



Steering Group for the IOC Ocean Best Practices System (SG-OBPS)

Monthly Meeting
13 October 2021
13.00-14.00 UTC
[ONLINE]

SG-OBPS-20211013
13 October 2021
English only

ABSTRACT

The IOC Ocean Best Practices System Steering Group (SG-OBPS) meets annually at a face-to-face/hybrid/online meeting. During the intervening months the SG-OBPS meets monthly online.

This report is the record of the online meeting for 13 October 2021

For bibliographic purposes this document should be cited as follows:

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[LIST OF PARTICIPANTS](#)

1. Opening of the meeting

Jay Pearlman (JP), SG-OBPS Co-Chair, opened the meeting at 13.00 UTC on Wednesday 13 October 2021. Apologies were received from: Adam Leadbetter; Emma Heslop; Johannes Karstensen; Arno Lambert; Juliet Hermes; Ana Lara Lopez; Rachel Przeslawski; Peter Pissierssens; Cristian Munoz Mas.

A complete list of the meeting participants is shown in Annex I. Participants confirmed that they accepted that the meeting was to be recorded to assist with reporting purposes. The meeting agenda had been provided [online](#) in GDrive one week before the SG meeting for Work Package (WP) leads to contribute topics for decision or report. A draft version of this meeting report is provided to participants to give them the opportunity to provide any additional brief text for inclusion, though Decisions and Motion text cannot be changed.

Jay Pearlman welcomed the participants and noted the final number of SG participating was below a quorum even with members joining later. He called for any additional agenda items; there were none.

2. WP8 Decade Coordination

WP8, coordinating the Ocean Decade OceanPractices (OP) Programmes, has two interim WP leads, Johannes Karstensen (JK) and Jay Pearlman. JP reminded the participants that the interim leads agreed to their position only until permanent leads were found. As called for last month, the meeting chair again called for volunteers for designated WP8 Lead/s from within SG; and indicated if there were no SG volunteers, it would be necessary (urgently) to look outside SG for candidates; recommendations would be sought from SG. Once appointed, JK and JP will step down. Kirsten Isensee (KI) is willing to support the Programme but could not undertake to lead. Claudia Delgado (CD) commented that a Decade Programme implies full time staff and significant funding. JP confirmed that a Resource Assessment Needs spreadsheet had been submitted to the Decade Coordination Unit (DCU) and this identified the levels of funding and staff resources needed. Also submitted to the Decade Coordination Unit of the OD was agreement for Decade projects to work with OP and provided the text for the call to DCU - the call will go out on 15 October 2021. JP called for recommendations and ideas for funding eg. foundations, grants, national resources etc. Possibly IODE and GOOS can help this process.

ACTION:

- **Any SG member who wishes to volunteer as designated WP8 Lead/s please contact JP/JK immediately. A resolution should be discussed at the next monthly meeting.**
- **Arrange a separate meeting to discuss funding and resources for OceanPractices (JP/JK)**

3. SG-OBPS-III - Annual Meeting 2021

7-9 December 2021 was confirmed as the dates for a hybrid meeting located in Oostende over 2.5 days. Meeting hours have not been decided yet and there is a draft agenda that will be shared with SG after a position paper for OceanPractices produced by JP/JK has been circulated.

CD reported that OTGA SG this year would be duplicating sessions to cover two time zones, one for Europe/Africa/Latin America and the other for the (West) Pacific. KI described having one session where everyone possible can participate and then after that session the in-person meeting can continue and develop the sessions discussions. It was noted that some WP activities are led by people in the same time zones so that may guide sessions for the morning or afternoon.

The agenda will include an item on SG membership rotation as well as the Election of Co-Chairs. This raised comments from JP that the annual meeting would be an opportunity for discussion on governance and on both monthly and annual meetings structure to focus on strategic rather than tactical issues. FMK thought it would be good to engage Decade programmes to seek nominations for WG, TT, and rotation in SG, not just co-chairs. For information, KI agreed to circulate the GO-AN rotation of membership based on gaps in expertise and its governance mechanism.

A meeting before the next November SG was suggested to discuss governance and membership rotation with a gdoc outlining thoughts for others to contribute.

ACTION:

- **JP and JK to outline their thoughts and make available in GDrive and arrange a meeting to discuss governance and membership rotation, at the end of October.**

4. WP5: Communication and Outreach

Outreach requires help! The WSV session 'Communicating Science using Modern Media' was convened by Paola Espitia (Ola'pi Creative). JP and FP discussed whether Paola could provide perspectives for a fresh Communications and Outreach Strategy for the Ocean Best Practices System. Paola identified important C & O instruments are website, newsletter, and social media, all of which we have, but stressed to re-use material snippets effectively, particularly videos, in various outreach scenarios. She has offered a training course 'Media Mastermind', a series of eight 1-HR weekly live virtual training sessions. OBPS has a number of volunteers already and more could be recruited, all of whom could be invited to take part in the course. JP also reached out to Jordan Van Stavel (JVS) and Cora Hoerstman (CH) who confirmed they had contacted the ECOPS Decade coordinator who agreed would put a call on the ECOPS Decade website, but CH noted Communication posts are now usually a paid activity and queried how to make the training course and the OBPS communication work attractive to volunteers, JP will continue the discussion with WP5.

5. WP7 Training and Capacity Development

Claudia Delgado (CD) reported that she and Greg Reed had met with Jim Costopulos, Global Oceans <https://www.global-oceans.org/> who reached out to OTGA to explore the possibility of partnering and organising joint courses. Examples of their courses 'How to use ... (CTD equipment' etc) are prime candidates for OBPS and CD recommended he

contact OBPS. He will reach out to OBPS for further discussion. CD saw this as a cooperative opportunity not only for OTGA but also OBPS and other programmes. It was also noted that OBPS is in discussion with UNOLS and BGC Argo who both want to upload their training videos to OBPS.

Frank Muller-Karger warned that there were methodologies distributed in websites that should not have to submit to OBPS. He mentioned SCOR (but SCOR is successfully submitting to OBPS). It was explained that OBPS offers additional services like DOI issue, metrics, rich metadata descriptions for discovery and a sustained archive (an example was quoted where FIX03 has discontinued and the only place to find their Handbook is OBPS). The OBPS' present modus operandi is central storage but the OBPS strategic objective of a federated network of Methodology Management Systems (which would include websites but which do not offer equivalent OBPS services) would address his concerns. This item will be discussed in the Annual Meeting in December as part of the implementation plan when strategic objectives would be revisited.

6. Closing of the Meeting

Jay Pearlman thanked SG members for their contributions. The meeting was closed at 14.00 UTC.

**The next monthly meeting is scheduled to be held Wed 10 Nov 2021 @ 20.00 UTC
UTC Note the new 'winter' time**

ANNEX I

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