

National Systems Working Group meeting (NSWG)

Thu, 27 Jan 2022

This meeting covered the Asia & Australia time zones

Start time: 7am UTC

Attendance:

- Gary Brassington
- Fraser Davidson
- David Ford
- Arya Paul
- PN Vinayachandran
- Dakui Wang (for Guimei Liu)
- Kirsten Wilmer-Becker
- Goro Yamanaka

Discussion:

General

The discussion started off with a summary of what happened so far in establishing the new working group:

- First meeting in Nov ([minutes](#))
- OPST-5 meeting saw input from systems representatives ([spreadsheet](#))
- OPAS¹ meeting in January 22 expressed full support for the working group, hoping that the group would be able to provide a strong voice for operational oceanography
- A second NSWG meeting covering the Americas/European time zones will run on 4 Feb.

There is widespread agreement that the working group will fill a gap in the current OPST structure, as operational systems, although represented in the OPST, currently do not have a means to provide coordinated input to the OPST or TTs, or to support UN Decade activities. Further benefits of the working group will be better interaction with ETOOFS on operational standards and best practices.

Questionnaire discussion ([xlsx spreadsheet](#))

The feedback from system representative to OPST-5 was summarised in a spreadsheet and shared with attendees. The outcomes from that discussion included:

¹ OceanPredict Advisory & Sponsors Board

- Agreement for the working group to meet every 3-4 months
- Consideration to set up an operational system seminar series (when possible)
- Recognition that systems have different operational implementation timetables and need flexibility for meetings and presenting outcomes
- The working group should enable activities for the benefit of all, and bring no additional pressure on group members

Meeting presentation ([web-link](#))

Fraser introduced a PowerPoint (link above) to propose the possible role and linkages of the new working group, identifying outreach options, interaction with ETOOFS, etc. but keeping it as a work in progress with partnerships to evolve and be shaped as the new working group moves forward.

Outcomes from the presentation discussion:

- The working group can have more than one member per system, but we will need a direct connection to the OPST, most likely through two co-chairs (similar to the task teams)
- It is expected that OPST system representative membership will not change
- NSWG has to develop a working relationship with ETOOFS
- NSWG should consider its role as a supporter of OPST in Decade by advising on operational implementations or system updates in the context of Decade initiatives
- Feedback from representatives regards benefits of group membership can help define the ToR and plans for activities
- Proposal to initiate working group activities by deciding jointly which items (from the ToR) to explore, and then revisit this again after some time (maybe annually) to adjust direction
- Ideas for the ToR could include (Gary B):
 - o Support for capacity building exercises of OPST in the decade → inviting observers from non-operational systems or developing systems to allow exchange/questions/learning
 - o Tackling system issues jointly by developing a list of requirements and ask TTs to support solving these together
 - o Set out science challenges for the next 5-10 years related to system development at the different centres and to identify commonalities. Once identified these challenges could be opened up to the wider community for finding solutions
 - o Consideration of linking up with downstream users/ explore impacts. Does the output from operational systems benefit users enough? When explored in a working group setting it might help to identify common issues and solutions

Actions for next meeting (4 Feb 2022 – western hemisphere):

- Draft ToR (in slides format)
 - o from [Nov meeting](#) discussion, OPST feedback (spreadsheet) and suggestions from this meeting (as listed above)
- Draft list of potential (initial) WG activities