



ICOS Atmospheric Thematic Center

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ICOS is a recently-launched, world-class research infrastructure dedicated to the monitoring and improved understanding of carbon sources and sinks. It consists of complementary, harmonized networks of long-term ecosystem monitoring stations focusing on Europe and adjacent regions. The ICOS networks will comprise about 40 operational atmospheric stations (measuring atmospheric composition in greenhouse gases and other core parameters), 30 ecosystem stations (measuring fluxes from ecosystems) and about 10 oceanic measurement platforms.

The networks will be coordinated through a set of central facilities: three Thematic centres respectively for atmospheric, ecosystem and ocean data, and a Central analytical lab. The mission of the thematic centres are to process, validate and distribute data to end-users. ICOS will also set up a Carbon portal dedicated to easy discovery of and access to data and elaborated products such as flux maps by end users. The Atmospheric Thematic Center (ATC) has three main functions:

Operate the atmospheric data processing chains, going from data transmission from stations to the routine delivery of quality checked data-stream

Carry out regular measurement technology survey, analysis and enable development of new sensors and their testing

Monitor the network and propose spare instruments, training, and technical assistance.