

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(of UNESCO)**

**Twentieth Session of the IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data
and Information Exchange (IODE-XX)
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**Inter-sessional Report on the Ocean Data and
Information Network for the Caribbean and South
America regions (ODINCARSA)**

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Summary of the document

The main activities of the Ocean Data and Information Network for the Caribbean and South America Regions during 2007 and 2009 have been focused on Capacity building at regional and national level. This has been developed through the National Institutions in each country. The main achievements during this period have been the regional contribution to the Digital repository of Marine publications (OceanDocs). Training workshops were held in Argentina, Ecuador and Panama with participation of marine information experts from Barbados, Trinidad & Tobago, Brazil, Cuba, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Uruguay. The contribution of the region to the repository has been increasing and approximately 12 additional libraries will join this effort.

ODINCARSA, has accomplished a successful cycle of activities in the region, however, because of the period of existence, some of their key members have retired or moved to other positions within the institutions. In addition the initial priorities agreed on 2002 when ODINCARSA started have changed. These factors demand a new phase for ODINCARSA by defining new goals, updating the national priorities of the region and setting a Plan of activities based on the generation of regional, sub regional or national data products and information services.

As a recommendation of this report, a Recommendation of the IODE XX Committee is requested to start the planning of the new phase of ODINCARSA.

Appendices:

**A. PROGRESS REPORT 2007-2009: OCEAN DATA AND INFORMATION
NETWORK FOR THE CARIBBEAN AND SOUTH AMERICA REGIONS
(ODINCARSA)**

DRAFT TEXT FOR INCLUSION IN THE SUMMARY REPORT

During the 2007-2009 period, several ODINCARSA member countries developed capacity building on data and/or information management activities at the national level. Activities took place in Cuba, Argentina, Ecuador, Colombia and Venezuela.

Experts from ODINCARSA regions were trained on Biodiversity data management, E-repositories; ocean buoys data management, development of Marine Atlas. All these technical workshops were held in the IOC Project Office for IODE in Oostende, Belgium.

Since 2008, with the financial support of the Flanders Government, the Caribbean Marine Atlas Project has been progressing. Several training workshops were held and the first version has been completed. The prototype is currently being completed by both the representatives from Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago, and is being hosted on a local server for testing. The remaining regional representatives are facilitating the completion of the prototype by delivering required datasets and completing metadata files. All of the processed data has been incorporated into the mapping application and the Atlas is functioning as a simple viewer for the assembled datasets.

One of the important achievements during this period has been the ODINCARSA contribution to Ocean Docs, the Digital Repository of Marine Publications. Sub-regional training workshops were held in Argentina, Ecuador and Panama, with the participation of Information experts from Brazil, Chile, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Cuba, Barbados, Trinidad & Tobago and Mexico. The contribution of gathered publications to the repository has increased, and more librarians from the region have been recruited to be part of this effort.

ODINCARSA has been contributing to the activities of the GOOS Regional Alliance for the South Eastern Pacific, mainly assisting in the design of the data management subsystem.

ODINCARSA is participating in the Steering committee of the SPIN-CAM Project (South Eastern Pacific Information Network in support to Coastal Areas Management), which is supported by the IOC and the Flanders Government. National Oceanographic Data Centers from Panama, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Chile will be strongly involved in the Component 2 of the project which is specially important because it is related to data and information management.

Another project, relevant for ODINCARSA and financed by the Flanders-UNESCO trust fund is currently ongoing. The current initiative aims to design and develop an integrated information system (IS) in support of research and management in marine mammals in the Southeast Pacific (SEP) within the Action Plan for Marine Environment framework. The system will be built using open sources tools and will take advantage of previous experiences of ODINCARSA such as the Portal Oceanico www.portaloceanico.net, and the experience of regional ODINCARSA partners as CIIFEN www.ciifen-int.org in terms of promotion and implementation of sustainable information systems for wide range of audiences.

The information system is also a practical means for regional co-operation in support of management and conservation of cetaceans, and to benefit the research community as well as the policy environment.

ODINCARSA, has accomplished a successful cycle of activities in the region, however, because the period of existence, some of their key members have retired or moved to other positions within the institutions. In addition the initial priorities agreed on 2002 when ODINCARSA started, have changed. These factors demands to plan a new phase for ODINCARSA by defining new goals, updating the national priorities of the region and

setting a Plan of activities based on the generation of regional, sub regional or national data products and information services.

The Committee is requested to approve the start of a new phase of ODINCARSA as a network that provides assistance to all IOC Programmes in the region, regarding to Ocean Data and marine Information products and services.

The Committee is requested to allocate the necessary funds to hold a Planning meeting for the new phase of ODINCARSA.

The Committee invites ODINCARSA IOC Action Addresses, to organize National meetings in order to plan the National perspective regarding to the new role of ODINCARSA.

DRAFT ITEMS FOR THE 2009-2011 WORK PLAN AND BUDGET

I. PROPOSED WORK PLAN (2010-2011)

	Year	2010				2011			
	Activity/Trimester	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
2.1	To implement /enhance sub regional data products:								
2.1.1	Sub Regional Ocean Data Base to support ERFEN Program and GRASP.								
2.1.2	Regional Sea level Data base (South America) to be applied on Climate change applications.								
2.1.3	Eastern Pacific Oceanographic Atlas.								
2.1.4	Caribbean Marine Atlas								
2.1.5	Pilot application of Real Time Data assimilation on Ocean modeling for Western Atlantic (Brazil and Argentina).								
2.1.6	HAB Regional Data base contribution								
2.1.7	OBIS Latin America contribution								
2.2	To implement ocean data applications as contribution of Early Warning Systems in the coastal zone:								
2.2.1	Pilot Ocean Data information and Early Warning system in the Eastern Pacific.								
2.2.2	Remote sensing applications and ARGO derived data products for South America.								
2.3	Information Systems, Project management, promotion and fund raising								
2.3.1	Planning meeting ODINCARSA Second Phase								

2.3.2	Web based Discussion forum for quality control and ocean modeling experiences.								
2.3.3	ICAM-Teacher Development								
2.3.4	E-Repository/Ocean Docs for Latin America.								
2.3.5	Integrated Library Management System (ILMS) software application (open source) for libraries in the ODINCARSA region.								
2.3.6	To improve and promote Portal Oceanico								
2.3.7	Preparation of Project Proposals								
2.3.8	ODINCARSA Coordination and web site maintenance.								
2.3.9	Newsletters, Brochures and Promotion								

II. Proposed Budget (2010-2011) (in thousands of US\$)

	Activity/year	Req 2010	Req 2011	Total Required	EB Available	Funding Requested	
				(USD)	(USD)	(USD)	
2.1	To implement /enhance sub regional data products						
2.1.1	Sub Regional Ocean Data Base to support ERFEN Program and GRASP.	1,5	1,5	3		3	
2.1.2	Regional Sea level Data base (South America) to be applied on Climate change applications.	2,5	2,5	5		5	
2.1.3	Eastern Pacific Oceanographic Atlas.	7,5	7,5	15		15	
2.1.4	Caribbean Marine Atlas[1]	125		125	125		
2.1.5	Pilot application of Real Time Data assimilation on Ocean modeling	1,5	1,5	3		3	
2.2	To implement ocean data applications as contribution of Early Warning Systems in the coastal zone:						
2.2.1	Pilot Ocean Data information and Early Warning system in the Eastern Pacific.	2,5	2,5	5		5	
2.2.2	Remote sensing applications and ARGO derived data products for South America.	1,5	1,5	3		3	
2.3	Information Systems, Project management, promotion and fund raising						
2.3.1	Planning meeting ODINCARSA Second Phase	40		40		40	
2.3.2	ICAM-Teacher Development	7,5	7,5	15		15	
2.3.3	E-Repository/Ocean Docs for Latin America.	5	5	10		10	
2.3.4	Integrated Library Management System (ILMS) software application (open source) for libraries in the ODINCARSA region.	2,5	2,5	5		5	
2.3.5	Preparation of Project Proposals	1	1	2		2	
2.3.6	ODINCARSA Coordination and web site maintenance.	0,75	0,75	1,5		1,5	
2.3.7	Newsletters, Brochures and Promotion	0,75	0,75	1,5		1,5	
	Total:	199,5	34,5	234	125	109	

Funding requested per year 74.5 34.5

[\[1\]](#) Note: The EB project cover 2009-2010. Total EB support will be USD 280,000. Member State counterpart contribution will be USD 606,750; UNESCO/IOC in-kind contribution will be USD 52,000
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