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Commission

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

Monthly Meeting
13 September 2023
12.00-13.00 UTC
[ONLINE]



UNESCO 2023

SG-OBPS-20230913
13 September 2023
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 September, 2023

For bibliographic purposes this document should be cited as follows:

Steering Group for the IOC Ocean Best Practices System (SG-OBPS), Monthly Meeting, 13 September 2023 [ONLINE] Paris, UNESCO/IOC, 6pp. (Reports of Meetings of Experts and Equivalent Bodies). 2023

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ANNEX 1 - LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

Rene Garelo (OBPS co-chair) introduced the meeting by explaining that this SG was the third quarterly SG Decision Meeting for 2023. A complete list of the meeting participants is shown in Annex I. Apologies were received from Rachel Przeslawski; Tan Shau Hwai (Aileen); Virginie Vam Dongen-Vogels; Emma Heslop; Peter Pissierssens; Mark Bushnell. All participants agreed the session should be recorded (see https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1K_ynPB3iuJ4uvxr8_NX5QBZb6qs8Gigg?usp=drive_link)

2. SG MONTHLY MEETING (Nov 2023 -Mar 2024)

Pauline Simpson (Project Manager) explained that since its beginning in 2019, the regular monthly SG-OBPS meeting has been held the second Wednesday each month. Some members have a clash with other Decade meetings now and have asked for the SG monthly meeting day to be reviewed. As the SG knows, we rotate the meeting **time** every six months to ensure that an unsociable meeting time does not fall on the same region all the year. Understanding the difficulty of crowded calendars and since the time of the SG would change in November which would then not be a clash with other Decade meetings, it was agreed by all present to keep the present regular day of the month and time.

Action:

2.1 PS to send out calendar invites for Nov-Mar 2024 with the same day/week of the month, and regional time change.

3. SG-OBPS-V, 12-14 December 2023

Rene Garelo confirmed the dates of the SG-OBPS-V but shared with the members the circumstances around making a decision whether the meeting would be in-person/hybrid/online. A hybrid meeting is always unfair on the online participants. Inperson has the issue of identifying funding and RG informed that IODE had offered to contribute \$10k for attendance, but the amount had to be committed by the end of September otherwise the amount would be used for other IODE activities. GOOS have said they cannot contribute funds for the meeting. Oostende would be a cheaper location but members thought Paris was a much easier location for travel. PS had provided a spreadsheet and from estimates of ticket and per diem, the SG needed to identify a source of an additional \$25k. It was decided to postpone the decision of in person or online and try to identify other funding streams if possible before the end of this week.

Action:

3.1. RG/GP/JP to create a spreadsheet of possible funding streams to support all members that required funding.

3.2. Decision whether inperson or online to be made **by 22 Sep**

4. OBPS WORKSHOP VII 9-13 Oct and FOCUS SESSIONS 16-20 Oct

Rene Garelo outlined that the two weeks would be framed around the 10 UN Ocean Decade Challenges. The Agenda Framework and Registration Call was shared https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rt2QHWvVhBpYch1Fnhk4hO-D_6Uf6YyM/edit#heading=h.nhclhudkn1i2, and it was thought there might be 8-10 Focus Sessions. The workshop agenda is less well populated and an exercise of inviting all the Decade Programmes to participate was agreed. He stated that presentation abstracts would be reviewed by Challenge session leads (where identified) by the end of this week. Carol Mazzucco suggested OTGA could participate in Challenge 9 session and perhaps even organize a focus session.

Action:

- 4.1. PS to send invitation email to all Decade Programme leads **(DONE)**
- 4.2. PS to send email inviting OTGA to workshop session Challenge 9, and send Focus Session Proposal Template and Guidelines to CM. **(DONE)**

5. SG OUTPUTS

Pauline Simpson highlighted the link on the agenda and encouraged all members to complete the [Outputs spreadsheet](#)

Action:

- 5.1. All members requested to add any outputs relating to OBPS (conference ppt, articles etc) to [Outputs spreadsheet](#)

6. NEW OBPS WEBSITE

Rachel Przslawski was unable to attend but submitted the following report

- Website updates are going well but are held up mostly by me getting suitable images and content to the developer. People can see the staging area here if keen to track progress: <http://staging.obps.btsa.solutions/>
 - For those that I've emailed, please get me content asap.
 - For those keen to work on the content of particular pages, please reach out. Otherwise I'll draft something but this will take time.
 - Guidance for content is that each page should have no more than ~3 short, no-jargon succinct paragraphs. I can help edit.
 - If you want particular images associated with a particular webpage, please let me know. We are not including any diagrams other than those professionally designed.

Action:

- 6.1 Website content urgently required please

7. IOC WESTPAC SYMPOSIUM, THAILAND, APRIL 2024

Aileen Hwai Tan was unable to attend but provided the information that the Conference website has just opened for registration and abstract submission (<https://www.iocwestpac2024.com/>). Please further circulate this website info to your networks and OBPS to consider if there is interest to submit abstracts and take part in the event.

8. AOB

- It was noted that the next SG-OBPS Monthly Meeting was scheduled for 11 October, but since that was during the Workshop VII Week it was agreed that the meeting would not be held.
- Rene Garelo reported on the IODE Management Group Meeting and the new IODE programme structure which placed OBPS as a Programme Activity, with little funding in the category of 'Information'. He would like to show evidence that OBPS should be categorised as Data and Information particularly in the growing initiative to link data and practices together.
- FMK asked if OBPS were planning to attend and provide anything to the UN Ocean Decade event in Barcelona in June 2024. JP thought there might be some funding available to attend. Rebecca Zitoun has also emailed the OBPS Co-Chairs requesting a decision on whether OBPS will organize a side event in Barcelona.

Action:

8.1. PvR will provide some examples of linking of practices and datasets in IMOS plus a description of a decision making tool that uses a combined data and practices approach.

9. CLOSE OF MEETING

Rene Garelo thanked the members for their participation.

The meeting closed at 13.00 UTC

ANNEX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS [ONLINE]

René GARELLO (Co-Chair) Professor Emeritus Institut Mines-Telecom Atlantique Bretagne-Pays de la Loire, Technopôle Brest-Iroise, CS 83818, 29238 Brest, Cedex 3, France	Main Building of HCMR, Former U.S. Base, Gournes, P.O.Box 2214, Heraklion, Greece
Ana Carolina PERALTA BRICHTOVA Universidad Simon Bolivar, Laboratorio de Biología MarinaDepartamento de Estudios Ambientales. Valle SartenejasEdif. Química y Procesos P.B. Ofic. 019. Valle de Sartenejas. Baruta 89000, Miranda,Venezuela	Nicholas RODEN Scientist Geofysisk institutt, UiB/Geophysical institute, UiB Allégaten 70, Bergen, Norway
Ana Carolina MAZZUCO IODE Training Coordinator UNESCO / IOC Project Office for IODE InnovOcean Campus – Jacobsenstraat 1 - 8400 Oostende – Belgium	Pauline SIMPSON Project Manager Ocean Best Practices System UNESCO / IOC Project Office for IODE InnovOcean Campus – Jacobsenstraat 1 - 8400 Oostende – Belgium
Frank MULLER-KARGER Institute for Marine Remote Sensing/IMaRS College of Marine Science University of South Florida 140 7th Ave. South St Petersburg, FL 33701 United States of America	Paul VAN RUTH Principal Science Officer Integrated Marine Observing System University of Tasmania Private Bag 110 Hobart Tasmania 7001 Australia
Jay PEARLMAN Director, Four Bridges Port Angeles, WA 98362 United States of America	Rebecca ZITOUN Postdoctoral Fellow Marine Mineral Resource Groups GEOMAR Helmholtz-Zentrum für Ozeanforschung Kiel, Wischhofstr. 1-3, 24148 Kiel, Germany
George PETIHAKIS (Co-Chair) Research Director Institute of Oceanography Hellenic Centre for Marine Research, Crete	