



WEGENER Project After Three Decades: Regional and Global Sea-Level Rise

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The Working group of European Geoscientists for the Establishment of Networks for Earth-science Research (WEGENER) was established in the beginning of the 1980s as an inter-disciplinary group centered on the application of space geodetic and other techniques to the study of geodynamics. One of WEGENER's visionary scientific objectives includes the separation of crustal motions and sea-level, towards accurate quantification of sea-level rise over time scales of centuries including the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal zones [Zerbini et al., 1996]. Advances in space geodetic techniques during the three decades have steadily substantiated the visions of WEGENER towards accurate monitoring of regional and global sea-level rise, now widely recognized as the consequence of anthropogenic climate change. In this contribution, we present the current state of global and regional sea-level observations, including the Mediterranean Sea and over the global ocean, their estimated rate of present-day sea-level rise, and the contemporary sea-level budget, which provides an indication of our knowledge of geophysical causes of sea-level rise.