



Jumping in the "deep end" – lessons learned coordinating a large and complex, interdisciplinary, multi-country project

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SEACRIFOG is an example of a complex project, considering its composition of partners, the EU H2020 funding, as well as the topic and geographical coverage. The project consortium comprises 16 partners, 6 based in African and 10 in European countries, with different scientific backgrounds (ocean-, land and atmospheric physics and chemistry, informatics, social sciences, politics...). The main goal of the project is to develop a roadmap for the establishment of a long-term greenhouse gas observation system in Africa in line with European requirements.

The talk will focus on the everyday challenges of a project coordinator coming straight from education system, in managing the large and complex, interdisciplinary, multi-country project. The main challenges are related to effective communication between disciplines, distance between countries, building a team, and in particular becoming part of a team. A specific challenge in the project is the communication in the African context—considering that most geophysics and chemical research on the continent is driven by Europe, but African policy makers need to be convinced by it. Basic knowledge gained from development cooperation will also receive specific attention.