



Developing a European Ocean Observing System (EOOS)

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An inclusive, integrated, and sustained pan-European framework is needed to link the current ocean observing components through an overarching strategy, maximizing the benefits of optimization, infrastructure use, standardization, open data exchange and capacity building. The European Ocean Observing System (EOOS) will provide a flexible coordinating framework to help manage and improve the existing ocean observing effort, making it more efficient and effective at different geographical scales, and for different end-users. EOOS will align and integrate existing initiatives to ensure efficiency and value for money and to eliminate duplication of effort, identify gaps in observing capacity and foster initiatives to fill those gaps. EOOS will promote standardization of the end-to-end system from observation collection to data management and products, drive capacity building and provide leadership in ocean observation. Promoting ocean observing services for multiple sectors including research, policy, management and industry is a priority for EOOS.

EOOS will build primarily upon European national ocean observing programmes ensuring that observations are consistent, relevant and sustained in the long term. EOOS will also connect beyond the research and operational oceanographic communities to wider ocean observation and monitoring efforts across public and private sectors. Improving access to such observations will contribute to European ocean data efforts including EMODnet and populate key databases including SeaDataNet for long-term safe keeping for current and future generations. Observation data are also vital to improve the ocean forecasting quality of the Copernicus Marine Service and drive other ocean data services and products for society. Contributing to such initiatives will allow key policy objectives to be met at European level, including Integrated Maritime Policy, Ocean Governance, Marine/Maritime Spatial Planning, and Marine Strategy Framework Directive. EOOS will continue to link to relevant European projects and initiatives on ocean observing, among others JERICO-NEXT, AtlantOS, INTAROS, ODYSSEA, and will make full use of the key Research Infrastructures at European scale, e.g. EuroArgo, EMSO and EMBRC.