NOOS Annual Meeting 2009

**North West European Shelf
Operational Oceanographic System**

10th and 11th of September 2009, MUMM, Brussels, Belgium

Document history

	Name	Organization	Date
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Reviewed by	Steering-group	NOOS	1/10/2009

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Excused: David Mills (CEFAS) and Fabrice Ardhuin (SHOM).

(*)Hanneke Baretta-Bekker only attended the first day and was therefore absent for the business meeting.

1. Welcome word, Kees van Ruiten

Kees develops three themes:
1. the pyramidal structure of NOOS,
2. the need to foster/strengthen activities related to data management and finally
3. his wish to see NOOS to be more involved in the water quality problematic.

2. Thematic Workshop on data exchange (Thursday 09/10 AM)

2.1 "EuroGOOS and the European Scale Activities", Hans Dahlin

Hans Dahlin describes the "soup" made by GEOSS, GOOS, Eurocean, (and its Aberdeen Convention), EEA, the Maritime Policy, EMODNET, EMSA and CleaSeaNet, IOC, IODE, JCOMM, ICES, ESA, GMES, MCS, MCS-IG, … and launches a discussion on the place of EuroGOOS and the ROOSes in that context.

The outcomes of the discussion are
- To strengthen the EuroGOOS role at the European level, Hans Dahlin wishes EuroGOOS to adopt a legal status similar to "EUMETNET" (and no more just being a club of national institutions involved in operational oceanography). This point should be discussed at the EuroGOOS Annual Meeting 2009.
- NOOS and the differenet ROOSes should aim at coordinating at a regional level the infrastructures needed to feed all the international bodies.
- Coastal oceanography should be represented at the next JCOMM congress, Marrakech, November 2009 without what, JCOMM risks to strictly and definitively focus on open ocean and climate issues.

Actions:
- Kees would like everyone to make some lobbying to promote NOOS to his national representative in the GMES advisory council.
- Each NOOS member should support the national reporting to EEA.

2.2 "Status of real time data exchange and data management", Patrick Gorringe

The EuroGOOS data-MEC working group monitors the large number of initiatives and projects related to the (real time) data exchange and management. Those are
- SeaDataNet,
- MyOcean In Situ TAC,
- ECOOP Data Management System,
- Seprise (data downloadable from ftp.smhi.se , contact PG for login and password)
- Ferry Box,
- Coriolis Data Center ,
- OceanSites, European Ocean Observatory Network - ftp://ftp.ifremer.fr/ifremer/oceansites/
- NOAA data management and dissemination via GTS
- JERICO data management (if funded).

Although wished, there is not a standard format yet. For instance, Seprise uses its own ASCII format, MyOcean in-situ TAC uses the netCDF-CF format as defined by OceanSites and SeaDataNet uses an ODV ASCII file format.

Most of those initiatives are mainly for short term and therefore are not sustainable. There is a need to reduce their number.

2.3   General discussion on data exchange and management

- Seprise was an important initiative to demonstrate the feasibility of a pan-European date exchange by ROOSes partners.
  To avoid problem with data quality and/or delay, Stephan Dick would like SEPRISE to use the NOOS ftp-boxes network instead of other side-way means for which the data flow is unknown and/or uncontrolled.
- JERICO data management design seems to be good for real time and near real time data exchange. However, for Hans Dahlin, there are too many intermediary levels between data collectors and their end-users. Kees replies that, in JERICO, NOOS does not want to create an additional assembly center for the NOOS area. Data provisions and quality checks are of the responsibility of the data providers. The later need to receive user feedbacks and also would like to be able to modify/update the meta-data once their data are in a database.
- About FerryBox. Henning Wehde and Wilhem Petersen acknowledge that ferrybox data should be gathered in a unique place - maybe MyOcean in situ TAC. The quality control is part of the responsibilities of each partner operating a ferrybox.
- About GTS. The dissemination of (near-) real time data through the GTS may be seen as a very efficient data exchange procedure. However, there are two major drawbacks. First, feeding the GTS with data is not a trivial procedure and then, several partners cannot access the GTS. Patrick Gorringe informs us that GTS data can also be accessed via the Coriolis data center. **Action to Patrick**: giving the link to coriolis.

Outcome :
- NOOS must organize the access to available biogeochemical data (nutrients, phytoplankton, Chlorophyl A,…) at least in a delayed mode.
- NOOS must write an assessment of the existing infrastructures. Key topics are
  - Sustainability and budget constraints,
  - Archiving issues,
  - Quality-check processes, and
  - Maintenance issues.
- Kees must write NOOS contribution to the JERICO proposal.

3. Review of the new national projects and initiatives

3.1 EMECO

On behalf of David Mills (CEFAS), Hanneke Baretta-Bekker (RWS) makes a live presentation of an EMECO web-based tool for visualizing environmental data on the Greater North Sea. Linked to a data base, this interactive tool produces maps as well as other useful statistics, such as standard deviation and a measure of confidence. EMECO will use the tool to map descriptors of "good environmental status" (GES). (www.emecogroup.org)

3.2 GKSS

Wilhem Petersen presents the recent advances of the cosyna project (www.cosyna.de) and the new website of the ferry box community (http://www.ferrybox.org/).

Johaness Schulz-Stellenfleth presents the FP7 project Field_AC. Coordinated by the University of Catalonia (UPC), the project is currently in the negotiation phase with the EU commission. The objective is

to evaluate fluxes, interaction and environmental impact at the land-sea boundary, mainly close to harbors and river mouths.

3.3 BSH

Kai Herklotz makes flash presentations of the current status of
- MARNET :
  http://www.bsh.de/en/Marine_data/Observations/MARNET_monitoring_network/index.jsp
- FINO : http://www.bsh.de/en/Marine_data/Observations/Projects/FINO/index.jsp
- RAVE
  http://www.bsh.de/de/Meeresnutzung/Wissenschaft/Forschungsschiffe/Schiffseinsatzplaene2009/wega.jsp
- ARGO,
- the BSH Ship-based monitoring and
- KLIWAS

Stephan Dick presents the new advances in and/or BSH contribution to
- OPTEL: Operational model for Elbe estuary
  http://www.bsh.de/de/Meeresdaten/Beobachtungen/Projekte/OPTEL/index.jsp
- DeMarine: German GMES Services - http://www.demarine.de/lr/
- ECOOP: European operational coastal oceanography
- MyOcean: GMES Marine Core Services
- Seatrack Web

3.4 SMHI

Lennart reports the advances of the E-HYPE model calibration. He also presents SMHI contribution to the NOOS river project, ECOOP and MyOcean.

3.5 DMI

Jacob Nielsen reports DMI activities in waves forecast. He also presents DMI web map server.
http://ocean.dmi.dk/satellite/index.uk.php

3.6 IMOS

Roger Proctor presents some very exiting news from Australia.
http://www.imos.org.au/ - http://imos.aodn.org.au/webportal/ - http://www.imos.org.au/

Some useful tools used by IMOS are NASA World Wind (http://worldwind.arc.nasa.gov/) and data turbine (http://www.dataturbine.org/)

3.7 Marine Institute

Glenn Nolan presents
- The developments of the Irish tidal gauges network (www.irishtides.ie),
- the Wave Energy development site infrastructure,
- the new (MI) 3km wave model,
- the Bantry Bay model,
- ARGO float and Glider deployments.

He also mentions MI participations to ARCOPOL (oil spill), EasyCO (biogeochem), „JERICO (moored profiling and Forum) and MI intention to use gliders in a operational manner.

3.8 Ifremer

Jacques Legrand briefly presents
- The automation of the SHOM tidal gauges network (www.sonel.org)
- Candhis (waves in-situ measurements)
- Recopesca (Network of voluntary observing ships – mainly fisherman)
- Pagoda
- MAREL (a network of local networks)
- The HF radar of SHOM.

Action : Jacques must prepare a document given useful information about Recopesca – both the sensor and the way fishermen have been involved in.

3.9 met.no

Bruce reports the great benefit of the invited speakers, invited in the frame of OPNET (https://wiki.met.no/opnet/start). He also mentions a new collaboration with SINTEF to upgrade OD3D and OSCAR.

3.10 WGOOFE

The NORSEPP reports (an ICES initiative lead by IMR) have been taken over by the ICES Working Group on Operational Oceanographic products for Fishery and Environment (WGOOFE) (http://www.wgoofe.org).

3.11 Deltares

Martin Verlaan presents the recent development of matroos. NOOS community can access it by several ways:

http://noos.deltares.nl/
http://maps.google.nl?q=http://noos.deltares.nl/direct/get_kml_noos.php
http://matroos.deltares.nl/

For login, contact directly Martin.

3.12 MUMM

Sebastien Legrand announces
- The release of the new version of COHERENS (contact : P.Luyten__at__mumm.ac.be)
- The start of the national project OSERIT (Oil Spill Evaluation and Response Integrated Tool)
- An EMSA-MUMM pilot project to insert oil drift information in CleanSeaNet (CSN)

The last subject opens a discussion about the confidentiality of the information disseminated by CSN, especially for the hindcast simulation of the oil spills trajectories that will be used by CSN end-users to find possible polluters. The conclusion is that each NOOS member is free to collaborate or not with EMSA/CSN. By default, EuroGOOS supports the collaboration.

4 NOOS and EU projects

4.1 JERICO

Jacques Legrand presents the current status of the proposal. The maximal budget is of 8M€ (i.e. ~600k€ per WP). There should be between 20 to 25 partners. As JERICO has received ~35 declarations of interest, only the candidature of Institutes that are involved in several WP and that really operate or develop a coastal observatory will be retained.

Patrick Gorringe presents the WP2 "Strengthening regional and trans regional activities" he leads. This WP is an interface between the different ROOSes and JERICO.

Kees van Ruiten coordinates NOOS participation in WP2. He/Deltares proposes to develop an integrated procedure to measure transport and fluxes through given sections. The procedure –mixing ADCP mounted on board of vessels regularly (daily?) crossing the section, other platforms and sensors and maybe model input - could be developed for the Dover straight but should be applicable elsewhere. DAMSA is interested to look at something similar for the North Sea / Baltic fluxes.

Bruce Hackett presents a feasibility study to cover all the coastal areas of the North Sea with only 20 HF radars. This could give real time surface currents that models will be able to assimilate and that can also be used in field operations (Search and Rescue or (oil) pollution combating operations).

4.2 MyOcean

John Siddorn presents the good progress in the implementation of the MFC for the NOOS area.

The delivery mechanisms for the MFC products are based on:
- OpenDAP (http://data.ncof.co.uk:8080/thredds/catalog.html)
- A web map service (http://data.ncof.co.uk:8080/ncWMS) and
- A front end to the web map service (http://data.ncof.co.uk:8080/ncWMS/godiva2.html)

An FTP access from the operational data server internal to the Met Office is also possible. Logins must be requested at servicedesk@myocean.eu.org

4.3 A general discussion about funding mechanisms

Hans Dahlin tries to initiate a general discussion about the funding opportunities and mechanisms. He is very critical on the fact that the operational oceanography is mainly funded by EU research projects. For him, it is not an efficient way to work because proposals are too ambitious and too complex. For him, ROOSes should aim at sharing the work load of the different partners in a more efficient way and not only to coordinate proposals writing.

No reaction in the assistance.

5. Business meeting

5.1 NOOS projects review

Action: the project leaders must update their project fact sheet on an annual basis and upload it on the website.

Water level exchange (**Jacob Nielsen**)

- BMA should also be available on the NOOS website (as done for ECOOP).
- New features such as surge maps need to be developed. This can be done using a WMS and/or a link to myOcean.
- A comparison between the different models should also be available on the website. Jacob proposes to uses the peak error as defined at DMI.

Action: Jacob must prepare a document explaining the peak error.
Action for all : To improve the BMA, Martin Verlaan would like each partner to update its list of station.

Wave data exchange (Martin Verlaan)
Kees van Ruiten suggests that NOOS should present waves data as it does for the water level. Jose Ozer recalls that, in the past, Martin Holt was not in favor for such an initiative because wave products have a commercial potential. However, the proposition is approved. The argument is *"if a user really needs to have a professional service, he won't trust in the free service NOOS will offer but he will directly contact a commercial service provider."*

T/S profile data in near real time (Stephan Dick)
BSH is responsible for T/S profiles exchange in NOOS. The aim is to disseminate CTD profiles (including salinity) via an ftp box.

Action for everybody : Please, make the T/S profile available to the NOOS community and contact Stephan to upload them to the ftp box.

Transports (Stephan Dick)
Transports are computed as the residual over 2 tidal cycles. Three partners participates: BSH, MUMM and DMI.

Deltares arises the question of the transport validation. The answer is "Currently only a comparison between models is possible. The comparison is quite good!"

Action: Bruce Hackett and John Siddorn will ask to their team to join the project.

Rivers (Bruce Hackett)
The project is articulated around three tasks:
- Estimation of volume flux
- Exchange of data
- E-HYPE forecast (SMHI)

For the data exchange, there are currently two major gaps: France and UK.

Action: John Siddorn will try to kick off UK.

Drift (Sébastien Legrand)
Sébastien Legrand takes over from José Ozer as leader of the drift project. Based on the outcome of a small questionnaire submitted to the project participants, the project goals are reformulated as:
1. To be a focal point centralizing possible collaborations.
2. To exchange information on modelling practices.
3. To develop procedures for the exchange of model forecasts.

5.2 New website and logo

Jacob presents the new NOOS website. Everyone is able to modify/update the website: there is a password-protected area. Jacob will send it around.

It is asked to only use the new NOOS logo. It is available on the website.

5.3 Actions follow-up

- Roger Proctor presents the updated inventory of in-situ measurements stations & ferrybox lines. There is a clear gap at the center of North Sea that need to be filled in (i.e. by repeated CTD stations). This inventory could be coupled with the EDIOS database and be interconnected with JERICO. Hans Dahlin make notice that EuroGOOS pays for EDIOS
- NOOS strategic plan needs to be updated. Hans Dahlin confirms that EuroGOOS does not want to write a new generic strategic plan, but whish to focus on the 7 priorities recently drafted in the document EG09.05. Once finalized, the different ROOSes should propose activities related to the EuroGOOS view and circulate them for comments and amendments.
- BSH, meteo France and RWS are involved in a storm surge training program. Personnel exchanges are possible.
- NOOS would like to get the status of observer at OSPAR. Kees will contact David Johnson for that. José Ozer makes remark that Georges Pichot has just been appointed by OSPAR to bridge with the Operational Oceanography community. In particular, Georges Pichot wishes that the OSPAR quality status report 2010 will have at least a few figures showing the potential contributions of the Operational Oceanography to the OSPAR activities.
  Action for all: listing what is available (without much effort) for OSPAR.
- In order to re-energize them, "Grey people" should involve younger people in the different NOOS projects.

5.4 Steering group

Jacques Legrand is resigning from the Steering group. John Siddorn -the only nominee- is appointed at the unanimity and will replace him.

The steering group is composed by:
- Kees van Ruiten (Deltares), appointed in 2005 and chair since 2007
- Stephan Dick (BSH), re-appointed in 2008
- L Funkquist (SMHI), appointed in 2006
- B Hackett (met.no), re-appointed in 2006
- John Siddorn (UK met office), appointed in 2009
- Hening Wehde (NIVA moving to IMR), appointed in 2007

(Note that according the MoU, Kees should have to be re-appointed this year.)

5.5 NOOS representations

- EuroGOOS: Roger Proctor will represent NOOS at the EuroGOOS Science Advisory WG in Venice on Sept. 24-25.
- Bruce Hackett will present the yearly report of NOOS at the EuroGOOS annual meeting in SOPOT on Oktober 9-10. (cf. discussion of the steering group)

5.6 Annual meeting 2010

Co-organized with GKSS, BSH Hamburg will host the next annual meeting during the last week of September 2010. The exact dates will be confirmed as soon as possible.

6. Steering group meeting (notes from Kees van Ruiten)

NOOS status report into EuroGoos annual meeting 2009 Okt

What has been done within the region during the last year?

NOOS has a new and actual website as portal for information from SL, T/S, and transport observations and of forecasts
SL-data of all coastal stations of the NOOS-partners are gathered and RT-broadcasted (observations as well as forecasts)
EMECO has been adopted in NOOS as a start for coordinated monitoring on WaterQuality and ecological monitoring: Hydrodynamics, nutrients upto Phytoplankton.
Developments within the National and EU-projects like ECOOP, MyOceans from NOOS-partners are shared among all NOOS-partners and implemented where possible.(ie. BMA in model output ensembles)
Drift forecast: sebastien.

MyOceans: the user involvement by infoproduct request is still not ready yet via SLA. (exp. October 2009)

Next NOOS-meeting: in connection to EurOceans in Brussels oct 2010??
Request for all: upload presenations to web site or send to Sebastien??

What plans does the ROOS have for next year?
NOOS is preparing wave data exchange Observation and off shore and coastal forecast
NOOS will develope a central portal for T/S-data
NOOS is make better use of harmonized Data management aspects in the archieved data (SeaDataNet, Edios, NODC's)
NOOS will get better interaction with in OSPAR (ie. by observor status during OSPAR-Meetings)
NOOS will produce a on line living document with strategic principles (including update of the strategy plan)

What long-term plans are there?
- have a shared and agreed monitoring plan for the NOOS-region resulting in sustainable (long term) co production of essential ocean parameters for climate and environmental assessments
- provide guidelines for better/ more efficient/ less time consuming data sharing (ie. use the land-GMES loads in rivers runoff). Just doing the things where we have good skill
- dissemination of the National and EU-projects results into the NOOS infrastructure for broad use (ie. FerryBox, commercial Down stream service development, expertise on gliders..)