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Jerome Aucan, **head of the Pacitic Community Center for Ocean Science**

Jerome is a physical oceanographer working as the head of the Pacific Community Center for Ocean Science, at the Pacific Community (SPC). He is based in New Caledonia since 2012.

Prior to his position at SPC, Jerome was a research scientist within the French Institute for Research and development (IRD). His research topics used ocean observation and modeling to address key questions of relevance for the Pacific, relating to sea level variations and ocean circulation.

Before working for IRD, Jerome worked for 10 years within the University of Hawaii Sea Level Center, in charge of maintaining tide gauges throughout the Pacific Islands. During that time, Jerome established a new network of wave monitoring buoys, that later formed the backbone of the Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System. He also led or participated in several open ocean research cruises to deploy moorings and buoys.

He has been working on several research projects focusing on coastal vulnerability to sea-level variations at decadal time-scales, as well as swell or wind waves processes, and tsunamis.

He is the co-chair of the science committee of the Joint Task Force to investigate the use of submarine telecommunications cables for ocean and climate monitoring and disaster warning (SMART Cables).

He possesses a Doctorate in Physical Oceanography from the University of Hawaii, a Postgraduate diploma in Applied Maths and Physics from James Cook University in Townsville Australia, and a Masters of Engineering in Marine Environment from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Techniques Avancées (ENSTA Paris, France).

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Patrick Bahurel

Pierre Bahurel is the Director General of Mercator Ocean International, a leading European organization providing global ocean monitoring and forecasting services. Deeply committed to the international structuring of ocean prediction, he chairs the GOOS Expert Team on Operational Ocean Forecasting Systems (ETOOFS) and the IOC UN Decade Collaborative Centre for Ocean Prediction. A recognized expert with hands-on experience, he has been instrumental in advancing ocean observations, ocean modeling, and data assimilation to enhance ocean prediction. Over the past decade, he led the design and operation of the EU Copernicus marine service, built on a strong European-wide partnership, providing a comprehensive, freely accessible numerical description of the ocean to thousands of users worldwide. As a co-founder of Mercator Ocean 25 years ago, Pierre has continuously driven the organization's growth, championing digital oceanography services and fostering multinational collaboration. His leadership is now guiding Mercator Ocean International's transformation into an intergovernmental organization, dedicated to supporting global sustainability through digital ocean forecasting.

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Paula Cristina Sierra-Correa, Head of Research and Information or Marine and Coastal Management Marine and Coastal Research Institute –INVEMAR-, Santa Marta, Colombia

She is Colombian. She was elected as a co-chair of IODE-IOC-Unesco for the intersectional period 2023-2025. She is a marine biologist with MSc on geo-informatics and Coastal Zone Management at ITC – Twente University, The Netherlands; and PhD on marine ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change. Since 1996 she works at INVEMAR. Since 2014 she is a Coordinator of Regional Training Center for Spanish speakers countries into the OTGA strategy of IODE-IOC-Unesco. Between 2018-2020 She was a member or editorial board of The Global Ocean Science Report 2020.

She has expertise in coastal planning and policy options, climate change issues (impacts, vulnerability, adaptation and mitigation). She participated in elaboration, execution and coordination of more than 30 research projects (at least 5 international projects). Author of more than 25 scientific publications. Leader of research team with at least 45 people.

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Dr. Caroline Cusack

Dr. Caroline Cusack is an Oceanography and Ocean Climate team leader in the Oceanographic and Climate Services group at the Marine Institute, Ireland. She is involved in a number of activities related to ocean observing (e.g. ICES, GO-SHIP, EuroGOOS, EOOS, GOOS) and works with colleagues to develop downstream services (e.g. alerts for the aquaculture industry). More recently, she was involved in European research projects focused on improving and integrating the European Ocean Observing and Forecasting System (the H2020 funded EuroSea project), addressing new requirements for ship-based measurements within the context of the European Research Infrastructure landscape (the Horizon Europe EuroGO-SHIP project) and has carried out research related to developing marine ecosystem climate services in the JPI Climate ERA4CS funded project.

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Dr Karen Evans

Dr Evans is a principal research scientist with CSIRO based in Hobart, Tasmania. She leads and contributes to research focused on progressing scientific understanding of marine resources and achieving effective ocean management, particularly in relation to fisheries offshore wind energy development and threatened, endangered and protected species. Her projects deliver strategic research to national agencies, regional programmes in the Pacific and Indian Oceans and international agencies, including the United Nations. She currently co-chairs the Global Ocean Observing System expert panel on biology and ecosystems and co-leads the group of experts guiding the United Nations regular World Ocean Assessment process.

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Lotta Fyrberg

Lotta holds a MSci in Oceanography. After many years on the former Swedish Research Vessel she was involved heavily in Data management.

She was Head of the Oceanographic Unit at SMHI (Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute) 2007-2012.

Member of the former ICES Group; WGMDM (Working Group on Marine Data Management) and WGDIM (Working Group on Data and Information Management), now DIG (Data and Information Group).

Initiated in 2017 SMHI application to be appointed NODC, presently working towards accreditation of the NODC by IODE.

SMHI internal Project leader for SeaDataNet/SeaDataCloud, EMODnet Data Ingestion and EMODnet-Chemistry.

Involved in IODE work from 2003. IODE National Coordinator for Oceanographic Data Management since 2015.

Member of SDN AiSBL.

Member of Steering Group for EMODnet-Chemistry and former member of Steering Group for SeaDataNet.

Member of the SG of the IODE project GOSUD (Global Ocean Surface Underway Data) since 2022.

IODE Co-Chair 2023 –

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Véronique Garçon

Dr. Véronique Garçon is currently co-Chair of IOCCP (International Ocean Carbon Coordination Programme) and member of the GOOS (Global Ocean Observing System) Steering Committee. She graduated from University of Paris VII in Environmental Science, then became a post-doc fellow at MIT (USA). Recruited at Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique in 1985, she worked at 'Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris- IPGP' then moved down to Toulouse with a sabbatical stay at Princeton University in 1995-1996. She is now back at IPGP as an Emeritus CNRS senior scientist. Her research themes aim towards understanding and quantifying processes governing fluxes of carbon, oxygen and associated biogeochemical elements in the ocean, using in situ tracers observations, remotely sensed data, coupled physical biogeochemical modeling and data assimilation technics. She served in the JGOFS SSC, SOLAS chair, member of the IFREMER SC and in many national (CNRS, National Navy), European (ESF, EC, EGU, ERC) and international scientific instances. She is a member of the Global Ocean Oxygen Network from IOC-UNESCO, and is co-leading the GO2DAT (development of global data base and atlas of oxygen) effort, endorsed by the UN Decade programme Global Ocean Oxygen Decade. She received the Anton Bruun medal in June 2017 awarded by IOC-UNESCO.

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Patrick Gorringe

Patrick has a passion for ocean observations, its observing systems, data, products, services and networks together with ample knowledge of European and global ocean data initiatives and programs. He has devoted a lot of his work in bringing together diverse ocean observing communities in order to enhance the cooperation and by this increase the accessibility to marine data. He has built networks in Australia and teams in Europe and linking these activities to existing global networks and by this ensuring interoperable data streams reach stakeholders together with promoting the benefits of ocean observing.

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Carl Gouldman, **IOOS Program Office Director, NOAA / GRA Council Chair / U.S. IOOS GRA**

Carl Gouldman has served as the Director of the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) Program since 2017. NOAA is the United States lead agency for oceans and coasts, and in his role Carl works to implement the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act and other cross-NOAA ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes efforts. He is a lifelong recreational boater, fisherman, surfer, and hunter, and learned to read a "tide chart" at the age of 10 to plan fishing and crabbing trips in the outer banks of North Carolina. He holds a B.S. in political science from Duke University and a Masters (MEM) in Coastal Environmental Management from the Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences at Duke.

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Patrick Heimbach

Patrick Heimbach is a computational oceanographer and W. A. “Tex” Moncrief, Jr., chair in Simulation-Based Engineering and Sciences at the University of Texas at Austin. He works at the intersection of physical oceanography and computational science. His research focuses on ocean and ice dynamics and their role in the global climate system. He is an expert in the use of inverse and data science methods applied to ocean and ice model parameter and state estimation, uncertainty quantification and observing system design. Before joining UT Austin in 2015, Patrick spent 17 years in MIT’s Department of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences where he has led differentiable programming approaches applied to global ocean climate modeling for more than a decade. He earned his Ph.D. in 1998 from the Max-Planck-Institute for Meteorology and the University of Hamburg, Germany.

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Prof. Dwikorita Karnawati

Prof. Dwikorita Karnawati, M.Sc., Ph.D. has been appointed as the Head of the Agency for Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics of the Republic of Indonesia since 2017, after the completion of her duty as President at Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM), one of the prominent and largest university in Indonesia with 55,000 students (2014-2017). She was also in charged as the Vice President of the International Consortium on Landslides (2015-2019). Furthermore, she has been elected as the Chair of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group of Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System of IOC UNESCO for two successive periods (2019-2022 and 2022-2024). Now, she has been very active as the Executive Council Member of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) since 2019, and has been appointed as the Steering Committee Member of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) since 2021. Indeed, she is recognized as one of active leaders and experts in Risk Communication and Advocacy for climate and water justice.

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Dr. David Legler

Dr. David M. Legler serves as the Director of NOAA's Global Ocean Monitoring and Observing program (i.e. GOMO), currently within NOAA's Oceanic and Atmospheric Research. GOMO is leading NOAA's research efforts to develop and sustain a global in-situ ocean observing system and related products for researchers, forecasters, and other consumers of ocean knowledge. GOMO supports several global ocean observing networks, e.g., OneArgo, Global Drifter Program, PIRATA and RAMA, Oceansites, GO-SHIP, SOCONET, as well as concentrated marine observational efforts in the Arctic. David currently chairs the GOOS Observation Coordination Group (OCG), is a member of the GOOS Steering Committee, and co-chairs the US Inter-agency Ocean Observation Committee (IOOC - http://www.iooc.us/).

Before coming to NOAA, Dr Legler directed the US Climate Variability and Predictability (CLIVAR – a program of the World Climate Research Program) Office in Washington, DC where he coordinated scientific and programmatic activities addressing a wide range of topics including the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC). He has also served on numerous national and international committees addressing global ocean observations, ocean data assimilation, ocean data management, and climate research. He has published on a range of topics such as ocean remote sensing, air-sea interaction, and the impacts of ENSO on North American climate and subsequent effects on US agriculture and water resources.

David enjoys spending time with family and exploring the northern Virginia area by bicycle.

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Dr. Pooja Mahapatra

Dr. Pooja Mahapatra is an experienced geospatial expert with a passion for using technology to address global challenges. She is currently the Principal Advisor for Climate & Nature at Fugro, focusing on coastal resilience and biodiversity applications, and is a recognized thought leader in this field. She holds a PhD in satellite earth observation from the Delft University of Technology, and has worked within diverse organisations – start-up, research institute, space agency and large multinational – prior to joining Fugro. She is also board member of the World Geospatial Industry Council, and recipient of several awards over the past two decades.

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Dr. Balakrishnan Nair, Group Director and Scientist -G , INCOIS, India

Dr. Balakrishnan Nair is a Senior Scientist and Group Director for Ocean Modelling, Applied Research and Services (O-MARS) Group, at the Indian National Center for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Ministry of Earth sciences, Government of India, Hyderabad- a leading and unique organization in the field of operational oceanography viz. ocean observation, modelling, Early warning and Marine services under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Government of India. He is one of the founder members of INCOIS, having over 25 years of experience as a researcher and leading the Ocean Information and Forecast Service Group of INCOIS for last 19 years. He was also leading INCOIS as Director-in-charge for a short span of time. He has been instrumental in establishing the real time operational ocean observing systems and developing an ocean forecast and early warning Services for India and some of the Indian Ocean rim countries. He designed, developed and sustained the ocean observation network, end-to-end multi-user, multi-parameter; ocean forecast system which is now delivering the ocean forecast, early warning and advisory services on a daily operational mode to India and other Indian Ocean Rim countries. He pioneered in developing and operationalizing ocean data and information products and services for blue-economy stakeholders such as shipping, oil, port and harbour, maritime boards, offshore energy, coastal tourism and fishing industries.

He is a steering committee Member for Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) of IOC/UNESCO, Vice Chair of Expert Team on Met Ocean Requirements (ET-MOR) of WMO, Vice Chair of Expert Team on Marine Service (ET-MS) of RAII-WMO, the National Coordinator for Ship Observation Team (SOT) of GOOS, COordinated Wave CLImate Program (COWCLIP) and member of Task Teams of SOT and Data Buoy Cooperation Panel (DBCP). He also played a pivotal role in establishing multilateral programs with Regional Integrated Multi-hazard Early Warning System (RIMES) to establish coastal real-time observation systems and developing ocean forecast system for IOR countries. He is also a member of WMO's Severe Weather Forecast Project (SWFP-South Asia).

Dr. Nair was conferred with several national and international awards/fellowships, including the prestigious National Geosciences Award-2014, from the Ministry of Mines, Government of India, for his outstanding contributions in the field of Geosciences; Silver Award (2008–09) for design and development of the INCOIS website & ocean portal under the category "Best Government Website" during the National Award for e-governance 2008–09, instituted by the Government of India; Certificate of Merit (2007) for outstanding contribution from Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India; Young Scientist Award from Indian Association of Sedimentologists in 2000; Junior and Senior Research fellowships (NET) from Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Government of India; DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst) fellowship, Germany, for advanced research in the University of Bremen, Germany.

Dr. Balakrishnan Nair holds Ph.D. degree in Marine Science and his research interests include Operational Oceanography and Ocean Services, Wave Modelling, Real-time Ocean observation systems, and Marine Biogeochemistry. He published more than 110 papers in international and national SCI journals of high impact factor, in addition to many technical reports and popular articles. He is a Fellow of the Telangana Academy of Sciences (FTASc). He is a reviewer for many national and international journals. He is also a recognized research guide in many Indian universities and guided students for attaining their Ph. D degree.

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Ms Lebogang Neelo Makgati

Lebogang Makgati is a qualified meteorologist with over 12 experience as an operational weather forecaster for marine, aviation and public forecasting. She has extensive experience working with the media and various stakeholders on sector specific weather products and services. Ms Makgati holds a Bsc (Hons) in Meteorology from University of Pretoria, master's degree in Disaster Management from University of the Free State, Post Graduate Diploma in Business Administration from Gordon Institute of Business Science, under University of Pretoria. Ms Makgati is currently enrolled with University of Cape Town for PhD in Atmosphere Sciences, her research focus area is on simulating landfalling tropical cyclones over Mozambique using the Conformal Cubic Atmospheric Model. Ms Makgati has recently been appointed as a Senior Manager Marine Services where she is responsible for overseeing marine/ocean observations and technical team, marine research and marine forecasting. Ms Makgati has served as a Regional Manager for the Western and Northern Cape provinces since June 2020 until June 2024, where she was actively responsible for overseeing land observational infrastructure, both surface and upper air, including radar infrastructure in her region of responsibility as well as forecasting services.

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Alvaro Scardilli

Marine meteorologist and researcher. Head of the meteorology department at The naval hydrographic service. Chief of the argentine ice service and navy Weather service. I have a degree in atmospheric sciences at the buenos aires University and a dilomature on climate chang risk management. My work is mostly focused on the development of products related with ocean Observations, ice and weather, for marineres in the south atlantic ocean and Antarctica. From 2020 to 2023 i was part of the goos sc as the representative for south America and the caribean. I'm currently national poc for goos, iode, sot and dbcp. I'm a core member of clivar sorp and wmo etms. I have operational experience after several antarctic cruises on board navy ships. During summer logistics operations. I also direct and co-direct different Research projects about ocean observations, ice and marine weather. Climatology and satellite imagery interpretation for sea ice and icebergs.

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Matías I. Sifón

Matías I. Sifón, born in Talcahuano, Chile in 1988. Graduated from Chilean Naval Academy in 2008 as Chilean Navy Officer, and got his engineering degree in Hydrography and Oceanography from the Chilean Naval Politecnical Academy, obtaining his Hydrography Cat “A” Certificate from IHO the same year. From 2015 and until 2020 he worked at the Chilean Navy Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service (SHOA), in the hydrography Department, doing many hydrographic and oceanographic field surveys and conducting the Chilean nautical chart production process. In 2023 he got his MSc in Geophysics at Universidad de Chile, and then went back to SHOA to assume his actual position as head of the Oceanography Department, leading a team of 35 people, having between his responsibilities to keep and monitor all the oceanographic instrumentation deployed by SHOA (48 oceanographic coastal stations, 6 oceanographic buoys and 5 DART buoys permanently deployed, with real time transmission data), process all the oceanographic information acquire by SHOA, produce the tide and tidal current forecasting tables for Chile, along with other oceanographic modeling and processing. The Department also is responsible for the operation of the National Tsunami Warning Center. He is the Associate Director of the International Tsunami Warning Center (ITIC), of IOC, and active participant of the IOC Tsunami related groups. He was nominated to assume as Member of the GOOS Steering Committee as Expert Group III representative, starting in January 2024.

Married to Bárbara and father of a girl of 5 and a boy of 3.

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Sabrina Speich

Dynamic Meteorology Laboratory, IPSL – Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris, France

Sabrina Speich, currently a professor at the École Normale Supérieure (ENS) in Paris, is a researcher in the field of ocean, atmosphere and climate sciences.

Her passion? Delving into the mysteries of ocean dynamics and how the sea and sky interact to shape our climate. She's hands-on with cutting-edge ocean modelling and spearheading large global observing programmes. More recently, she has focused on how small changes in the atmosphere and oceans can influence our entire Earth's climate and ecology, especially as global warming takes hold.

With the ocean undergoing some of the biggest changes due to human impact, Sabrina is all about boosting our ocean observing systems and making them more efficient. And she's not doing it alone - she's a key player in international science efforts, co-chairing big-name panels such as CLIVAR, GOOS and GCOS.

Sabrina started her journey with a Master of Sciences in Physics from the University of Trieste in Italy, then went on to earn a PhD in Physical Oceanography from Paris VI - Pierre et Marie Curie (now Sorbonne Université). She also holds an HDR, the ultimate academic qualification in physical oceanography and climate science.

She is the recipient of the 2019 Albert Defant Medal, and a member of the European Academy of Sciences. When she's not pushing the boundaries of climate science, she's probably dreaming up the next big thing in ocean research.

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Dr Adrienne Sutton

Adrienne is an Oceanographer at NOAA's Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory (PMEL) and an Affiliate Assistant Professor at University of Washington's School of Oceanography in Seattle, U.S. Her research group focuses on advancing our understanding of the ocean carbon cycle and how it is changing over time. Her team maintains almost 40 moored autonomous time series around the globe in open ocean and coastal ecosystems that track air-sea CO_2 exchange and ocean acidification. Her recent publications focus on characterizing natural variability and long-term anthropogenic trends using time series observations and models, uncertainty in observation-based CO_2 flux estimates, and modern-day exposure of marine organisms to corrosive carbonate chemistry conditions. Adrienne also collaborates with her team and PMEL engineers on observing technology development. This team was part of the first autonomous circumnavigation of Antarctica in 2019 and has transferred two autonomous air-sea pCO_2 observing technologies to industry and nonprofit partners.

From 2015 to 2021 Adrienne served as co-chair of the Biogeochemistry Task Team of the Tropical Pacific Observing System 2020 (TPSO2020): a groundbreaking effort that implemented for the first time the Framework for Ocean Observing's user-driven and variable-focused design. She also serves on the steering committees of OceanSITES, Prediction and Research Moored Array in the Tropical Atlantic (PIRATA), and the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network (GOA-ON). She is active in the community data quality control efforts of the Surface Ocean CO_2 Atlas (SOCAT) and research capacity building efforts through the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goal 14.3.1 Indicator Development Expert Group. She has also developed trainings on monitoring strategy design and data quality control and management best practices with GOA-ON, the IOC-UNESCO and other partners.

Adrienne is incredibly passionate about mentoring the next generation of oceanographers, especially those underrepresented in the ocean sciences and also has experience in science communication and policy. Adrienne's dedication to marine biogeochemistry will no doubt help IOCCP provide our services to the community via a variety of well-designed and efficiently implemented activities.

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Prof. Yi Wang, Director of Strategy and Planning Office, National Ocean Technology Center, MNR, China

Dr. Wang is the main designer of China's operational ocean observing system and the National Ocean Stereo Observing Network. His research includes activities such as multi-objective decision making of ocean observing stations layout, selection and optimization of marine instruments application, fault forecasting of ocean observing instruments, as well as ocean development strategy & planning research. He is the member of World Association of Marine Stations (WAMS) Steering Committee, and the council member of Meteorology, hydrology and Oceanography Instruments Federation of China Instrument and Control Society.

He is the leading researcher in the field of operational ocean observing network and its related equipment system, in the Key Laboratory of Ocean Observation Technology, Ministry of Natural Resources (KLOOT). In recent years, as the ocean observation technology program leader, he has undertaken more than 40 projects, funded by the Natural Science Foundation of China, the Ministry of Natural Resources of China, and the State Oceanic Administration of China. His research outputs include over 60 peer reviewed book chapters, journal papers, design plans, research reports and conference papers, as well as two patents, dedicated to ocean observation and research.

He hopes that all countries around the world can benefit from ocean observation systems, including but not limited to the terms of weather forecasting, climate change, as well as ocean health and economy. Then he strives to harmonize multidisciplinary observations with social indigenous and local knowledge to deliver well-understood and well-managed data products, indicators and information that responds to multilateral needs, and to develop a strong risk assessment and strategic approach in order for new high-technologies, including gliders, autonomous underwater vehicles, and AI-driven opportunities, to be easy to use, reliable, robust and affordable. Thus, for the role of a GOOS-SC member, he will pay more attention to develop and update as necessary the scientific technical and implementation plans and targets for GOOS, to monitor promote and provide guidance on development and operation of GOOS in accordance with agreed implementation plans, and to identify and encourage research and operational programs to enhance and improve GOOS.

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Prof. Weidong Yu

Director of Center of Ocean Expedition and Associate Dean of School of Atmospheric Sciences

Sun Yat-Sen University, Zhuhai Campus, China

My research focuses on observing and understanding the complex ocean-atmosphere interactions across various interesting temporal-spatial scales, in order to identify the role of ocean in the climate system. Particularly I heavily focus on the monsoon-ocean interaction over the tropical Indo-Pacific Oceans. In the efforts building up the ocean and climate observing capacity, I has been working with the regional and international cooperation. I now take the co-chair of Ocean Observation Physics and Climate Panel (OOPC). I was the co-chair of Tropical Pacific Observing System (TPOS) 2020, the co-chair of CLIVAR-GOOS Indian Ocean Panel (IOP), with the engagement in the development of Indian Ocean Observing System (IndOOS) and TPOS.

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