

The UN Ocean Decade framework, actions relevant to the COSS-TT

Stephanie Cuven

Mercator Ocean international

Abstract:

Under the framework of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, the three priority Decade structures: Decade Coordination Offices (DCOs) for Ocean Observing and Ocean Data Sharing, and OceanPrediction Decade Collaborative Centre (DCC) are working together to advance the Decade Digital Ecosystem (DDE), contributing to Vision 2030 Challenge 8, which calls for the creation of a comprehensive digital representation of the ocean. Their roadmap addresses critical issues such as regional disparities in observing systems, interoperability challenges, and the absence of globally agreed tools, data standards, and best practices. In this context, the EU4OceanObs project has recently been endorsed as a Decade Implementing Partner (DIP) in supporting the DDE initiative.

EU4OceanObs also aims to provide a comprehensive mapping of Decade-endorsed initiatives related to ocean observing and forecasting to better understand synergies, gaps, and opportunities across global efforts. This mapping may offer valuable insights to inform COSS-TT activities by identifying the most relevant initiatives within the Ocean Decade and OceanPredict. In particular, the current initiatives which focused on the digital representation of the ocean – Vision 2030, the recent Call for action to advance ocean prediction capabilities for the benefits of society, as well as the development of tools that improve access to ocean information for the global community. Building on this, this talk will include exploration into potential connections between the ocean prediction communities such as the CoastPredict/GlobalCoast initiative, and OceanPredict/ForeSea, within the broader Decade framework. One important example is the alignment with CoastPredict, which is primary attached to the DCO for Ocean Observing.

Moreover, the OceanPrediction DCC, which supports Decade activities such as ForeSea, offers a range of tools and platforms (including an Atlas, Forum, news, and resources) that may benefit the COSS-TT community. Finally, considering COSS-TT's contribution to the development of the ETOOFS guide, it may be relevant to reference this achievement as part of ongoing support to Decade objectives.