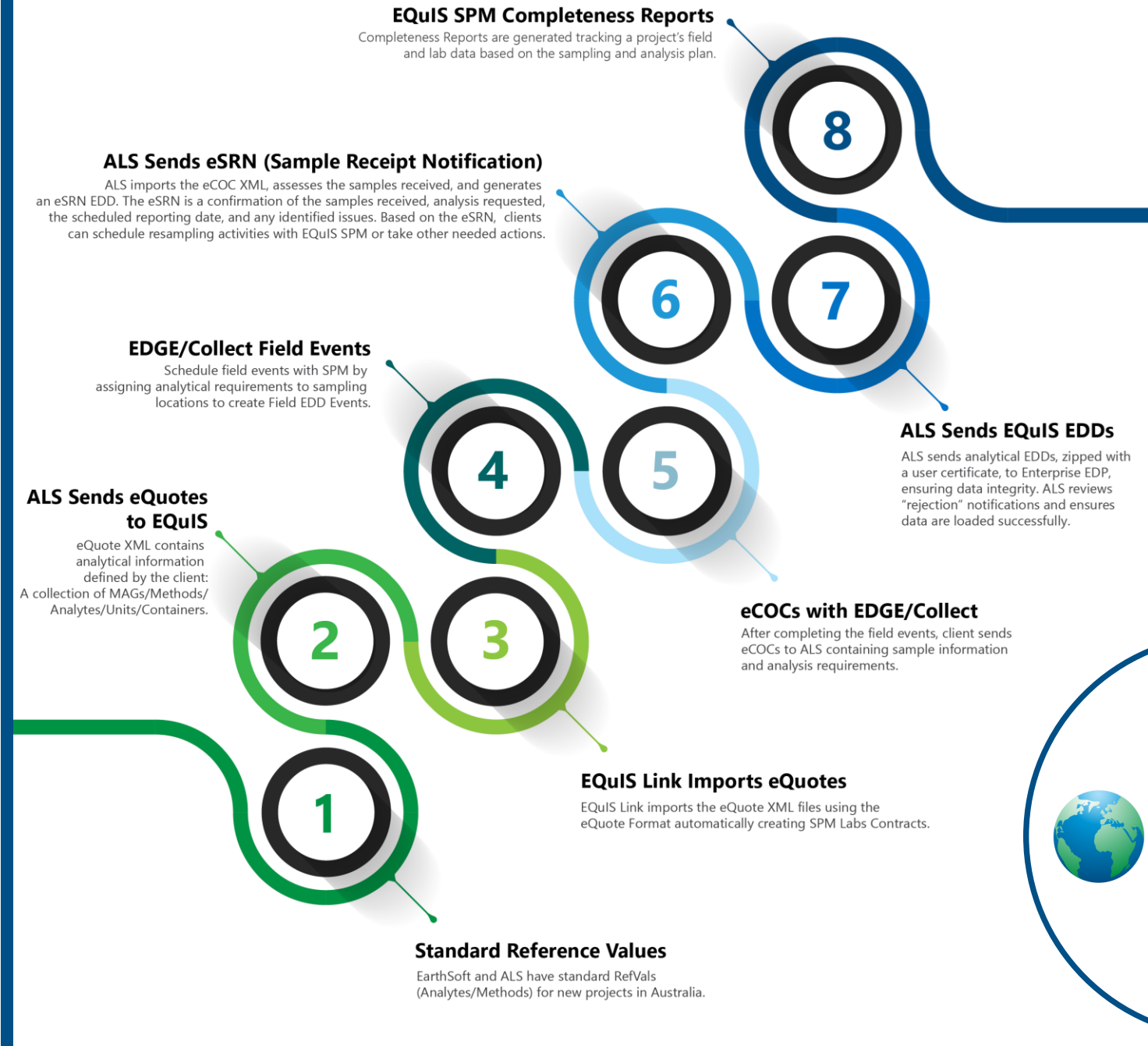
- Framework for analytical data workflows
- Standardize data governance workflows and processes
- Establish protocols and documented best practices
- Standardize workflows for situations with multiple labs and consultants
- Lab and Field Team Scorecards
 - Compare Lab A with 1/100 failed EDDs to Lab B with 3/1,000 failed EDDs
 - Rank Reasons for Failing EDDs





Australia Example

EQiS Analytical Data Workflow





Questions?