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Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

33rd Assembly

25 June- 3 July 2025

Ocean Best Practices System (OBPS)

Agenda item 3.4.4

Emma Heslop – Programme Specialist GOOS, IOC/UNESCO
Rebecca Zitoun – OBPS Co-Chair, IMOS
Patricia Cabrera – OBPS Project Manager, IOC/UNESCO

Why use “best practices”?

- Efficient use of time
- Data interoperable, comparable, collatable
- Greater trust in data
- Reproducible
- Collaborative opportunities
- Streamlined regulatory approval
- Higher funding success
- Improved systems interoperability
- IOC Medium-Strategy elements are ‘built on global standards and best practices’

Ocean Best Practice System
OBPS

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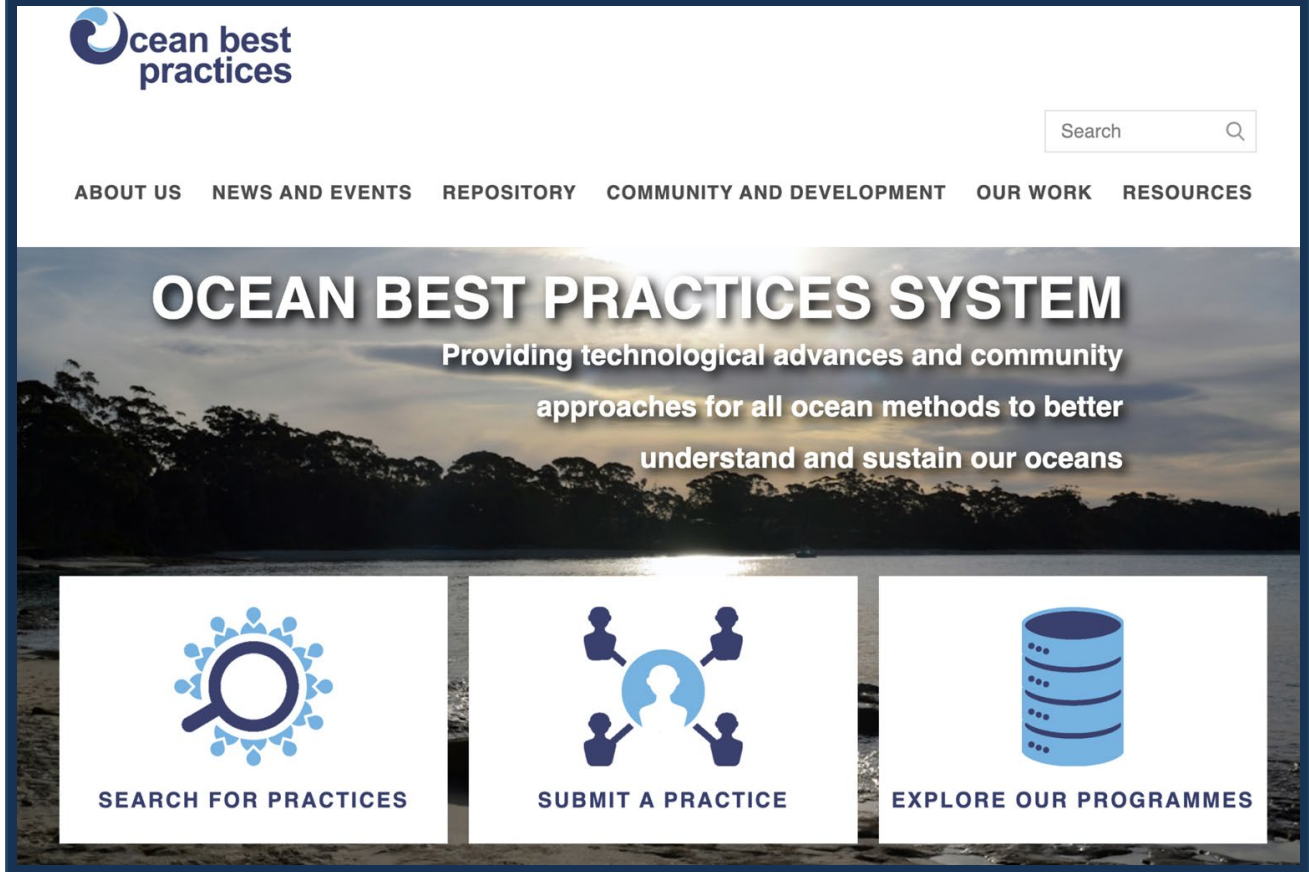
Vision: share broadly adopted ocean practices across research, operations, and applications.

- Repository
- Search and discovery
- Advocacy
- Journal - Frontiers



www.oceanbestpractices.org

OBPS & IOC

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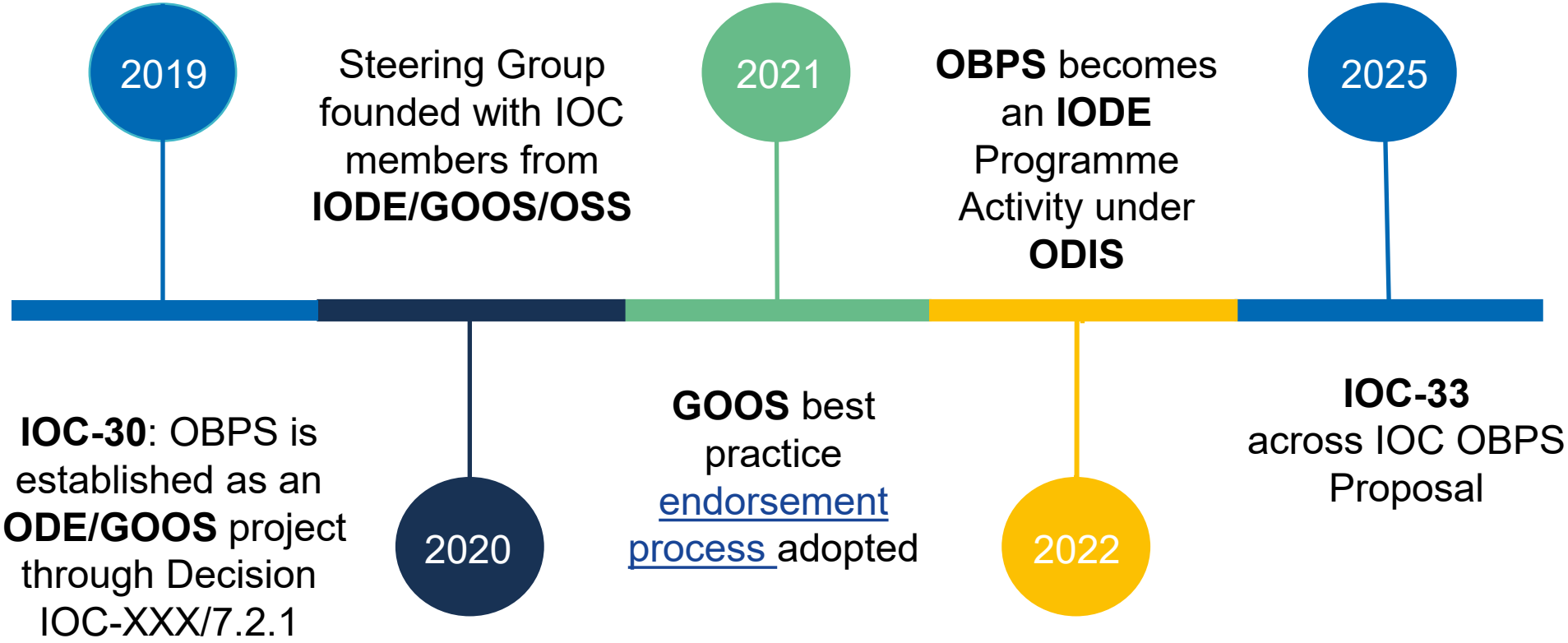

OBPS today

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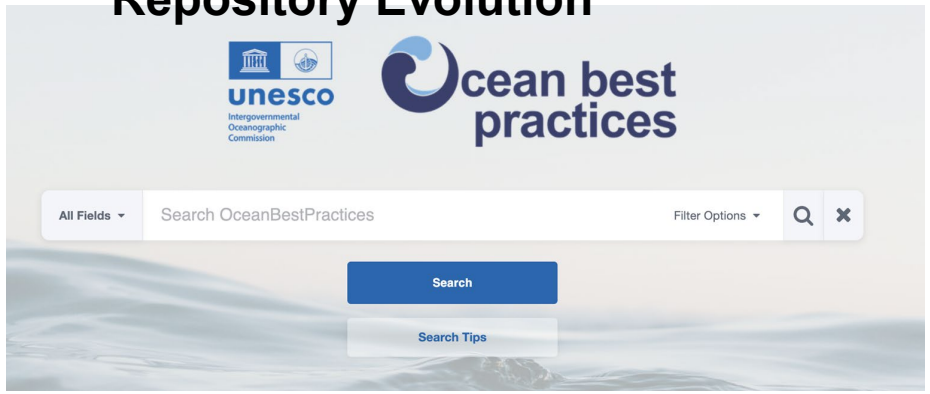
Repository Evolution



20 Endorsed Best Practices

XBT Operational Best Practices for Quality Assurance

Version 1.0

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Recommendations for Plankton Measurements on OceanSITES Moorings With Relevance to Other Observing Sites

Emmanuel Boss · Anya M. Waite · Joh... Karstensen · Tom Trull · Frank Muller-... Heidi M. Sosik · Julia Uitz · Silvia G. Acina...

4648

86 articles published in Frontiers

Frontiers in Marine Science | Sections | Articles | Research Topics | Editorial board | About journal

Frontiers in Marine Science > Ocean Observation > Research Topics > Best Practices in Ocean Observi...

Best Practices in Ocean Observing

103k Total downloads

811k Total views and downloads

Determination of dissolved organic carbon and total dissolved nitrogen in seawater using High Temperature Combustion Analysis

Elisa Halewood[1*], Keri Opalk[1], Lillian Custals[2], Maverick Carey[1], Dennis A. Hansell[2] and Craig A. Carlson[1*]

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This document describes best practices for analysis of... (dissolved organic carbon and total dissolved nitr... Included are SOPs for sample collection and st... analysis using high temperature combustion ... analyzers, and suggestions for best practices in... assurance. Although written specifically for ... community practices, many aspects of sample colle... relevant to DOM determination across oceanic regim... aims to provide updated methodology to the wider marine ...

KEYWORDS

1177

DOI: 10.1111/2041-210X.13470

PRACTICAL TOOLS

Methods in Ecology and Evolution

A field and video annotation guide for baited remote underwater stereo-video surveys of demersal fish assemblages

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GOOS Ocean Observing Report Card

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GOOS *in situ* networks [1]	Implementation	Data & metadata			Best practices [6]	GOOS delivery areas [7]		
	STATUS [2]	REAL TIME [3]	ARCHIVED DELAYED MODE [4]	META-DATA [5]		OPERATIONAL SERVICES	CLIMATE	OCEAN HEALTH
Ship based meteorological - SOT	★★☆	★★☆	★★☆	★★☆	★★☆	✓	✓	
Ship based oceanographic - SOT	★★☆	★★½	★★★	★½☆	★★☆	✓	✓	
Repeated transects - GO-SHIP	★★½	Not applicable	★★★	½☆☆	★★★		✓	✓
Sea level gauges - GLOSS	★★½	★★☆	★★★	★☆☆	★★☆	✓	✓	
Time series sites - OceanSITES	★★☆	Not applicable	★★½	★★☆	★★☆		✓	✓
Moored buoys - DBCP	★★½	★★★	★★★	★★☆	★★½	✓	✓	✓
Tsunami buoys - DBCP	★★☆	★★★	★★★	½☆☆	★★★	✓		
HF radars	★½☆ Emerging	★½☆	½☆☆	★☆☆	★★★	✓	✓	
Drifting buoys - DBCP	★★★	★★½	★★½	★½☆	★★★	✓	✓	
Profiling floats - Argo	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★☆	✓	✓	
Deep & biogeochemistry floats - Argo	★☆☆ Emerging	★★½	★★½	★★★	★★☆	✓	✓	✓
OceanGliders	½☆☆ Emerging	★★☆	★☆☆	★½☆	★★☆	✓	✓	✓
Animal borne sensors - AniBOS	½☆☆ Emerging	★☆☆	★★☆	½☆☆	★★☆	✓	✓	✓

www.ocean-ops.org/reportcard2020

OBPS today

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OTGA-OBPS Training course

OTG@
OceanTeacher Global Academy

Ocean Best Practices [self-paced course]

IOC/OBPS/OTGA

Training Course

12 Decade Projects and Actions

Capacity Development:

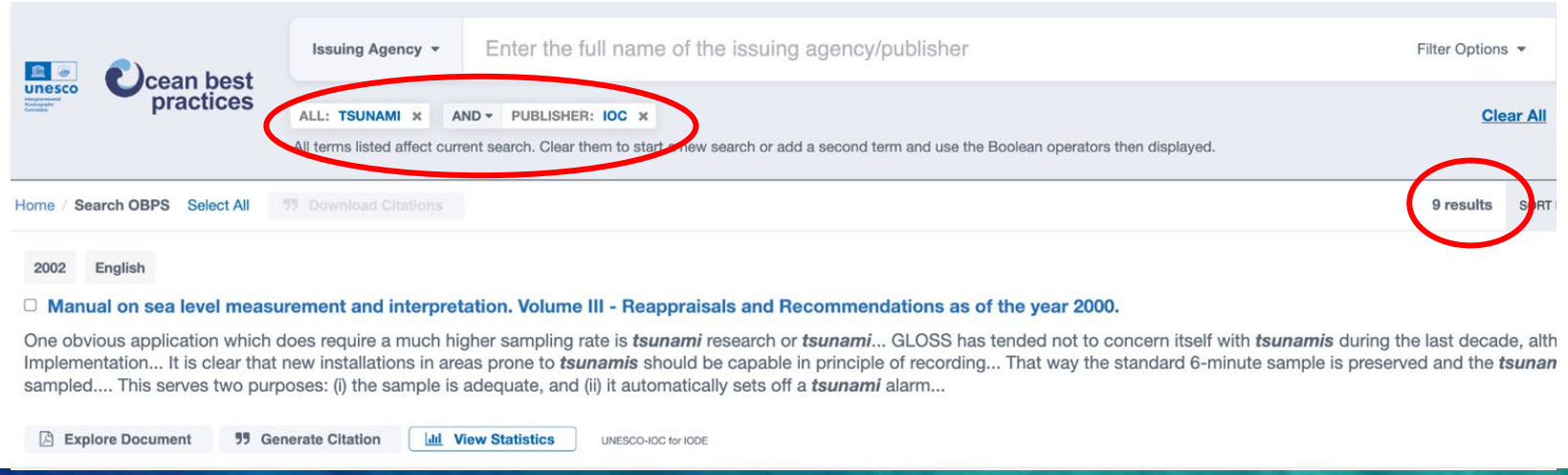
ADAPT Project

ADAPT
ADOPTION AND ADAPTATION OF STANDARDIZED PRACTICES AND METHODOLOGIES

Led by IOCARIBE, supported by IODE Regional Training Center-RTC at INVEMAR and OTGA

Supporting ocean practices across IOC

- Enhancing FAIRness of documents.
- Expanding access and visibility via the repository.
- Improving discoverability: standardized metadata, search interface, clarifying content
- Promoting creation of best practices, OBPS advocacy.
- Potential of endorsement of practices
- Encompass diverse ocean practices within the IOC.



Field Guide to the Jellyfish of Western Pacif

Source: https://ioc-westpac.org/resources/

Next Steps

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- **Transition the “IOC Ocean Best Practices System (OBPS) project” to the “IOC Ocean Best Practices System” under the IOC - all programmes and sub-commissions - with revised terms of reference (Annex 1 of Decision A-33/3.4.4)**

- **Governance updated: Members of IOC programmes and regional sub-commissions nominate candidates to form part of the OBPS Steering Group.**

- **Financial implications: IOC programmes and sub commissions contribute a relatively small budget allocation to OBPS, for project management, software development and advocacy.**

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THANK YOU