**DRAFT**

**Ocean Best Practices System Repository**

**Technical Plan 2024-2025**

( discussion framework for SG-OBPS-VI)

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**Background**

The Repository was developed in 2014 as a deliverable for the IODE Ocean Data Standards Project with an initial collection populated from the JCOMM Data Standards Catalogue. JCOMM validated the entries.

2017 ODIP II Workshop, Galway. The AtlantOs Best Practices was seeking a repository home and IODE (PP) offered the Ocean Data Standards Repository for their use.

2019 when OBPS was approved by IOC it was formally named **Ocean Best Practices System (OBPS) Repository**

**Repository configuration**

The OBPS Repository is based on DSpace, a primary open source repository software package typically used for creating open access repositories for scholarly and/or published digital content. While DSpace shares some features that overlap with content management systems and document management systems, the DSpace repository software serves a specific need as a digital archives system, focused on the long-term storage, access and preservation of digital content. The decision to use DSpace was based on IODE IT already supporting and experience with DSpace.

DSpace Repository (primarily used as a Deposit interface): Hosted by IODE on VLIZ Linux server. DSpace 6.3 (last updated 2020) ; Metadata: Extended Dublin Core

Enhanced Discovery Service (Search Interface) . Hosted on Amazon Web Service. Developed in 2020 as a bespoke service by E84 with WP3 and 2 specifications

**Present arrangements for maintenance and enhancement**

Core Maintenance: IODE IT Support (19 days/yr?) and UNESCO RFP Contract funded by the IOC Programmes (2024 budget = $17k)

Non-core developments: must be funded by EXB

**Developments and Issues in 2024**

In mid 2024 a technology enhancement contract was placed using funding from the JERICO S3 project (IEEE Partner) and included: Input help text edits x 30; identifying the resource URL as Publisher/ Code Repository or Dataset; implementation of an interface selection EOV vocabulary (a further solution through NVS/BODC is being discussed); implementation of interface selection ‘Marine Regions’ vocabulary ; automated citation generation and remedial work on non-working version control and DOI automatic issue. This contract work has been ready to be implemented for some months and is proved to work on contractor servers but not on IODE/VLIZ servers; the contractors have no access to even the IODE staging repository and are reliant on IODE IT to resolve

**ACTION: Priority to agree a resolution of the technology stalemate**

It was proposed to use the 2024 IOC Technology Maintenance budget of $17k to issue an IOC RFP in early October but although an RFP has been ready for some weeks, delay on the decision to issue the RFP by IOC Programmes has put in jeopardy the contract being placed, completed and paid by the end of December (an IOC requirement). The RFP includes the absolutely essential upgrade of the DSpace software; remedial and reconfiguration work on DSpace statistics, Google Analytics 4 and Altmetrics; new metadata fields for endorsement and maturity level exercises; identification of the journal title in the DSpace search results display; and work to provide better display and access to the long list of Communities on the landing page.

**ACTION: IOC Programmes to find a solution for the budget to continue to be available, if it is lost because the IOC RFP is issued too late for contractors to comply with IOC budget spend regulations.**

**Recommendations for future improvements (2025)**

Developments proposed under the CINEA Contract in 2025, may be a factor in OBPS Technical Plan 2025. Requirement recommendations for 2025 as listed in Table 1 below are not yet prioritized and are outside the CINEA contract. The recommendations are centred around introducing automated processes to support the submission of new documents.

**Table 1: FUTURE REPOSITORY DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

| **DEVELOPMENT OF OBPS SYSTEM)** |  |
| --- | --- |
| Autoingest of metadata (Journal) CrossRef sub | 4,000.00 |
| Autoingest of metadata (Reports) | ? |
| Machine readable BP templates (possibly link with Autoingest of metadata (Reports) | ?10,000.00 |
| Repository Certification (3 year sub) (CORE) | ?4000.00 |
| AI assisted evaluation of repository submissions against content criteria | ? |
| Implement a process for users to contact the creator to discuss the practice (non public email is maintained by the system) | ? |
| Ocean Practices Federated Network (OPFN) OBPS automated upload | ? |
| Review email generated automatically to creator email after methods published for more than 5 years and not updated | ? |
| AI translation of endorsed practices - ongoing exercise as practices endorsed (need evidenced by downloads of translated versions) | ? |

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