



**EMODnet**



European Marine  
Observation and  
Data Network

# 16<sup>th</sup> EMODnet Steering Committee EMODnet activities supporting the EC European Ocean Observation – sharing responsibility initiative

16<sup>th</sup> EMODnet Steering Committee  
27-28 April 2022

Kate Larkin

EMODnet Secretariat  
[emodnet.ec.europa.eu](http://emodnet.ec.europa.eu)

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# EMODnet Secretariat workplan 2022-2023

## WP5 – Supporting EC DG MARE’s activities related to Ocean Observation:

Objectives and outcomes of this presentation

- **Inform** about EMODnet activities related to ocean observation supporting the EC Ocean Observation initiative, in particular the new EMODnet Secretariat workplan 2022-2023 WP5;
- Present and discuss initial **feedback** from the SC, TWG and EC MKEG on EMODnet Secretariat and wider network activity in this area 2022-2023:
  - Assessing the benefits of the Sea-basin Checkpoints;
  - Focused study and targeted assessment (topic to be finalised).
- **Exchange** on current and future **EMODnet representation and engagement in ocean observing activities**;

# EMODnet Secretariat workplan 2022-2023

## WP5 – Supporting EC DG MARE’s activities related to Ocean Observation:

### Examples of EMODnet & joint community activities related to Ocean Observation: 2013-2019

Are marine data fit for purpose?

#### A user perspective

Initiated in 2013, the EMODnet Sea-basin Checkpoint data stress test<sup>1</sup> was the first of its kind to adopt a user perspective to assess if the current ocean observation monitoring data were fit for purpose. In each case, the availability and suitability of open access marine data were tested against 11 specific end-user challenges at the level of 6 European sea-basins (see image below). Each challenge was designed to simulate a real-life application e.g. tracking an oil spill, siting of a wind farm, or assessing environmental impact of fisheries on the sea floor. The requirements for each challenge, including the diversity of datasets required, depended on the application. Each Checkpoint had to demonstrate how well the current monitoring systems and data collection frameworks provide data to meet the needs of users. In doing so, data gaps and duplications as well as significant bottlenecks could be highlighted.



Overview of the 6 EMODnet Sea-basin Checkpoints and the 11 end-user challenges (stress tests)

EMODnet Sea-basin  
Checkpoints 2013-2018

**EVOLVING EUROPEAN OCEAN OBSERVING: CONNECTING COMMUNITIES FOR END-TO-END SOLUTIONS**

CONFERENCE  
21-23 NOVEMBER 2018  
THE EGG, BRUSSELS

Conference Report  
and Call to Action

WWW.EOOS-OCEAN.EU WWW.EOOSCONFERENCE2018.EU  
#EOOS #EOOSCONFERENCE18

frontiers  
in Marine Science | Ocean Observation

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REVIEW article  
Front. Mar. Sci., 12 July 2019 | <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2019.00313>

Check for updates

### The European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet): Visions and Roles of the Gateway to Marine Data in Europe

Belén Martín Míguez<sup>1</sup>, Antonio Novellino<sup>2</sup>, Matteo Vinci<sup>3</sup>, Simon Claus<sup>4</sup>, Jan-Bart Calewaert<sup>5,6</sup>, Henry Vallius<sup>7</sup>, Thierry Schmitt<sup>8</sup>, Alessandro Pititto<sup>9</sup>, Alessandra Giorgetti<sup>3</sup>, Natalie Askew<sup>10</sup>, Sissy Iona<sup>11</sup>, Dick Schaap<sup>12</sup>, Nadia Pinardi<sup>13</sup>, Quillon Harpham<sup>14</sup>, Belinda J. Kater<sup>15</sup>, Jacques Populus<sup>16</sup>, Jun She<sup>17</sup>, Atanas Vasilev Palazov<sup>18</sup>, Oonagh McMeel<sup>19</sup>, Paula Oset<sup>20</sup>, Dan Lea<sup>21</sup>, Giuseppe M. R. Manzella<sup>22</sup>, Patrick Gorringe<sup>23</sup>, Simona Simoncelli<sup>24</sup>, Kate Larkin<sup>25,26</sup>, Neil Holdsworth<sup>27</sup>, Christos Dimitrios Arvanitidis<sup>28</sup>, Maria Eugenia Molina Jack<sup>29</sup>, Maria del Mar Chaves Montero<sup>30</sup>, Peter M. J. Herman<sup>31</sup> and Francisco Hernandez<sup>32</sup>



<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fmars.2019.00313/full>

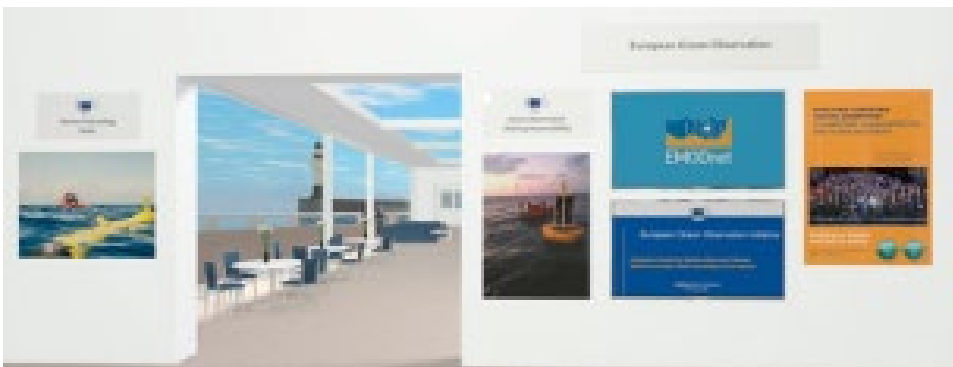
# EMODnet Secretariat workplan 2022-2023

## WP5 – Supporting EC DG MARE’s activities related to Ocean Observation:

EMODnet flagship activities related to Ocean Observation: [2021a](#)



Session 5: Ocean Observing & Data Collection



<https://emodnet.ec.europa.eu/en/conference2021>

# EMODnet Secretariat workplan 2022-2023

## WP5 – Supporting EC DG MARE’s activities related to Ocean Observation:

### EMODnet joint community activities related to European Ocean Observation: 2021b



## EC OCEAN OBSERVATION: SHARING RESPONSIBILITY

Report & Community Recommendations from the virtual event on 18 June 2021

Compiled and edited by: Kate Larkin, Nathalie Tonné and Jan-Bart Calewaert (EMODnet Secretariat); Angel Muñoz-Piniella, Britt Alexander and Sheila JJ Heymans (EMB) October 2021



Community recommendations on marine technology and ocean observing gaps and requirements  
EC Ocean observation: sharing responsibility virtual event on 18 June 2021



## Community recommendations



Community recommendations taken from the EC Ocean observation event on 18 June 2021 are presented below, with a focus on optimising European capability in the context of international efforts.

### Ocean Observing Technology

### Ocean observing gaps and requirements

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/maritimeforum/en/node/6188>

<https://emodnet.ec.europa.eu/en/reports>



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# EMODnet Secretariat workplan 2022-2023

## WP5 – Supporting EC DG MARE’s activities related to Ocean Observation:

### Objectives:

**Task 5.1:** Assess benefits of EMODnet Sea-basin Checkpoints

**Task 5.2:** Support DG MARE in advancing activities related to Ocean Observation (OO) governance in the EU through targeted assessments and focused studies

**Task 5.3:** Continue strengthen dialogue with key European OO actors to align EMODnet with EOOS process & Contribute targeted input, advice and expertise at third EMODnet Conference and Jamboree

### Implementing team:

- Kate Larkin (coordination and implementation) & Nathalie Tonné (dedicated support)
- European Marine Board and others (to be confirmed)

### Key stakeholders to engage:

- **EMODnet** Sea-basin Checkpoint Coordinators & partners, thematic & data ingestion Coordinators & wider EMOD-network;
- **Wider community:** Ocean observation/marine monitoring/data collection (e.g., EOOS) including Marine Research Infrastructures, marine data users (Checkpoints and wider) including industry (blue economy) via EMODnet Associated Partnership, EC MKEG, EU Associations, etc

# EMODnet Secretariat workplan 2022-2023

## WP5 – Supporting EC DG MARE’s activities related to Ocean Observation:

### Deliverables and Milestones

Deliverable	Name of Deliverable	Due Date (Month/M)
D5.1	Focused study	M12
D5.2	Report assessing the benefits of the EMODnet Sea-basin Checkpoints (building on internal concept note, M3 and workshop in year 1)	M15
D5.3	Targeted Assessment	M23

Work Package	Milestone	Date due (Month)
WP5 - Supporting EC DG MARE’s activities related to Ocean Observation	MS5.1 - Scoping document/concept note of the Sea-basin Checkpoints' assessments	M3
	MS5.2 - Priority topic/scope agreed upon for year 1 targeted assessment and/or focused study	M3
	MS5.3 - Second year Priority topic/scope agreed upon for year 2 targeted assessment(s) and/or focused study	M10

# EMODnet Secretariat workplan 2022-2023

## WP5 – Supporting EC DG MARE’s activities related to Ocean Observation:

### Task 5.1: Assess benefits of EMODnet Sea-basin Checkpoints

#### Concept Note #1 (MS5.1)

This task will provide an assessment of:

(i) the **benefits of EMODnet Sea-basin Checkpoints methodology & outputs;**

(ii) a **re-evaluation of the status of marine data adequacy** based on a comparison between the 2018 EMODnet Sea-basin Checkpoint final report in 2018 and the current status in 2022;

(iii) **added value and/or complementarity of the EMODnet Sea-basin Checkpoint exercises compared to other key community methods**

(iv) the **expert and stakeholder feedback on potential next steps for a future checkpoint activity**, including recommendations on the timing and methodology to be used, the key actors to be involved, geographical coverage, societal applications (Checkpoints Challenges) and diversity of stakeholders that could be involved, and how findings could be fed back into the ocean **observing system gaps and requirements feedback loop.**



Arctic Checkpoint



Atlantic Checkpoint



Baltic Sea Checkpoint



Black Sea Checkpoint



MedSea Checkpoint



North Sea Checkpoint



# EMODnet Secretariat workplan 2022-2023

## WP5 – Supporting EC DG MARE’s activities related to Ocean Observation:

### Concept Note #1 (MS5.1)

#### Scoping document/concept note on assessing the benefits of the EMODnet Sea-basin Checkpoints

### Methodology

- 1. Literature Review (EMODnet & community inputs)**
- 2. Targeted dialogues and expert consultations**
  - EMODnet Sea-basin Checkpoint Coordinators & partners e.g., Autumn 2022;
  - Wider stakeholders (EMOD-network, user community & ocean observation/data collection experts) e.g., end 2022 – early 2023.
- 3. Short report and recommendations**
- 4. Dissemination and communication of key results**

EMODnet Secretariat WP5  
Concept Note for Deliverable 5.2 (Report)  
Task 5.1: Assessment of the benefits of the EMODnet Sea-basin Checkpoints

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1 Introduction

Between 2013 and 2018, a series of six EMODnet Sea-basin Checkpoints (SBCP) projects assessed the adequacy, availability and completeness of the European marine monitoring and ocean observation data in EMODnet, and other sources, at the level of the European regional sea basins. The first two checkpoints were initiated in 2013 (Mediterranean Sea and North Sea), and were extended with four more in 2015 (Arctic, Atlantic, Baltic and Black Sea).

By stress-testing the data against specific end-user challenges (e.g. marine protected areas, oil platform leaks, eutrophication), the checkpoints evaluated how well Europe’s observing and monitoring capacity provided data to meet the needs of users. In doing so, data gaps and duplications as well as significant bottlenecks were highlighted.

The integrated report on the synthesis of results of the EMODnet Sea-basin Checkpoint data stress tests noted that “The EMODnet Checkpoint concept is unique and innovative as it incorporates the user perspective.” In addition, “The EMODnet sea-basin checkpoint assessments have generated a wealth of insights on adequacy of the current marine data collection and management landscape in Europe.” In addition, the EMODnet SBCP (2013-2018) activities assessed the data adequacy and availability of many marine environmental and human activities data parameters, assessing also the level of resolution and geographical coverage and using a traffic light system to identify good data adequacy (green), medium level

# EMODnet Secretariat workplan 2022-2023

## WP5 – Supporting EC DG MARE’s activities related to Ocean Observation:

### Concept Note #2 (MS5.2 & MS5.3)

#### Focused studies and Targeted Assessments on European Ocean Observation

##### Initial list of topics proposed by the EMODnet Secretariat:

- Evaluation of Best practices in National Coordination of Ocean Observing, and Marine Monitoring;
- Evaluation of European capability for *in situ* Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs) Marine Essential Biodiversity Variables (EBVs) and *in situ* ocean observation monitoring indices & ocean observation and data collection strategies, data sharing practices, best practices and data/metadata.
- Mapping of marine data infrastructure (management/services) at national level & their connection to ocean observation programme/efforts & associated data flows;
- Evaluation of the marine data pipeline and the trends in marine data use at the national (European Member States), regional and European levels;

##### EMODnet Secretariat WP5

Concept Note for Deliverables 5.1 and 5.3 (Reports)

Task 5.2: Focused studies and Targeted Assessments on European Ocean Observation 2022-2024

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##### 1 Introduction

To respond to the ongoing lack of coordination in ocean observation and marine monitoring, the European Commission (EC) Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) launched the EC Ocean Observation – sharing responsibility initiative<sup>1</sup> in 2020. A consultation launched in the framework of this initiative in 2020-2021 gathered feedback from over 150 stakeholders (including the EMODnet Secretariat) on the needs, requirements and opportunities for strengthened coordination at national level across marine and coastal data collection efforts. In addition, the European community of ocean observation, marine monitoring and wider data collection efforts and stakeholders across the marine knowledge value chain continue to strengthen the connection, dialogue and joint activities in the context of EMODnet flagship events and wider activities and events organised by the wider European Ocean Observing system (EOOS) community.

This concept note outlines the proposed work of the EMODnet Secretariat work plan 2022-2024 Work Package 5 which is dedicated to supporting the EC Ocean Observation – sharing responsibility initiative, whilst also strengthening the alignment and connection between EMODnet and the ocean observation and marine monitoring community in Europe and beyond. Specifically, this Concept note focuses on the proposed activities to deliver Task 5.2 “Focused studies and Targeted Assessments on European Ocean Observation governance”. This Task will be executed by the EMODnet Secretariat staff from Seascope Belgium in dialogue

<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12539-Ocean-observation-sharing-responsibility\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12539-Ocean-observation-sharing-responsibility_en)

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##### Initial list of topics proposed by the EMODnet Secretariat:

- Evaluation of Best practices in National Coordination of Ocean Observing, and Marine Monitoring; **Actively pursued across EMOD-network with further contributions planned to UNESCO Ocean Best Practices System (OBPS) & events;**
- Evaluation of European capability for *in situ* Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs) Marine Essential Biodiversity Variables (EBVs) and *in situ* ocean observation monitoring indices & ocean observation and data collection strategies, data sharing practices, best practices and data/metadata. **Actively pursue with EMODnet Coordinators to build on central metadata catalogue (after centralization) & improve the data provenance, uptake & impact e.g., for UN Ocean Decade;**
- Mapping of marine data infrastructure (management/services) at national level & their connection to ocean observation programme/efforts & associated data flows;
- Evaluation of the marine data pipeline and the trends in marine data use at the national (European Member States), regional and European levels;

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### Selected topic area:

“Mapping and assessing marine data capability, flows and pipelines from national and regional levels to EMODnet”

### Expected output/added value:

1. Contribution to EC Ocean Observation – sharing responsibility initiative

EMODnet will conduct the first multi-national assessment of existing marine data service capability and coordination in EU Member States, Regional and European levels & recommendations for optimizing efficiency of data flow and pipelines.

2. Results and recommendations will strengthen the EMODnet connection and alignment with the European Ocean Observing System and its diverse community;

3. The stakeholder consultations will further develop EMODnet stakeholder contacts at national level, paving the way towards a EMODnet National network, contributing to National Coordination Committees for Ocean Observing.

# EMODnet Secretariat workplan 2022-2023

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#### Selected topic area:

“Mapping and assessing marine data capability, flows and pipelines from national and regional levels to EMODnet”

#### Added value of one overarching topic allows more in-depth targeted assessment

- 1. Focused study (2022):** review of the current status, gathering input from related studies and designing the plan for targeted assessment in 2023;
- 2. Targeted assessment (2023),** including interviews and case studies of the marine data infrastructure capability, data flows and pipeline from national to Regional and European level, including Member States (at least 1 per sea-basin)

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# EMODnet Secretariat workplan 2022-2023

## WP5 – Supporting EC DG MARE’s activities related to Ocean Observation:

### Concept Note #2 (MS5.2 & MS5.3)

#### Focused studies and Targeted Assessments on European Ocean Observation

#### Methodologies: Focused study (2022)

- **A literature and desk review of existing studies and publications relevant to the topic,** including interaction and dialogue with EC DG MARE and CINEA, EMODnet Steering Committee, EMB, EOOS and wider European e.g., EU4OceanObs and international e.g., OECD and Global Ocean Observing e.g., GOOS, GEO Blue-Planet stakeholders
- **Initial stakeholder mapping of key actors and experts as contacts for both the focused study and the targeted assessment.** The mapping will build on existing contacts from previous mapping
- **Targeted dialogue with key actors at ocean observation and marine data fora (e.g.,** The EMODnet SC and TWG; European Ocean Observing events, International Ocean Data Conference 2022; GOOS Panels; EMODnet Open Conference 2023).
- **Short report with Recommendations,** including the proposed methodological approach and expected outputs from the targeted assessment for 2023;
- **Communication and Dissemination of key Recommendations.**

#### EMODnet Secretariat WP5

Concept Note for Deliverables 5.1 and 5.3 (Reports)

Task 5.2: Focused studies and Targeted Assessments on European Ocean Observation 2022-2024

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# EMODnet Secretariat workplan 2022-2023

## WP5 – Supporting EC DG MARE’s activities related to Ocean Observation:

### Concept Note #2 (MS5.2 & MS5.3)

#### Focused studies and Targeted Assessments on European Ocean Observation

#### Methodologies: Targeted Assessment (2023)

- **Short updated review of existing relevant studies and publications** including interaction and dialogue with EC DG MARE, EMODnet Steering Committee, European and Global Ocean Observing fora;
- **Detailed stakeholder mapping of key actors and experts, to identify key stakeholders for the consultation and case study development.** The mapping will build on the outcomes of the focused study stakeholder mapping, including a call for National contact points and representatives for marine data;
- **Stakeholder consultation** which will gather more detailed feedback and – where relevant - produce case studies e.g., at national level, or assessment/evaluation expert advice on different options, issues and possible solutions;
- **Production of the D5.3 report**, to include the key messages and results from the stakeholder consultation, concrete national case studies.
- **Communication and dissemination of key recommendations.**

#### EMODnet Secretariat WP5

Concept Note for Deliverables 5.1 and 5.3 (Reports)

Task 5.2: Focused studies and Targeted Assessments on European Ocean Observation 2022-2024

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# EMODnet activities supporting the EC Ocean Observation – sharing responsibility

## Task 5.3 (Strengthening the representation of EMODnet at relevant Ocean Observation Fora)

### European Ocean Observing System (EOOS) governance boards

Project / initiative / body / programme	Current Secretariat lead	Other EMODnet representation/ links	Role	Expected duration	Other comments
EOOS Steering Group <a href="https://www.eoos-ocean.eu">https://www.eoos-ocean.eu</a>	Kate Larkin (alternate: Jan-Bart Calewaert)	-	Member	Minimum 2 meetings/year	Since Autumn 2021 inter-sessional meetings every quarter
EOOS Advisory Committee <a href="https://www.eoos-ocean.eu">https://www.eoos-ocean.eu</a>	Kate Larkin (alternate: Jan-Bart Calewaert)	-	Observer	Minimum 2 meetings/year	
EOOS Operations Committee <a href="https://www.eoos-ocean.eu">https://www.eoos-ocean.eu</a>	Kate Larkin (alternate: Jan-Bart Calewaert)	EMODnet Coordinators e.g., Physics, Data Ingestion and wider members e.g., RIs	Observer	Minimum 2 meetings/year	Since Autumn 2021 inter-sessional meetings every quarter
EOOS Resource Forum <a href="https://www.eoos-ocean.eu">https://www.eoos-ocean.eu</a>	Kate Larkin (alternate: Jan-Bart Calewaert)	EC DG MARE observer /contributor	Observer	Minimum 2 meetings/year	

See 16<sup>th</sup> SC document 9 for wider list of EMODnet representation on advisory boards



# EMODnet activities supporting the EC Ocean Observation – sharing responsibility

## Task 5.3 (Strengthening the representation of EMODnet at relevant Ocean Observation Fora)

### EMODnet Secretariat attendance at European Ocean Observing meetings September 2021 – April 2022

Date	EMODnet Secretariat WP5: Representation and participation in EOOS context
7 September 2021	GOOS-OECD-MEDIN: Value Chains in public marine data (webinar) – EMODnet Secretariat participating
14 September 2021	EOOS Advisory Committee, EMODnet Secretariat participating (member)
15 September 2021	EOOS Operations Committee, EMODnet Secretariat participating (observer)
24 September 2021	EOOS Steering Group, EMODnet Secretariat participating (member)
22 February 2022	EMODnet 2022 workplan WP5 Supporting EC Ocean Observing, EMODnet Secretariat organizing a planning meeting with EC DG MARE
11 March 2022	EOOS Steering Group, EMODnet Secretariat participating (member)
15 March 2022	EMODnet – European Marine Board dialogue
22-24 March 2022	EOOS Technology Forum 2022 Workshop, EMODnet Secretariat participating in panel discussions
1 April 2022	EMODnet – EuroSea (GEOMAR) dialogue

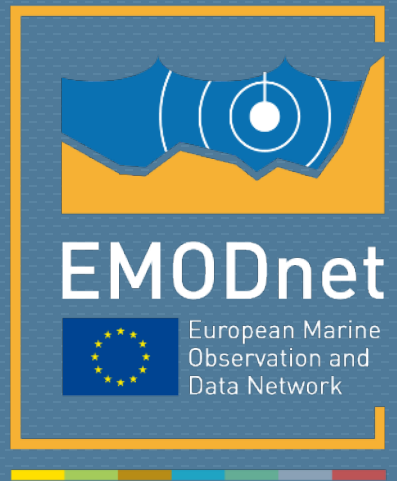
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# EMODnet activities supporting the EC Ocean Observation – sharing responsibility

## Task 5.3 (Strengthening the representation of EMODnet at relevant Ocean Observation Fora)

EMODnet also serves as an advisor on the following ocean observation related projects and infrastructures:

- GROOM II (gliders RI) (advisory board member); EuroSea (invited participant) – EMODnet Secretariat
- AtlantOS – nomination for Patrick Gorryng, EMODnet Physics
- EMODnet is also in dialogue with European-funded projects related to ocean observation and marine data collection e.g., iAtlantic, Mission Atlantic, AtlantECO
- EMODnet provides expert input to EU and global initiatives related to Ocean Observation e.g., OceanOPS, AANCHOR All Atlantic Ocean Data Space; EU4OceanObs; GEO Blue Planet, and the upcoming EU-Africa Ocean Observing Partnership Forum (Q1 2023, to be confirmed);
- EMODnet is in dialogue with EU4OceanObs and through this, other regional ocean observation coordination worldwide.



[emodnet.ec.europa.eu](http://emodnet.ec.europa.eu)

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