



OBPS_20250226

unesco

Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission

IOC Ocean Best Practices System (OBPS) Monthly Meeting

26 February 2025
14:00-15:00 UTC
[ONLINE]



2025

OBPS_20250226
26 February 2025
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 OBPS convenes monthly online meetings to discuss progress and focus on the delivery of the work plan.

This report is the record of the online meeting on 26 February 2025


Suggested citation:

IOC Ocean Best Practices System (OBPS), Monthly Meeting, 26 February 2025.
[ONLINE] Paris, UNESCO/IOC/IODE, 8pp. 2024 (OBPS_20250226)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING	2
2. STRATEGIC PLANNING	2
3. REPOSITORY CONTENT GUIDELINES	2
4. BEST PRACTICES IN OCEAN OBSERVING	3
5. UPDATES	3
6. CLOSE OF THE MEETING	4

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

The meeting commenced at 14:00:00 UTC. Apologies were noted from Ana Carolina Mazzuco, Justin Buck and Frank Muller-Karger. The session was recorded with attendees' consent ( GMT20250226-135340_Recording_gallery_1790x832.mp4). A list of participants is included in Annex I. The meeting began with the announcement of Cristian's departure from the steering group and as a Co-chair. Patricia confirmed the SG-OBPS-VII Annual Meeting dates from 7th to 9th of October 2025 in Heraklion.

2. STRATEGIC PLANNING

In SG-OBPS-VI it was agreed to update the current OBPS Strategic Plan 2021-2025 (updated 2024), to 2025. Now, suggest writing Strategic Plan 2026-2030 with the following goals:

- Identify new sponsor requirements and their integration into OBPS.
- Define OBPS's position within the landscape of emerging initiatives (e.g., EC best practices, ObsSea4Clim, ODIS).
- Establish a clear five-year vision aligned with GOOS/IODE and IOC strategies.
- Develop a roadmap and an annually revised delivery plan.
- Serve as a forum for stakeholder input on OBPS's future direction.
- Ensure sponsor alignment and satisfaction to secure IOC support and funding.

Commitment: One-hour virtual meetings each month, from March to September 2025.

Tasks: Participating in discussions, contributing to a SWOT analysis, reviewing and updating the Value Chain Analysis, and redefining strategic objectives and implementation plan.

A brainstorm document is being written and we would like to ask the SG to review and provide their input.

Action 2.1: SG to provide input to the Strategic Planning- Plan

 STRATEGIC PLANNING.docx

3. REPOSITORY CONTENT GUIDELINES

Pauline discussed the need for a consensus on the repository subject and method criteria Version 3: [Repository Subject and Method Criteria](#). Emma suggested taking out

of the document the most important topics to discuss together with the SG. Jay suggested to focus only on the method criteria table on the document and keep the other aspects of the document to discuss on the strategic planning. Rebecca mentioned that the document is in good shape, and encouraged everyone to review the draft and provide their comments, as so far only 4-5 people have commented on it. Patricia pointed that regardless this version not being finalised, the CAPARDUS collection review should continue, as it was already started with Criteria version 1, and this version 3 should not be used for that collection.

Action 3.1: SG to review:  Repository criteria - DRAFT Table 2 Methods

4. BEST PRACTICES IN OCEAN OBSERVING

Resignation and Editorial Group Leadership Transition

Johannes discussed his resignation and the need to identify a new lead for the editorial group and potential new members. He emphasized the importance of having an interest in being a member and the ability to follow up with editorial assignments. Johannes also shared his experience of impacting articles towards what the team would like to see, such as understanding how authors arrived at their conclusions. Rebecca asked about the time commitment and the categorization of Frontiers as a predatory journal, which Johannes addressed by stating that many journals are categorized as such and that it shouldn't be a deciding factor. Emma suggested that Johannes could provide a handover or training, and Virginie suggested reaching out to volunteers with broader expertise to tackle articles from different areas. The team agreed to defer to the GOOS Steering Committee's decision on the predatory journal issue. The team discussed broadening the editor group beyond physical oceanographers to include biologists, geologists, and chemists to cater to diverse best practices. Inviting experts beyond the SG is advisable. Edem suggested providing orientation on what a best practice paper should look like to new editors. The agenda concluded by asking for volunteers and Johannes agreed to organize a session to explain new editors on their role.

5. UPDATES

Endorsement: Jay provided an update on the endorsement process, which involves defining the process for inviting organizations to endorse and reviewing current applications. He mentioned that a decision was made for the ICES application and that reviews for the other applications are ongoing with the a deadline to complete the existing process by April. Emma shared that the endorsement process was noted as important by the GOOS Steering Committee, but no specific decisions were made. She also mentioned that the process will continue under the new system at the next IOC Assembly in June.

Workshop: Rebecca discussed sending out a survey to gather community feedback on the preferred format for the Workshop.

WP7: Carolina reported on the first version of the ocean best practices course hosted on the OTGA as the upcoming in person ADAPT training workshop in Colombia, which has received 50 registrations, and the second version of the workshop to be held in Trinidad and Tobago, with the logistics and date yet to be finalized. IOC Africa may be interested in the outcomes of the ADAPT project and conversations on this will follow. potentially expanding to Africa through IOC Africa's interest.

The group discussed some topics for the next meeting, such as the Strategy, Criteria document and the Value chain Analysis to demonstrate the program's in-kind value to secure more funding from IOC sections.

6. CLOSE OF THE MEETING

The meeting closed at 15.00 UTC.

ANNEX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS [ONLINE]

Emma HESLOP
Programme Specialist GOOS
Intergovernmental Oceanographic
Commission (IOC) of UNESCO
7 Place de Fontenoy, 75007
Paris, France

Jay PEARLMAN
Director, Four Bridges
Port Angeles, WA 98362
United States of America

Patricia CABRERA
OBPS Project Manager
IOC Ocean Best Practices
System
Navas de Tolosa 1 23003 Jaén,
Spain

Pauline SIMPSON
OBPS Repository Manager
IOC Ocean Best Practices
System
IEEE France

Dr Rebecca ZITOUN
Integrated Marine
Observing System
University of Tasmania
Private Bag 110, Hobart,
TAS 7001 Australia

Dr Ana Carolina PERALTA
BRICHTOVA
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

Ms. Katarina Lotta Elisabeth
FYRBERG
Folkborgsvägen 1
SE-601 76 Norrköping
Sweden

Ute Ms. Ute BRÖNNER
Senior Project Manager,
Research Scientist
Climate & Environment
Postboks 4760 Torgarden
7465 TRONDHEIM
Norway

Gercende COURTOIS DE
VICOSE
Calle Juan de Quesada, 30,
35001 Las Palmas de Gran
Canaria, Spain

Virginie VAN DONGEN-VOGELS
Australian Institute of Marine
Science,
PMB 3 | Townsville MC QLD 4810
Australia

George PETIHAKIS (Co-Chair)
Research Director
Institute of Oceanography
Hellenic Centre for Marine
Research, Crete
Main Building of HCMR, Former
U.S. Base,
Gournes, P.O.Box 2214,
Heraklion, Greece

Edem MAHU
Marine and Fisheries Sciences
University of Ghana
P. O. Box LG 25, Legon
Accra, Ghana