

THEME B: *In-situ and remote sensing observations: towards a European Ocean Observing System (EOOS) in the framework of the UN Ocean Decade*

TOPIC: *Data management: harmonization at European and global levels.*

Title: OceanGliders 1.0: developing a unique data format for glider across the globe in the complex landscape of Ocean Observing

First author: V. Turpin ¹

Co-authors: J. Kerfoot², J. Buck³, D. Hayes⁴, G. Castellao⁵, B. Pasquer⁶, M. Hebden³, E. Salter³, J. Gabriel Fernandez⁷, M. Charcos Lloréns⁷, T. Carval⁸, C. Guyot⁸, A. Novellino⁹, P. Testor¹⁰, B; De Young¹¹, P. Gorringer¹²

¹ OceanOPS, Brest, France.

² US Glider Data Assembly Center (US GDAC), San Diego, United States,

³ British Ocean Data Center (BODC), Liverpool, United Kingdom.

⁴ University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus.

⁵ SCRIPPS Institutes of Oceanography, San Diego, United States.

⁶ Australian Ocean Data Network (AODN), Hobart, Australia

⁷ Balearic Island Coastal Observing and Forecasting System (SOCIB), Majorqua, Spain

⁸ IFREMER, Brest, France

⁹ ETT, Genova, Italy

¹⁰ CNRS, France

¹¹ Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada

¹² SMHI, Sweden

ABSTRACT

The OceanGliders program brings together marine scientists from all over the world who observe the long-term physical, biogeochemical, biological ocean processes, and phenomena relevant for societal applications. It allows active coordination, strengthen the roles of gliders in the ocean observation programs worldwide and contributes to the international efforts for ocean observation for climate, ocean health and real time services.

By sharing requirements and scientific knowledge needed for glider data collection, OceanGliders aims to develop by supporting the dissemination of glider data in global databases, in real-time and delayed mode.

The OceanGliders program has been created about 10 years after the popularization of the use of gliders by ocean scientists. Without common rules, data managers from Australia, USA and Europe organized themselves to handle their glider observations. Today, differences remain in the three main glider formats used by those communities even though they seem similar at first sight.

The data management team of the OceanGliders program is working since a year harmonizing the formats across the glider community and ocean data infrastructures to strengthen the glider network and reach the FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) adopted by the Global Ocean Observing System.

This presentation will tell the story of this delicate exercise. It will outline the historical constraints, review the complex landscape of stakeholders and describes the strategy set up by the international team toward a unique format. The presentation will emphasize the critical role played by the international data management teams and the technical coordination of the program supported by OceanOPS. Finally, I will detail the implementation plan, discuss the remaining risks of failure, and brought out the numerous benefits of a unique fit-for-purpose format for the Ocean Observing community in general.