



# Uncrewed Surface Vehicle (USV) Observing Air-Sea Interactions Strategy (OASIS)

#### **Sarah Nicholson\* (South Africa)**

Ruth Patterson\* Meghan Cronin, Samantha Wills\*, Johan Edholm\*, Adrienne Sutton, Dongxiao Zhang, Laurent Grare, Tom Farrar, Greg Foltz, Jim Thomson, Eugene Burger, Jack Reeves Eyre\*, Luc Lenain, Jaime Palter, Chidong Zhang, Andy Chiodi, Eric Lindstrom, Chris Meinig, Seb Swart, Marcel du Plessis\*, Iwao Ueki, Akira Nagano, Pedro Monteiro, Carlos Barrera, Christoph Waldmann

\*Early Career Ocean Professional (ECOP)

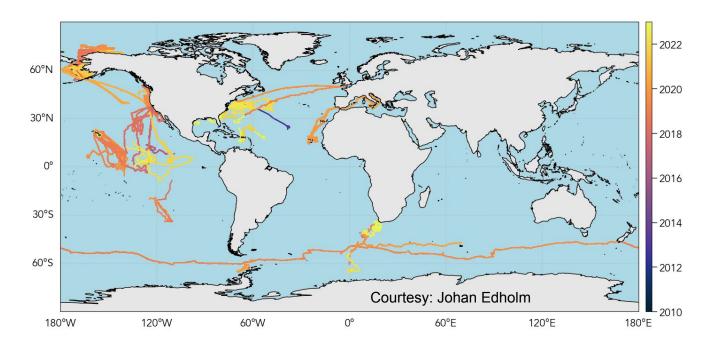


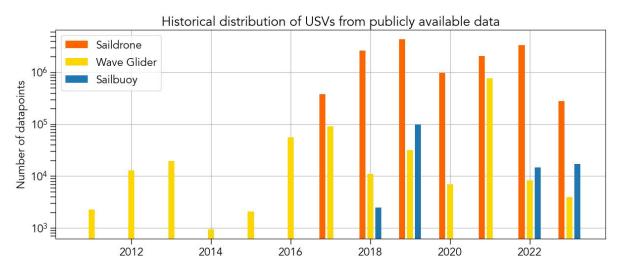
#### **Network Overview**













Courtesy: Johan Edholm

#### **Developments and Achievements**



USVs Network for GOOS - Endorsed as UN project of OASIS UN Decade



Developing a Community of Practice (CoP):



- EuroSea ASV network workshops virtual in 2022 and in person at PLOCAN in 2023
- OASIS Webinar series: A Community of Practice for USV
- GROOM (EU Gliders) requiring coordination between gliders and USV networks
- USV Network Workshop planned to follow OSM24
- USV Network Publications:
  - Uncrewed Surface Vessel Technological Diffusion Depends on Cross-Sectoral Investment in Open-Ocean Archetypes: A Systematic Review of USV Applications and Drivers (Patterson et al. 2022)
  - Public Private Partnerships to advance regional ocean observing capabilities: A Saildrone and NOAA-PMEL case study and future considerations to expand to global scale observing (Meinig et al. 2019)
  - Developing an Observing Air-Sea Interactions Strategy (OASIS) for the global ocean (Cronin et al. 2022)



#### Challenges and Concerns - A network built on Public-Private-Partnerships

## Business - USV business models differ. Cannot have one size fits all for operations

- Owner-operator
- Data-as-a-service

### Scalability - limited by number of skilled individuals is challenge in science

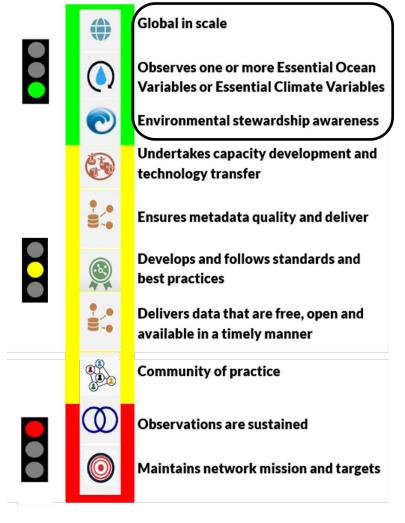
 USV technology innovations primarily for defense applications... not an open science culture.



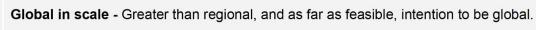




#### **Attribute Report out**









Joined up with EuroSeas who have been developing network in Europe



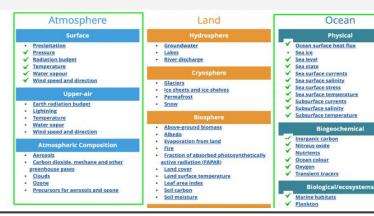
Persistent, scalable, diverse, manoeuvrable



**Observes one or more EOVs or ECVs -** Contributes to meeting requirements through observing one or more of the GOOS Essential Ocean Variables or GCOS<sup>1</sup> Essential Climate Variables.

New capability for observing direct covariance wind stress for Saildrone (Reeves Eyre et al. 2023)

Multidisciplinary AIR and SEA instrument-based observations





**Environmental stewardship awareness -** Actively develops ideas to minimize environmental footprint and contributes positively towards a healthy ocean.

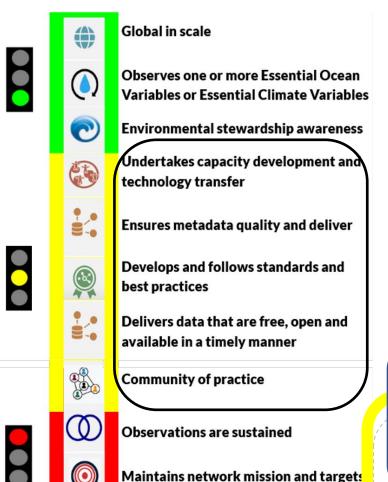
- > Renewable energy sources
- > Non-expendable
- > Flexible and resilient

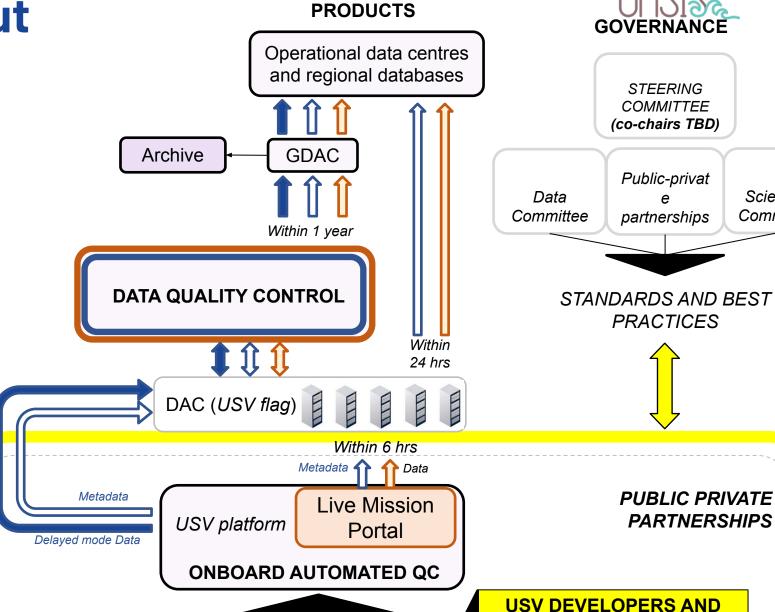
Intrinsically environmental





#### **Attribute Report out**





**USV PLATFORM** 

**GLOBAL** 

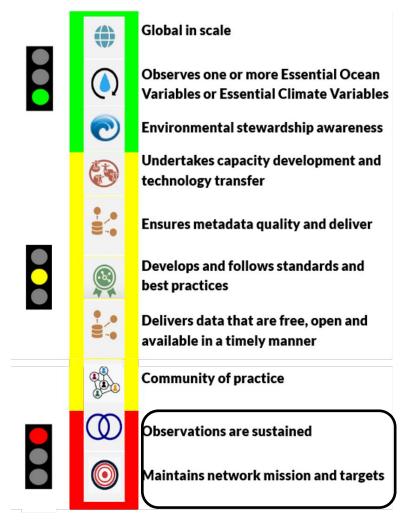
Scientific

Committee

**OPERATORS** 



#### **Attribute Report out**

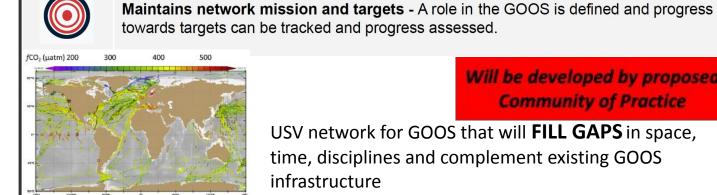




Observations are sustained - Sustained over multiple years, beyond time-span of single research or experimental projects, undertaking routine, systematic and essential ocean observations

#### **NOAA Surface Ocean CO2 Monitoring network** Missions duration ~ 6 months; Biofouling often the only limiting factor

Currently funded as single missions for research campaigns and pilot studies



Will be developed by proposed **Community of Practice** 

USV network for GOOS that will **FILL GAPS** in space, time, disciplines and complement existing GOOS infrastructure



#### **Future Plans and Opportunities**

- Set up governance for community of Practice (CoP) that includes co-chairs, an executive committee, a science steering team, a data management team, and a data portal.
  - Organize OSM24 Science Session & USV CoP Side Workshop
  - Need to develop a USV Network Website
  - National data portals need to be merged into a Global Network portal
- Monthly USV Webinar Series for developing the CoP for the USV Network for GOOS is building community – Contact Ruth Patterson ruth.patterson@cdu.edu.au
  - https://airseaobs.org/resources/webinars



#### **Asks from OCG**

- Guidance on developing roadmap for 10 attributes of emerging network
- Support for a USV Network project office, including website
- High-level help & public forum formalizing rules and regulations for operating USVs. Maritime law for these vehicles is in infancy.
- Testbeds with reference data are needed for testing & validating USV innovations, including Private Industry USVs – Perhaps through collaboration with OceanSITES??





## Thank you

airseaobs.org goosocean.org











