



European  
Ocean  
Observing  
System

Operations Committee

## Terms of Reference – XX 2020

### About this document

This document outlines the terms of reference for the EOOS Operations Committee. These should be read in conjunction and context with other EOOS related policies.

### Key responsibilities

The EOOS Operations Committee key responsibilities are to:

- Provide information about relevant strategic opportunities for EOOS;
- Identify system requirements to meet user needs for sustainable ocean observing;
- Support and enable the EOOS implementation plan where relevant and practicable, through liaising with implementers and policy makers at a national level, and seeking synergies with adjacent nations at regional and Pan-European scales;
- Provide advice to the EOOS Steering Group about changes in the ocean observing landscape at European and international level and identify actions for EOOS to further its goals and objectives;
- Contribute to the mapping of infrastructure, technology and human capacity to help identify gaps in ocean observing system at regional and/or European level;
- Identify shared priorities and advise on EOOS added value.

### Function

The EOOS Operations Committee is part of the EOOS governance representing the ocean observing implementers at national, regional and Pan-European levels to help with the long-term sustainability of the ocean observing efforts in Europe and to implement EOOS progressively.

### Structure

The EOOS Operations Committee will be structured as follows:

Members:

- GOOS National Focal Points
- European Research Infrastructures
- EuroGOOS Regional Operational Oceanographic Systems (ROOS)
- EuroGOOS Task Teams
- Other relevant implementers

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**Commented [HE1]:** In the NFP description there is some sense of advocating in country for sustained observations for EOOS priorities? i.e. you input into the governance and in return, expect implement and advocate for EOOS as a sustained and relevant body? Could place something on advocate for EOOS in the list?



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### Observers:

- EOOS Steering Group members and supporting staff
- Advisory Committee and Resource Forum chairs

### Group of experts:

A previously identified group of experts from different disciplines (BGC, biology) or sectors that can be called upon on an as-needed basis.

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## Composition

### GOOS National Focal Points

The GOOS National Focal Points will act as the main contact points to each nation to provide information on national priorities, advocate for national ocean observing system activities that can contribute to EOOS. It is expected that the GOOS national focal points will liaise with their nation's operators, networks and policy makers to maintain an information flow to the EOOS Operations Committee about national priorities, gaps and potential opportunities.

They will link EOOS to the National ocean observation infrastructures and relevant community to enable the flow of information to the Committee and between nations on multi-disciplinary ocean observing activities.

### European Research Infrastructures

Representatives of European ocean observing infrastructure programs will provide a Pan-European perspective and information about opportunities, existing collaborations and weaknesses.

### EuroGOOS Regional Operational Oceanographic Systems (ROOS)

EuroGOOS ROOSes, feed marine data to pan-European portals bringing tangible added value to European cooperation. Working hand in hand, EuroGOOS members, ROOS, and other EuroGOOS networks jointly enhance the European leadership in ocean observing, forecasting and services. As regional collaborating bodies, will provide the operational and regional perspective across networks on requirements and implementation within their regions.

### EuroGOOS Task Teams

The EuroGOOS Task Teams have played an important role in driving progress in Europe for their observing platform and connect to the global ocean observing community. They promote scientific synergy and technological collaboration globally and among European ocean observing infrastructures. Task Teams will be able to provide advice as the implementers of



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current and future observing requirements in Europe and help support emerging networks of platforms.

### Other Relevant Implementers

This will include implementers that can connect EOOS to other relevant sectors such as fisheries, satellite earth observations, research vessel operators, others.

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### Observers to the EOOS Operations Committee

The EOOS Steering Group members and Chairs of Advisory Committee and Resource Forum are observers to the EOOS Operations Committee.

## Operation

### Chair of the EOOS Operations Committee

The Chair represents the EOOS Operations Committee and takes responsibility for its deliverables. The Chair is responsible for coordinating with the Steering Group, ensuring the quality and relevance of the Operations Committee outputs or recommendations and its timely delivery as agreed by the Committee members.

The Chair becomes a de facto member of the Steering Group and will be asked to comply with the objectives of the SG, commit to attend the EOOS governance meetings, deliver input and recommendations, enable dialogue and communication across the EOOS stakeholders, and act as the EOOS ambassador.

A call for nominations for the EOOS Operations Committee Chair is open to the members of the EOOS Operations Committee. New call for nominations will be undertaken ahead of the following Committee meeting, and members will elect their Chair from the pool of nominations. The Chair will serve for three years with possible reelection for an additional two years.

The Chair of the EOOS OC will be responsible for :

- Scheduling and conduct the meetings for the Committee
- Drawing up an agenda
- Note keeping
- Follow up on the agreed actions
- Implementing decisions



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EuroGOOS Secretariat will provide support for this role, with the EuroGOOS Secretary-General serving as ViceChair and through additional support personnel.

### Meetings

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The Operations Committee will meet 2 times per year, or more frequently if required.

The EuroGOOS Secretariat will provide support to the Chair and members of the Operations Committee and in agreement with the Chair will convene the Operations Committee meetings. The Chair will conduct the Meetings (either face-to-face or via teleconference).

The Chair and the EuroGOOS Secretariat will draw up an Agenda and will circulate all the relevant documents at least two weeks in advance before each meeting.

The Chair and the EuroGOOS Secretariat will document the outcomes of the meeting and circulate among members within 15 days of the meeting. They will follow up on the agreed actions by implementing them or by ensuring that the responsible parties undertake the actions promised.

### Reporting

The EOOS Operations Committee will report to the EOOS Steering Group.