



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

**Eighth Monthly Meeting**  
11 Nov 2020  
20.00-21.00 UTC  
[ONLINE]

SG-OBPS-20201111

11 Nov 2020

English only

## **ABSTRACT**

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

This report is the record of the online monthly meeting for 11 November 2020

For bibliographic purposes this document should be cited as follows:

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## 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

Johannes Karstensen, SG-OBPS Co-Chair, opened the meeting at 20.00 UTC on 11 November 2020. Apologies were received from Juliet Hermes, Emma Heslop, Claudia Delgado and Kirsten Isensee. 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 meeting and Work Package(WP) leads had contributed topics they wished to report or discuss. A draft version of this meeting report will be provided to participants to give them the opportunity to provide any additional brief text for inclusion.

Johannes Karstensen welcomed the two new members of the Steering Group Cora Horstmann and Jordan Van Stavel to their first SG meeting.

## 2. WORK PACKAGES DISCUSSION TOPICS

### 2.1 WP1: PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Pauline Simpson reported:

1. **SG members biographies on the website.** At present the Steering Group is identified on the website page <https://www.oceanbestpractices.org/about/> by a link to the OceanExpert SG-OBPS listing <https://oceanexpert.org/group/448>. This format was followed because it relieved the webmaster of having to update the SG list each time there was a change, but more importantly exposed the IOC product OceanExpert. Mark Bushnell suggested a small image and biography of each SG member would be a better visualization. The point was made that a decision would have to be unanimous on which SG representation to follow. A suggestion was made to embed the OceanExpert 'page' in the OBPS website and this would be pursued.

**ACTION:** Convene a poll on 'To include SG member profiles on the OBPS website's "about" webpage' (PS)

From the Chat:

Draft poll:

The motion: To include SG member profiles on the OBPS website's "about" webpage.

To respond, use the chosen polling solution to indicate approval of one or more of options 1-3 below. If option 2) or 3) is selected, please also indicate your preference for either option 5) or 6).

The options:

- 1) Add profile content directly to the webpage (bio, image, links)
- 2) Add a link to / embed an OceanExpert Profile
- 3) Add a link to / embed either an OceanExpert, ORCID, or similar profile
- 4) Do not add SG member profile content to the OBPS website

Supplementary poll for options 2) and 3)

- 5) Embed external profile page
- 6) Link to external profile page

Notes:

Option 1) will require bespoke maintenance when profile updates are needed

Options 2) and 3) will require a one-off embedding.

ORCID services do not have images.

OceanExpert is within the IODE digital ecosystem

LinkedIn, ResearchGate, and similar raise privacy/tracking concerns

2. **SG-OBPS-2 Second Annual Meeting report** would be closed for comment at 23.59 UTC on 12 Nov 2020 and the final report issued by 16 Nov 2020.
3. **Strategic Plan High Level Objectives and End States.** Jay Pearlman reminded SG members of the work on the [spreadsheet](#) and requested **ACTION: edits to the Strategic Plan High Level Objectives... [spreadsheet](#) to be completed by 23.59 UTC on 13 Nov 2020.**
4. **Call for Individual Volunteers to contribute to OBPS activities (outside the SG)**  
Jay Pearlman highlighted that from the Workshop IV survey responses, some 35-40 people had indicated various levels of interest. He is keen to send out the call because time is passing since the workshop. He asked SG to comment on the [matrix](#) of OBPS priority activities. Pauline Simpson pointed out that the [proposal document](#) for this topic had been presented to SG-OBPS-2 and an action agreed that before a call, the document should be revised to include the policy, implementation plan and the processes for both Individual Volunteers for specific activities and task team volunteers and it should be approved by the SG. Pier Luigi Buttigieg highlighted that the call could be made through the UN Volunteer System <https://www.unv.org/>. Rachel Przeslawski requested that regional representatives to help source newsletter content and keep the SG updated for a more global scope, be added. RP has added these to the proposal document and matrix.  
**ACTION: To finalize the proposal document in collaboration with SG (Monday 16 Nov was a target date suggested) and make it available online for an SG approval vote to be conducted (JP/JK/PS)**

## 2.2 WP3: ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

Pier Luigi Buttigieg reported:

1. **WP name change.** Ratification was requested for the name of WP3 to be changed to *Advanced Technologies and Interoperability*. No opposition was voiced - name change agreed.
2. **Update** also covering agenda items from Sep 2020
  - Vocabulary expansion - are there priority ocean areas that require vocabularies
  - Potential AGROVOC and WORMS upload
  - TechOceanS resources - may be available for technology enhancements to OBPS - development of methodology and creation of BP automated information flows. Kick off meeting this week.
  - CAPARDUS progressing an Arctic prototype BPS
  - ODIS and Ocean InfoHub linked to WP3
  - E84 ontology not working?
  - Confirmation that PLB developing EBV
  - FMK (in the Chat) - life in the sea is a priority to harmonize vocabularies with. He recommended CMECS. The organizations evolving CMECS are in Table 1.2 <https://coast.noaa.gov/data/digitalcoast/pdf/cmecs.pdf>

- PLB (in the Chat) recommended the ESIP Semantic Harmonization route is taken on engaging CMECS, and would help make the connection, but the GOOS EOVS Panels should lead.

### 2.3 WP4: PUBLICATIONS, REVIEW AND ENDORSEMENT PROCESSES

Johannes Karstensen reported:

1. **WP name change.** Ratification was requested for the name of WP4 to be changed to *Publications, Convergence and Endorsement*. No opposition was voiced - name change agreed.
2. **OBPS as “publisher” - pros and cons.** Discussion was requested on this aspect, but there are many ramifications, not least legal. It was agreed to take this discussion outside the meeting  
**ACTION:** The OBPS SG will investigate the feasibility of OBPS becoming a legally recognised publishing entity. Document the scope of the discussion topic of ‘OBPS as publisher’, and circulate to all SG and convene a meeting (JK)

### 2.4 WP5: COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

Rachel Przeslawski reported:

1. **Heads-up to SG for publications about OBPS:** Pauline Simpson and Rachel Przeslawski recommended that articles about OBPS should be circulated to all SG when the article is being submitted. A google form poll had been circulated and there were 7 votes of agreement - there were no Disagree recorded on the poll. Some WP Leads agreed that they would want to review articles that covered their WP activity. Some concerns at the meeting led to the clarification that sending out an email to SG alerting about submissions of articles on OBPS covered PEER REVIEWED articles only.  
**ACTION:** For Peer-reviewed articles about OBPS being submitted for publication, a notification and full text should be circulated to all SG (all SG)
2. **January 2021 Newsletter.** As last year there would be no *Good, Better, Best* newsletter issued in January 2021.

### 2.5 WP6: USER COMMUNITIES

1. **Community Interactions :** Mark Bushnell (co-lead WP6) highlighted the Community Engagement log and requested all SG to record their dialogues with the community.  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1yRRJi26QWE3qmPYIXrAA5brPTYXTq3iE/edit#gid=1838359499>
2. **Task Team on Increasing Diversity in OBPS Communities.** Cora Horstmann and Jordan Van Stavel introduced a proposal document for a task team  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/111aB\\_Kzm-ksArVGESxfR7\\_eVpt9vSYQys2FEa1ooWEo/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/111aB_Kzm-ksArVGESxfR7_eVpt9vSYQys2FEa1ooWEo/edit?usp=sharing). FMK and MB endorsed this proposal as a statement of

interest and recommended that it be developed and presented at the December SG Meeting. It was queried whether there were IOC/UNESCO guidelines for proposals or procedural text. As it could be the first OBPS task team it was suggested this could be treated as a pilot.

**ACTION:** The statement of interest for a Task Team on Increasing Diversity in OBPS Communities was recommended to be developed and brought to the SG December Meeting. (CH/JVS/FMK/MB)

3. **Decade:** Under this WP6 Frank Muller-Karger is leading the activity. It was highlighted that there will be a Decade RCN Workshop on 04 Dec 2020. Following various threads, the following actions were agreed:

**ACTION:** To move forward with the development of an OBPS Programme (FMK)

**ACTION:** Slack channel separate from OBPS setup for Decade discussions (JK)

**ACTION:** Convene a meeting of interested SG members specifically for the Decade activity (FMK, JK)

## 2.6. WP7: CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

1. **Capacity Development Survey:** Ana Lara Lopez confirmed that as recommended at SG-OBPS-2, she had sent the OBPS survey questions to Peter Pissierssens with a request they be included in the IOC-GE-CD. needs assessment survey which continues until Feb 2021. No mention of this was recorded in the IOC-GE-CD report [https://www.ioc-cd.org/index.php?option=com\\_oe&task=viewDocumentRecord&docID=27430](https://www.ioc-cd.org/index.php?option=com_oe&task=viewDocumentRecord&docID=27430)

## 3. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOP) role in OBPS.** Discussion on whether ECOPS should have their own WP or Task Team resulted in a consensus that ECOPs should percolate through the WP structure with their contributions not specifically labelled 'ECOPS'
2. **Task Team List.** Mark Bushnell requested a list of the Task Teams that were agreed at SG-OBPS-2. All proposed Task Teams are listed in the SG-OBPS-2 report but a separate list might be helpful.  
**ACTION:** A listing of the task teams proposed at SG-OBPS-2 be created and made available. (PS)

## 4. CLOSING OF THE MEETING

The meeting was closed at 21.45 UTC. The next monthly meeting is scheduled to be held 09 December 2020 @ 20.00 UTC

ANNEX I

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS [ONLINE]**

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## ANNEX II

### **AGENDA**

- 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING**
- 2. WORK PACKAGES DISCUSSION TOPICS**
  - 2.1 WP1: PROJECT MANAGEMENT
  - 2.2 WP3: ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES
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