

3rd Science Committee Meeting for the OceanPredict Symposium 2024

19 October 2023

Agenda

- Any updates from IOC, including facilities to project videos
- Recent OPAS meeting: inform OP '24 Science Committee about **funding status**, what are our timelines for expenditure (funding depends on sponsors FY timings)
- Update on event advertisement & launch of Save the Date / Exhibition “Ocean from our Planet” / UN Ocean Decade logo?
- **Design of the science program (process, timelines)**
- **Special issue publication**
- Next OP '24 programme committee meeting and invitation of new members

Attendance

First name	Surname	Affiliation
Enrique	Alvarez	MOi
Stephanie	Cuven	MOi
Fraser	Davidson	ECCC
Marie	Drevillon	MOi
Alexander	Kurapov	NOAA
Andreas	Schiller	Unaffiliated
Ann Kristin	Sperrevik	Met.no
Elisabeth	Rémy	MOi
Liuqian	Yu	HKUST
Kirsten	Wilmer-Becke	Met Office

Main outcome

- **Any updates from IOC, including facilities to project videos**
 - The discussion with the IOC-UNESCO regarding the logistics are in progress: all the rooms will be hybrid. The idea of displaying Ocean Predict, ForeSea and SynObs videos in Phone booths is not possible but a screen 50” in the Hall (Foyer) can be installed (mp4 format) for free.
 - It was suggested to call a further organizing committee meeting to discuss the logistics and funding, leaving the science committee to focus on the symposium content. Fraser Davidson was concerned about transfer on the information between the committees. Andreas Schiller highlighted the need to have a full-time science committee meetings to discuss about science.

FYI: Organizing Committee

Eric	Chassignet	FSU	OP member
Stéphanie	Cuven	MOi	OP coordinator
Fraser	Davidson	ECCC	OPST co-chair
Marie	Drevillon	MOi	OPST co-chair

Réjane	Herve	UNESCO	Associate outreach & Partnerships officer
Pierre-Yves	Le Traon	MOi	OPAS Co-chair
Alexandra	Oackley	UNESCO	Technical coordinator
Andreas	Schiller	Unaffiliated	OP member
PN	Vinayachandran	Indian Institute of Science	OPST co-chair
Kirsten	Wilmer-Becker	Met Office	OP coordinator

Action 01: Programme office to set up the OP-24 organizing committee meeting before end of Nov. Invite the UNESCO contacts (Réjane Herve) to be part of this committee. Make sure to ensure the liaison between the Organizing Committee meeting and the Science Committee (Ensure the reporting).

- The conference schedules may influence the total price of the event. The NON-extra hours for the logistical staff (security and technicians) are comprised between 9:00 to 17:30 meaning that conference (session) should be from 10:00 to 17:00. Beyond these hours, there is an extra cost. Participants can be on site before 10:00. Enrique Alvarez and Marie Drevillon highlighted the need to first draft the scientific program (main session, ...) and then verify if it fit or not within the 10 to 17:00 non-extra cost.

Action 02: Verify with the UNESCO organizers the exact cost of rooms allocation in case of extra hours: can be discussed at the next organizing committee meeting.

- **Recent OPAS meeting: inform OP '24 Science Committee about funding status, what are our timelines for expenditure (funding depends on sponsors FY timings)**
 - Kirsten reviewed all funding commitments. For now, Mercator can contribute up to 50-60 k€, Met Office is around 10k€ (GBP), Fisheries and Ocean Canada could make use of end of year left over funds. Fraser Davidson informed the committee about the DFO maximal contribution around 10 k\$ (Canadians). They have a MoU with meteoFrance that will facilitate the funding transfer to Mercator. Kirsten explained that EUMETSAT is not able to increase its contribution to OceanPredict and Bureau of Meteorology first needs to know their budget for next year (not available for now). The OP office has not received any response from KHOA/KIOST, CMCC, CNES, ESA and INCOIS yet.

Action 03: Prepare a draft of an official letter to solicit funding for the OP '24 to each organizations explaining the importance and the opportunity offered by the OP'24 symposium. Share the draft with the committee members for revision.

- Marie Drevillon has reminded the group that the cost estimate for rooms & logistics is around 90-100k€ (all included: technical assistance, recording, security, poster printing, etc.) and the estimate cost for catering is around 100 k€. It remains a flexibility in the registration fees that can be fixed depending on the sponsor's funds (we need to know as soon as possible the sponsor's contribution). The catering should be fully covered by the registration fees. Need to consider the free or lower registration fees for students. Marie Drevillon specified that because the OP'24 is in partnership with the UNESCO, a non-profit organization, the registration fees should not be too expensive, and the sponsors funds should first cover the rooms allocation.
- **Update on event advertisement & launch of Save the Date / Exhibition "Ocean from our Planet" / UN Ocean Decade logo?**
 - The Save the Date was launched 16th of October 2023.

- Mercator is a partner of the Exhibition “Our Ocean from Space” and the possibility to benefit from this exhibition on the grids of the building during the OP’24 symposium is still in discussion.
- There is a possibility to add value to the symposium with the UN Ocean Decade logo, but it is a long process to request the logo. Enrique Alvarez suggested to incorporate ForeSea more in the symposium plans, as it is already an endorsed UN Ocean Decade programme and could provide the opportunity to use the logo. If we adopt this, the title of the event could be updated to “OceanPredict-ForeSea symposium 2024” or similar.
- All the committee members present at the meeting have agreed to invite Joanna Post from IOC-UNESCO and Julian Barbière and/or Alison Clausen from the UN Ocean Decade to be part of the OP’24 Science Committee.

Action 04: Verify with the UN Ocean Decade representants if it is possible to display the UN Ocean Decade logo putting forward ForeSea in the OP’24 symposium such as “OceanPredict-ForeSea symposium 2024”.

- **Design of the science program (process, timelines)**
 - The idea of adding sessions or keeping fixed sessions in the program was discussed. The themes/sessions now planned are **Theme 1: Operational Oceanography: Past, Present, and Future / Theme 2: Observations for Ocean Prediction / Theme 3: Numerical Modelling / Theme 4: Data Assimilation, incl. Artificial Intelligence / Theme 5: Ocean Prediction Systems and Services / Theme 6: User Applications and Societal Benefits**. The idea to accept session proposal was dismissed as these wide and broad themes should permit to cover a large range of submissions. Allowing session proposals would produce more work and would require more time to implement. It was agreed to better describe the existing sessions to invite broad submissions. For example, the Artificial Intelligence is associated with more than one theme and can be a theme by itself. Enrique highlighted the benefit to add a theme on Digital Twin Ocean. Fraser Davidson proposed to have a session making the link with the UN Ocean Decade objectives.
 - For OP’19, sessions sub-categories were created following submissions and sessions could not be proposed by submitters. Even if the Theme 1 is broad, Andreas highlighted the importance to keep a general theme in the symposium to allow an opportunity for overview presentations. There was a consensus to start working on the description of the themes.

Action 06: KWB to send OP ’19 theme description as template for all to update them to match the OP ’24 symposium theme plan. If ForeSea to become central to the OP ’24 symposium, reconsideration of current symposium themes and theme descriptions for ForSea angle of symposium is needed.

- **Special issue publication**
 - No time to discuss on this topic.

Action 07: All suggest providing contact names and groups to where the symposium announcement should be sent to (names or organizations, ideally with email address).