



EuroGOOS
European Global Ocean
Observing System

**EuroGOOS General Assembly
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EuroGOOS/BELSPO, Ground floor**

Agenda Item 4: Annual reports

Document 4.2: Office report



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Office Report

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EUROGOOS STRATEGY AND WORK PLAN 2017-2018

The EuroGOOS strategy adopted in 2014 outlines the organization's high-level objectives for the period 2014-2020. In October 2014, an implementation plan was adopted to make this strategic vision a reality through concrete actions. With a view of the evolution of the policy landscape and the expansion of the EuroGOOS strategic role, EuroGOOS Office have developed short-term priorities list built on those documents (document 5.1).

These strategic priorities continue to be the main focus of the Office. A process of aligning ROOS, WG and Task team activities to the strategic priorities is now underway using a revised terms of reference template for this process.

CORE EUROGOOS ACTIVITIES

WORKING GROUPS

Working Groups deliver strategies for EuroGOOS, ROOSes and the wider ocean observing community on critical oceanographic research and operational areas. Working Groups will contribute to the EOOS framework, developing a truly integrated and sustained end-to-end ocean observing system for Europe.

Updates from Working Groups Chairs are available in the Assembly meeting document n. 9.1.

Science Advisory, SAWG (Chair: Jun She, DMI, Denmark)

In 2014, SAWG delivered a strategy for oceanographic priorities in the context of Blue Growth which was presented by Jun She at the EuroGOOS 2014 Conference (28-30 October 2014, Lisbon). Based on the strategy, a white paper was developed and subsequently submitted for the EuroGOOS special publication in the EGU's Ocean Sciences Journal, in January 2016.

In May 2016, the EuroGOOS Office published a high-level policy brief to transmit the main messages of the white paper to policymakers. The publication was launched at the European Maritime Day in Turku (May 2016) and presented to the EuroGOOS members at last year's Assembly.

Data Management, Exchange and Quality, DATAMEQ (chair: Sylvie Pouliquen, Ifremer, France)

The DATAMEQ WG is implementing a number of recommendations through the EuroGOOS ROOSes and main European Projects related to operational oceanography and data management. Furthermore, in joint collaboration between CMESM/SDN/EMODnet partners have facilitated unlocking access to additional in situ data in the ROOSes.

Principles recommended by DATAMEQ have been endorsed by CMEMS-INSTAC and AtlantOS projects, both started in 2015. In addition, progress has been made in reaching other projects ODIP, EUDAT and ENVRI+, towards developing a coherent standardization identified by DATAMEQ



(Guidance for DOI, Standardization and vocabularies, and enhancing services to users by testing emerging IT services such as Cloud distribution).

Technology Plan, TPWG (chair: Rajesh Nair, OGS, Italy)

TPWG is currently compiling the ‘Technologies Underpinning Operational Oceanography’ report. A drafting group comprising Rajesh Nair (Chair), Stefania Sparnocchia, Urmaz Lips, Henning Wehde, Marco Picone and Glenn Nolan will present a draft at the General Assembly with a view to expanding WG membership and contributions to the report. A final version of the report will be launched at the EuroGOOS conference in Bergen in October 2017.

Coastal Ocean and Shelf Seas Modelling, COSMO WG (co-chairs: Paolo Oddo, NATO/CMRE and Ole Krarup Leth, DMI, Denmark)

COSMO working group has been inactive during the past year. A discussion will take place during the GA with a view to reinvigorating the EuroGOOS contribution to coastal operational oceanography in terms of observations, forecasts services through a new Coastal Working Group. It is hoped that COSMO expertise can be used in advancing the terms of reference of the new Coastal Working Group.

Products, EPWG (currently no chair)

EuroGOOS again hosted and participated in the meeting of the ICES Working Group on Operational Oceanographic Products for Fisheries and Environment (WGOOFE) in January 2017. A closer collaboration with this ICES activity can enhance our community’s ability to provide fit for purpose oceanographic products. The EuroGOOS Executive Board supported the Office’s proposal to maintain this link. The new Coastal Working Group will work to highlight the important products that our members provide both on the internet and through other dissemination channels.

TASK TEAMS

EuroGOOS Task Teams are operational networks of observing platforms, promoting scientific synergy and technological collaboration among the Task Team members. Task Team data are made available to the EuroGOOS ROOS data portals, which in turn are feeding data to EMODnet and Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service (CMEMS). Task Teams will also contribute to the EOOS framework, providing coordination of European oceanographic infrastructures and promoting their sustainable operation.

Four Task Teams were established during 2014 and 2015 on HF radars, gliders, ferrybox, and tide gauges. In addition, an MoU was signed with Euro-Argo ERIC in response to their expression of interest to act as a EuroGOOS Task Team. In October 2015, the Office put forward proposals for two new task teams on fixed platforms and on animal-borne instruments. The proposals were accepted by the Executive Board and the new task teams presented their terms of reference to the 2016 Assembly.

Updates from Task Team Chairs are available in the Assembly meeting document n. 8.1.



Tide Gauges TT (chair: Begoña Pérez, Puertos del Estado, Spain ; co-chair: Vincent Donato, SHOM, France)

The Tide Gauge TT has completed a survey to collect information on the status and needs of the existing tide gauge stations in Europe regions. The results of this survey explain to policy and decision-makers the importance of sustained European tide gauge collaboration. A short policy brief is now available from the EuroGOOS website (<http://eurogoos.eu/publications/>).

FerryBox TT (chairs: Franciscus Colijn and Wilhelm Petersen, HZG, Germany; co-chairs: Kai Sørensen and Andrew King, NIVA)

FerryBox TT completed its white paper presenting achievements and user needs for FerryBox systems. Ferrybox TT also provides insights into applications and challenges associated with FB data. The white paper was initiated further to a meeting with European Commission DG MARE, DG Research & Innovation and the Task Team members. Currently, being edited by the Office, it will be released on the task team webpage (<http://eurogoos.eu/ferrybox-task-team/>). Based on the main points of the white paper, the EuroGOOS Office prepared and published a brochure explaining the FB technology to a non-specialist audience (e.g. policymakers), available on the main publications page: <http://eurogoos.eu/publications/>.

FerryBox TT is involved in a number of FB activities within JERICO-NEXT. A community data portal for FerryBoxes is being developed as part of this work.

HF Radar TT (chair: Julien Mader, AZTI, Spain)

During the reporting period, HFR TT was successful in securing funding under a CMEMS service evolution funding call for the INCREASE project - Innovation and networking for the integration of coastal radars into European marine services. This Mercator/CMEMS tender aims at supporting the integration of European HFR operational systems into CMEMS.

HF Radar TT is involved in the activities of JERICO-NEXT. A co-chair from a EuroGOOS member organization has been suggested, Annalisa Griffa, CNR, Italy.

Gliders TT (chair: Pierre Testor, Université Pierre & Marie Curie, France)

Discussion is ongoing on including wave gliders in the Glider TT. It was decided to use the Glider TT as a first entry point for wave glider information since some glider operators also run wave gliders. The data will be organized within the ROOS data portals.

Euro-Argo TT / Euro-Argo ERIC (chair: Sylvie Pouliquen, Ifremer, France)

Euro-Argo ERIC brings together 10 country-members through 17 institutes. It is involved in the AtlantOS task on profiling floats, as well as in the ENVRI+ project. Euro-Argo ERIC also works closely with Copernicus Marine Service (CMEMS) to take into account CMEMS needs in the strategy development. In 2016/17, Euro-Argo developed their strategy for the next ten years. EuroGOOS is represented on the Scientific Technical Advisory Board.



ROOS

The Regional Operational Oceanographic Systems (ROOSes) coordinate and support development and joint service production in European regional seas. EuroGOOS ensures pan-European representation and interfaces for ROOSes.

Currently, five ROOSes operate under the EuroGOOS umbrella: in the Baltic (BOOS), Arctic (Arctic ROOS), Iberia-Biscay-Ireland region (IBI-ROOS), Mediterranean Sea (MONGOOS), and North-West-Shelf (NOOS). Image on the right shows the distribution of the ROOS members in red and EuroGOOS members in blue (one Arctic ROOS member, University Centre in Svalbard Norway, is not on the map to ease visualization).



EuroGOOS Office has attended all ROOS meetings during the reporting period. Several strategic meetings have taken place to bring together the EuroGOOS Executive Board, chairs of all activities and ROOS chairs. Such meetings are held twice a year.

ROOS chairs will report on highlights, successes and challenges during the reporting period, at the Assembly. Their written reports are presented in the Assembly meeting document n. 7.1.

In March 2016, EuroGOOS held a Black Sea ROOS meeting in Bucharest, Romania, hosted by GeoEcoMar. EuroGOOS agreed to examine the feasibility of a Black Sea metadata portal to build up an accurate picture of the platforms reporting in the Black Sea. Furthermore, EuroGOOS is investigating an online ocean modelling inventory to allow Black Sea colleagues update information on forecast models for the region. Funding has recently been requested from DG MARE to hold a follow up meeting in September 2017. The outcome is not yet known.

In 2016, the Office produced a brochure on the benefits of EuroGOOS membership, which was disseminated at ROOS annual meetings. Attracting non-EuroGOOS members of ROOSes is the priority in the EuroGOOS membership strategy.

EOOS

EuroGOOS and European Marine Board (EMB) have taken a leadership role to engage with experts and the wider community on making EOOS a reality. To this end, a brainstorming expert workshop took place in May 2015 with the objectives to deliver a definition of EOOS, a long-term vision, and short-term



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implementation steps. As recommended by the workshop, an EOOS steering group was convened and met several times in 2016 and 2017.

A community consultation was held in late 2016 and a summary of the user responses is available to EuroGOOS members for the 2017 General Assembly. The drafting is led by EuroGOOS and EMB and an outline will be presented at the EuroGOOS General Assembly in May.

EuroGOOS continues to promote the EOOS concept with ERVO, ICES, CIESM, EMODnet, EC directorates and the space community among others. A strategy for EOOS will be fully elaborated in 2017.

On 8 September 2016, the first EOOS conference took place at the European Parliament hosted by Member of the European Parliament Ricardo Serrão Santos. The event, entitled 'Building a European Ocean Observing System' attracted over 70 participants from across Europe, as well as many representatives of the European Commission's Directorate General for Research and Innovation, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, Environment, and Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs. All those Commission directorates general have taken action towards achieving sustainable management of the ocean, with the help of funding programmes and legislative instruments and strategies related to ocean observing and data collection. Several Members of the European Parliament joined MEP Ricardo Serrão Santos and contributed to the event, including Gesine Meissner, Marco Affronte, and Stefan Eck. Eminent speakers and panellists of the event explained why an integrated ocean observing system is required for Europe, and demonstrated the risks and losses linked with insufficient and not sustained ocean observing and data collection. The event's summary was released on the website (<http://eurogoos.eu/2016/09/12/eoos-event-european-parliament-main-outcomes/>) and emailed directly to many key ocean observing actors, including heads of funding agencies and research institutes, coordinators of relevant European projects and global initiatives.

Furthermore, EuroGOOS is leading the EOOS communications aspects. The EuroGOOS Office launched the EOOS logo in February and EOOS flyer in March 2016 (disseminated at stakeholder events since, available on the website: <http://eurogoos.eu/publications/>), along with the EOOS consultation document prepared by the steering group and published by the EuroGOOS Office as a brochure. The EOOS website was prepared and released by the Office in December 2016 (www.eoos-ocean.eu). The website features all the latest EOOS developments including slides on the EOOS history and main outcomes of the stakeholder consultation.

EuroGOOS members have been kept informed of the progress on a regular basis during the reporting period. The Office will present the EOOS progress to date at the Assembly.

EU PROJECTS

EuroGOOS is involved in six EU projects (Horizon 2020 and EMFF): AtlantOS, COLUMBUS, JERICO-Next, ENVRI Plus, INTAROS and SeaDataCloud. In addition, the Office is also contracted in five European tenders: Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service (CMEMS) In-Situ TAC and two EMODnet check points, in the Baltic and Atlantic, EMODnet Physics 3 and Data Ingestion.



The EEA Foundations contract was granted in 2016, the proposal led by EUMETNET with now Lund University as the third partner. The tender titled “Foundations”, aims at delivering cross-cutting coordination, communication and strategic advice to EEA in their implementation of the in-situ component of the Copernicus Programme. EuroGOOS is also contracted by Mercator Ocean to examine gaps in the observing system and the state of play in terms of uptake of CMEMS services at member state level. The contract also has a significant Communications work task.

Details of the running EU projects are presented in meeting document 4.3 (project overview sheets).

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

EuroGOOS is active in international and European panels strategically important to EuroGOOS, as both leader in European oceanography coordination and a European voice at the global level, e.g. as a GOOS Regional Alliance (see table 1 below).

Table 1: EuroGOOS Chair and Office representation at global and European panels

N°	Organization/Initiative/Project	Scale	EuroGOOS staff member	Role
1.	GEO High-level EC working group	Int'l	Glenn Nolan	Observer
2.	GOOS Steering Committee	Int'l	Glenn Nolan	Member
3.	GOOS Regional Alliances Forum	Int'l	Erik Buch	Co-Chair
4.	GEO Blue Planet Steering Group	Int'l	Glenn Nolan	Member
5.	IODE Expert Team on Data Management Practices	Int'l	Patrick Gorringer	Member
6.	JCOMM TT-MOWIS (task team for integrated marine meteorological and oceanographic services within WIS)	Int'l	Erik Buch	Co-Chair
7.	JCOMM TT-MOWIS	Int'l	Patrick Gorringer	Member
8.	JCOMM Management Committee (MAN)	Int'l	Erik Buch Glenn Nolan	Members
9.	Euro-Argo Scientific and Technical Advisory Group	Int'l	Glenn Nolan	Member
10.	POGO Ocean Communicators United	Int'l	Dina Eparkhina	Member
11.	Consortium for Ocean Science Exploration and Engagement (COSEE) Working Groups on Engaging Policy and Developing Common Messages	Int'l	Dina Eparkhina	Member
12.	AtlantOS Blue Print Task Team	EU	Glenn Nolan Erik Buch	Members
13.	AtlantOS Steering Group	EU	Erik Buch	Member
14.	INTAROS Steering Group	EU	Erik Buch	Member



15.	EMODnet Steering Committee	EU	Patrick Gorringe	Member
16.	Copernicus Marine Service Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee	EU	Glenn Nolan	Member
17.	SeaDataCloud Advisory Board	EU	Erik Buch	Member
18.	US-Canada-EU Atlantic Sea-bed Mapping working group	EU	Glenn Nolan	Member
19.	JERICO-Next Steering Committee	EU	Patrick Gorringe	Member
20.	FixO3 Advisory Board	EU	Patrick Gorringe	Member
21.	ENVRI Plus Board of EU Env. Res. Infrastructures (BEERI)	EU	Glenn Nolan	Member
22.	ICES WGOOFE (Working Group on Operational Oceanographic Products for Fisheries and Environment)	EU	Patrick Gorringe	Member

The EuroGOOS Office is regularly liaising with stakeholder organizations, among others JPI Oceans, JPI Climate, European Marine Board, Copernicus Marine Service Office at Mercator Ocean, EMODnet Secretariat, and others. Furthermore, EuroGOOS Office is regularly attending relevant stakeholder events, meetings at the European Commission and Parliament, and is interacting with relevant EC Directorates-General.

COMMUNICATION

Communication is a key element of the EuroGOOS 2014-2020 strategy and a stand-alone priority. The EuroGOOS communication is not conceived as a mere set of communication tools, rather it is developed as a strategic imperative for growth, strengthening the organization's recognised leadership and coordination role. Communication is key for both external and internal purposes. Externally, EuroGOOS promotes the importance of ocean observations, the need for sustained and systematic measurements, requirements and gaps to be addressed to improve and complement the current systems, etc. Internally, the Office works with EuroGOOS members, ROOSes, task teams and working groups to keep them up to date with relevant developments, represent their interests and deliver strategic and promotional materials towards strengthening the voice of operational oceanography.

During the reporting period, a number of new communication outputs have been delivered (see table 2 below). The EuroGOOS online presence has been enhanced with an updated website, monthly newsletter and active twitter presence. All EuroGOOS publications and dissemination materials are available for download at: www.eurogoos.eu/publications.

EuroGOOS has also participated in several event exhibitions during the reporting period – please see figure 1.

Furthermore, EuroGOOS is leading communications for EOOS. EuroGOOS outputs for EOOS include: website (Dec. 2016), logo and flyer (March 2016), poster (April 2016), consultation document brochure (November 2016), and the organization of the 1st EOOS stakeholder event at the European Parliament (September 2016).



Table 2: EuroGOOS publications and dissemination materials May 2016-April 2017

Title	Type of publication / n° pages	Release date	Highlights / Comments
EuroGOOS 7 th Conference Proceedings	Proceedings / 618pp	Nov. 2016	Released online
EOOS Consultation Document	Brochure / 12pp	Nov. 2016	Draft launched at European Parliament, hard copy disseminated widely (see table 2)
Use and sharing of marine data by industry: Good practice guide	Brochure / 20pp	April 2017	Prepared by EMODnet and VLIZ and designed by EuroGOOS; disseminated at JERICO and ENVRI industry events (April and May)
European Network of FerryBoxes	Brochure / 8pp	May 2017	For launch at EMD 2017 and presentation at EuroGOOS GA 2017
Tide Gauge Task Team note to policymakers	Brochure / 4pp	May 2017	Approved by Exec. Board in March, for launch at EMD 2017 and EuroGOOS GA 2017
FerryBox white book (technical paper)	Brochure / 16pp	Pending	In preparation for digital release
Marine data value chain from observations to aggregation to users (working title)	Infographic / 1p	Pending	Deliverable in contract with Mercator, foreseen for launch at Copernicus Marine Week 2017

Figure 1: EuroGOOS showcasing European ocean observing initiatives at European and international events, May 2016-April 2017



World Ocean Day conference during the



European Maritime Day, May 2016, Turku



GEO-XIII Plenary, November 2016, St.Peterburg



**UNESCO IOC Executive
Committee Meeting, June
2016, Paris**



**SeaTech 2016 joint stand with
EMODnet and COLUMBUS, October
2016, Brest**



**IOC-DG MARE
Marine/Maritime Spatial
Planning Conference,
March 2017, Paris**

OFFICE TEAM

Since the last General Assembly, the office now has 3 staff members employed on Belgian Contracts of employment (see table below). The Office now has the staff capacity of 5.3 full time equivalents (see table 3). A HR procedure has been set up at to support the employment process, the payroll and association records, as well as staff handbook including the Belgian work regulations requirements. Individual staff work objectives are being developed in line with the EuroGOOS 2016-2017 strategic priorities and will be reviewed at regular intervals through a performance management process.

Table 3: EuroGOOS Office, as of May 2017

Staff member	Title	Contract term
Glenn Nolan	Secretary General	May 2015-April 2020
Patrick Gorringe	Senior Operations Officer	Permanent (seconded from SMHI)
Dina Eparkhina	Policy and Communications Officer	Sept. 2015-August 2020
Vicente Fernandez	Science Officer	November 2015-April 2019
Erik Buch	Senior Consultant on EU projects	Upon project requirements, approx. 0.3 full time equivalent
Francisca Paulsen	Administrator	April 2017 to October 2020

Latest indications from BELSPO, hosting EuroGOOS office since 2013 are that we will remain in our current offices until early 2019. BELSPO have indicated that they plan to host EuroGOOS after this period if possible. The office meets with BELSPO contacts regularly to keep updated on progress. The central location and the proximity to a large number of EuroGOOS stakeholder organizations in Brussels has helped increase the visibility of EuroGOOS and attract staff.