

INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION

2026 Meeting of the IODE Management Group
IOC Project Office for IODE, Oostende, Belgium
28-29 January 2026

REPORT (MAX 2 PAGES) - please answer in bullets where possible
1. Title of IODE Programme Component/Programme activity, IOC Programme or Decade activity (and acronym)
IQuOD (International Quality-controlled Ocean Database) program activity
2. Report submitted by (Name/Date/email)
Gaël Forget , 2026/01/26 , gforget@mit.edu
3. Updates since IODE-28 (*)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bimonthly meetings (steering committee and IQuOD wide) - Working group : salinity quality control (led by Zhetao Tan) - Working group : uncertainty quantification (Gael, Christoph, Bec) - Working group : XBT Data Management Team (Bec, Shenfu, Marlos, Thierry, Gael) - US XBT workshop at NOAA/AOML (SIO and AOML XBT teams, Gael)
4. How does your work align with the objectives of IODE, the UN Ocean Decade, and other multilateral agreements?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consolidates WOD effort by adding quality control leveraging highest international expertise - Generates augmented versions of WOD that are the best possible reference data product for ocean and climate science -- including for purposes of analyzing ocean heat content, the global water cycle, as well as for climatology, data assimilation, AI/ML, and reanalysis evaluation purposes - Provides platform for coordination between national ODC (Oceanographic Data Centers) - Enables ODIS' goals by serving as an interface to NOAA, NODC, IMOS, Coriolis, and other such national expert groups - IQuOD involves OTGA members to coordinate expected contributions OTGA - IQuOD links IODE to external international efforts on Argo, XBT, SOT, GOOS, CLIVAR, ... - IQuOD links IODE to ForSea (e.g. MER-EP), SOOP, and other UNOD endorsed actions - Our work is directly responsive to : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o UNOD Challenge 5 : Unlock ocean-based solutions to climate change o UNOD Challenge 7 : Sustainably expand the Global Ocean Observing System o UNOD Challenge 8 : Create a digital representation of the ocean o UNOD Challenge 9 : Skills, knowledge, technology and participation for all

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IQuOD links IODE to WMO activities such as Wiz2 and GOOS
<p>5. Prioritised deliverables 2026-2027</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revamp IQuOD website and increased online presence - Recruit new steering committee members, and elect/reconduct co-chairs - Depending on support , data products : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o IQuOD v1.0 for temp o IQuOD v0.1 for salinity o GOXBT v0.1 for oxygen o Gridded Ocean Variance Budget, v0.1 - Mirror WOD/IQuOD data base and workflow to improve resiliency and sustainability - Publish IQuOD software packages, v0.1, in Python, Julia, R, Octave - Continue mentoring the next generation of IQuOD leaders - Contribute OTGA course material on IQuOD data sets
<p>6. GOALS 2030 (Where do you see your work / activities / outcomes in 5 years?)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Providing a transnational, modernized, and sustainable version of WOD with the best possible quality control and uncertainty quantification to inform our science. - Supporting expert engagement and involvement through a diversified funding portfolio. - Serving as a transnational review framework for ODIS, GOOS, UNOD, and other global coordination efforts. - Enabling the next generation of leaders in ocean observation experts to flourish - Depending on support : routinely and efficiently providing gold standard, open access data products that support for ocean and climate science globally. Such as : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o annual delivery/report of the products listed in “prioritised deliverables 2026-2027” o XBT team would like to have a dedicated annual product/report on ocean boundary currents
<p>7. Considerations for / Requests to the IODE Management Group</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide funding for an annual in-person joint meeting with other IODE endorsed activities. - Provide funding for engineer / software developer to accelerate technological transition. - Discuss opportunities for sending grant proposals together to e.g. fust.iode.org to this effect. Until UNESCO/IOC has a new budget, and beyond, IQuOD needs to explore all good opportunities and endorsements available.

(*) See Action sheet: [IOC/IODE-28/3](#) Annex V