



EOOS European Ocean Observing System
Evolving EOOS: connecting communities for end-to-end solutions

HOME PROGRAMME & PRESENTATIONS CALL TO ACTION PRESS RELEASE PICTURES POSTERS & EXHIBITION EOOS

Conference 21-23 November 2018 | Brussels

Co-organized by Secretariats of:

EMODnet
European Marine Observation and Data Network

European MARINE BOARD
Advancing Seas & Ocean Science

EuroGOOS
European Global Ocean Observing System



Conference key facts

- >300 Stakeholders;
- 2.5 days;
- Diverse ocean observing and monitoring communities: data collectors, data services and user communities from policy, industry, research and wider society;
- Plenary presentations, Panel discussions, Breakout group discussions, poster presentations and exhibits;
- Call to Action.

EOOS Conference 2018: Conclusions



“If we want to build solid, fact-based policy and harness our society for today’s and tomorrow’s challenges, we need to make sure that ocean observations continue [...] cross-sector international collaboration is a must and coordination and sharing is a Commission priority.”

Karmenu Vella, EC Commissioner for DG MARE)

- Data collection is at the foundation of the whole marine knowledge value chain
- Ocean data is a blue growth enabler and prerequisite for protecting ocean health
- Ocean science & observation is only a service to mankind if the data are made publicly available and published!
- We have to consider lessons learned from integrating activities beyond Europe: put in practice the 3 C’s: Consultation, Connection and Collaboration!
- Network what we have; Open Access; Smart Equipment; Transfer Knowledge
- Policy drivers and societal needs are there and we have the infrastructures, know-how, networks, mechanisms and instruments to build on what exists already – **can we step up to enhance dialogue and coordination and deliver a more coherent approach?**

EOOS in 2018: Connecting across communities



EOOS Forum, March 2018



EOOS Conference, November 2018

EOOS events Advisory Committee of ocean observation and monitoring stakeholders

Stakeholder consultation on Strategy and Implementation activities; Call to Action

Conference Report and Call to Action



Conference Report
Coming soon!

<http://www.eoosconference2018.eu/>

Evolving European Ocean Observing Connecting communities for end-to-end solutions

21-23 November 2018, Brussels

Call to action

What happens in our seas and oceans profoundly affects climate, weather and the livelihoods of billions who depend upon their resources. Technological progress is making marine resources more accessible, offering real solutions for clean energy and better health through resource-efficient food and breakthrough medicines. All these are essential to meet the needs of an increasing global human population if we are to avoid a climate catastrophe (IPCC, 2018).

Systematic observing and monitoring of our seas and oceans delivers crucial data and information to underpin the knowledge we need to revolutionize the blue economy and improve our understanding of ocean health, predators, and the ocean's role in climate regulation. We therefore need to ensure that enough of the right observations are being made now and into the future.

European countries and the EU have already invested significantly in ocean observing infrastructure and technology. Numerous observing platforms and coordination networks exist; some activities are already well coordinated at national, sea basin, European and global levels. More connections are now needed across all communities to ensure coherent priority setting, to foster collaborations to increase efficiency and to provide long-term sustainability. We have to move beyond current short-term solutions to substantially enhance the applicability and value of ocean observations as a 'public utility' for the benefit of all society.

We welcome the efforts undertaken to date to strengthen the coordination framework of ocean observing in Europe. An open and inclusive process is now imperative to move forward.

We therefore call on European countries and the EU to examine what is currently being done under their responsibility and establish roadmaps with specific actions and indicators to move towards a more integrated, transparent and coordinated approach. The following key actions should be undertaken:

1. Countries should coordinate all national marine and coastal data collection efforts to improve efficiency, and identify priorities and gaps to meet policy and societal needs. Observations should be standardized and operationalized within and across regional seas, building on the work done via existing regional coordination frameworks;
2. EU agencies and authorities should consider how the EU can best rationalize its investment and activities related to ocean observing activities. This requires a concerted effort to ensure that different EU investments in marine and coastal data collection infrastructures are better connected and are linked to existing data management and sharing initiatives; and
3. Both national and European authorities should support integration and drive innovation in infrastructure and technology development to reduce the cost and expand the coverage of ocean data collection, while optimizing data analyses, synthesis and use.

Possible further actions are suggested in an implementation plan prepared by some of the observing community (see <http://www.eoos-ocean.eu/strategy-and-implementation/>) which is a living document intended to encourage continued community contributions.

Progress of this Call to Action will be evaluated in one year's time by the number of the conference advisory committee, with support from the co-organising secretariats.

1 <http://www.eoos-ocean.eu/strategy-and-implementation/>

2 All activities, activities related to climate, sea and coastal areas.

EOOS Call to Action: Next steps

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*Extract from
Call to Action*

Dissemination and communication:

- online (websites, email, social media)
- European marine and maritime stakeholders

Scoping study on **national coordination mechanisms for marine monitoring and ocean observing** (spring-summer 2019)

Tracking uptake and impact of Call to Action at national and European level (spring 2020)