

Outline for the progress report on NEAR-GOOS

1. Introduction and justification

The NEAR-GOOS is a regional pilot project of GOOS from 1996 for a long-term operation, implemented by China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and Russia as one activity of IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC).

2. Time frame and objectives

The objectives of NEAR-GOOS are as following:

Objectives in first phase:

To facilitate the sharing of oceanographic data gathered by agencies of the partner countries using the internet, to support the daily mapping of conditions in the marginal seas bordered by the partner countries.

To develop a comprehensive and sustained ocean observing network in the North-East Asian regional seas and coastal regions, especially focused on observations, monitoring and other activities that cannot be easily implemented by countries acting independently.

Objectives in second phase:

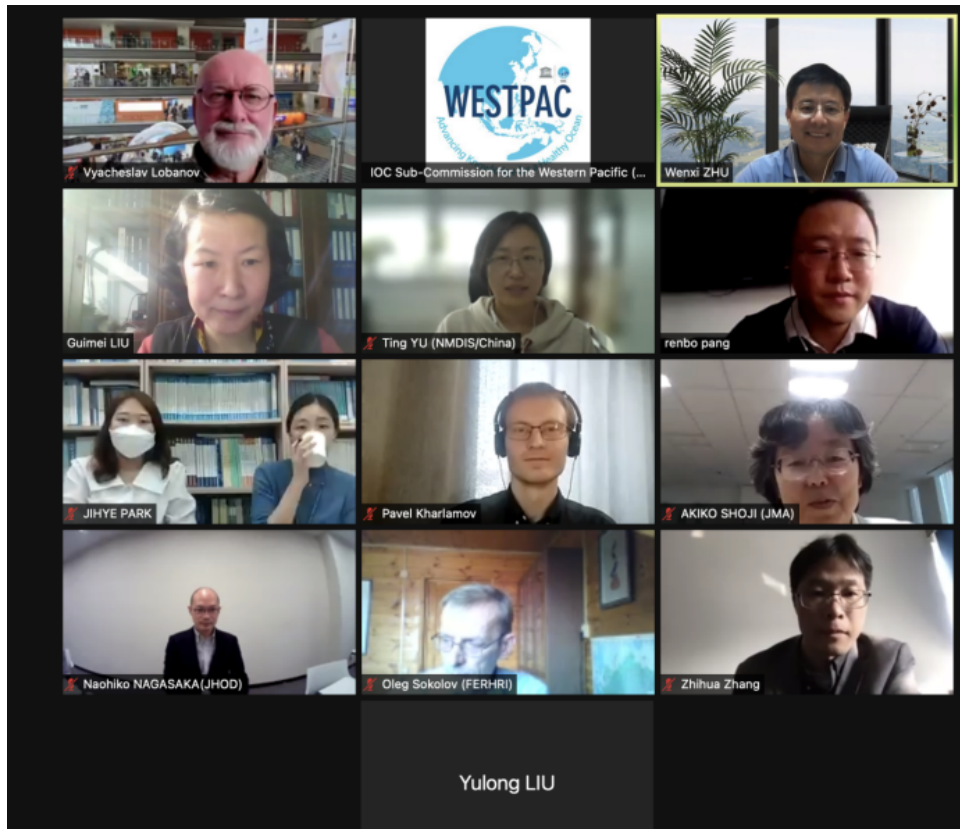
To develop a basic integrated ocean observing and operational forecasting system in the NEAR-GOOS area adhering to the GOOS Principles and build on the data management and exchange mechanisms developed in the first phase through the inclusion of additional parameters, increased coverage in space and time, the generation of a generic suite of data products and adequate quality control and quality assurance procedures.

3. Major activities, outputs & outcomes over the last intersessional period (May 2021- April 2023)

Oceanographic data from buoys, observation stations and volunteer ships and forecasting products of currents, wave, sea surface temperature, sea surface height have been provided in real-time and delayed mode through data bases from 4 Member States of NEAR-GOOS. The total volume of data in DMDB (Delayed Mode Data Base) of Japan is more than 228 GB. Two observation stations was added in RTDB (Real Time Data Base) of Republic of Korea in 2021. 220 observation data files and monthly report of sea level and climate change of China has uploaded to DMDB of China in 2021. The new website of RTDB of China is in operational service from January 2021. The new gateway website of NEAR-GOOS has been developed by the NMEFC (National Marine Environmental Forecasting Center) of China with support from Member States of NEAR-GOOS and the IOC-WESTPAC Office. Data sharing of NEAR-GOOS in Russia has been continued normally. NEAR-GOOS Coordinating Committee (CC) was updated, and new chairpersons of two NEAR-GOOS Working Groups were selected.

The NEAR-GOOS CC online meeting on 4 November 2021 was chaired by Dr Guimei LIU, the chairperson of NEAR-GOOS. Participants from Member States of NEAR-GOOS including China, Japan, Republic of Korea and Russian Federation and observers from the IOC/WESTPAC Secretariat attended this meeting. 3 actions and 2 recommendations was adopted at this meeting.

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The NEAR-GOOS online meeting on 4 Nov. 2021

The NEAR-GOOS CC online meeting on 11 April 2022 was chaired by Dr Guimei LIU. Participants from Member States of NEAR-GOOS including China, Japan, Republic of Korea and Russian Federation attended this meeting. 3 actions and 3 recommendations was adopted at this meeting.



The NEAR-GOOS online meeting on 11 April 2022

Dr Guimei LIU gave a presentation of NEAR-GOOS at the 10th GOOS Regional Alliance Forum online session in October 2021 to introduce activities and challenges on development of NEAR-GOOS. She

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gave a presentation of NEAR-GOOS at the 2nd meeting of Cooperative Study of Kuroshio and Adjacent Regions in November 2021 to increase visibility of NEAR-GOOS.

4. A summary of key achievements since its establishment

An ocean observing network in the North-East Asian regional seas and coastal regions has been established and been in operational service for open and free observing data sharing through data bases from Member States of NEAR-GOOS.

Operational forecasting systems has been established in agencies of Member States of NEAR-GOOS, and forecasting products of currents, wave, sea surface temperature, sea surface height have been stably provided through data bases from Member States of NEAR-GOOS.

5. Self-assessment on implementation against objectives

The objective in first phase to facilitate the sharing of oceanographic data has been implemented through websites of RTDB and DMDB from Member States of NEAR-GOOS.

The objective in first phase to develop a comprehensive and sustained ocean observing network in the North-East Asian regional seas and coastal regions has also been almost achieved, and is in the process of being improved.

The objective in second phase to develop a basic integrated ocean observing and operational forecasting system is still in process. 3 Working Groups and 2 pilot projects of NEAR-GOOS has been established to achieve this objective.

6. Problems encountered and recommended actions

Problems:

The COVID-19 pandemic brings difficulty for hosting the NEAR-GOOS session and coordinating its activities.

Further financial and secretarial support for activities of NEAR-GOOS, its working groups and pilot projects is needed.

Recommended actions:

Urges Member States and the WESPAC Office to continue and increase their support to the NEAR-GOOS through in-cash and in-kind contributions.

7. Objectives to be achieved, if applicable, over the next intersessional period (May 2023-April 2025)

The objective to further facilitate the sharing of oceanographic data through putting a new NEAR-GOOS gateway website into operational service is planned to be achieved in the next intersessional period.

A new working group of NEAR-GOOS for the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development will be established in the next intersessional period to better contribute to the achievement of this goal.

The objective to develop a basic integrated ocean observing and operational forecasting system will be implemented through the inclusion of additional parameters, increased coverage in space and time, adequate quality control and quality assurance procedures for observing data and forecasting products.

8. Planned activities for May 2023- April 2025

[provide, in tabular form, the action items that should be included in the work plan and budget]

Program					Funding Required		Remark
	Activities	Objectives	Expected outputs/outcomes	Date and place	IOC	Other sources (i.e., from national or international)	
NEAR-GOOS	1. 21st Session of Coordinating Committee for NEAR-GOOS	Review progress and status of NEAR-GOOS, and discuss future plan for development of NEAR-GOOS	Action plans and recommendations	Late 2023, Japan		In-kind by host country/agency	
	2. 22nd Session of Coordinating Committee for NEAR-GOOS	Review progress and status of NEAR-GOOS, and discuss future plan for development of NEAR-GOOS	Action plans and recommendations	Late 2024		In-kind by host country/agency	
GOOS	3. GOOS Regional Alliances Forum 11	Enhance cooperation and information sharing with other GOOS Regional Alliances and the GOOS Office	Further development of NEAR-GOOS through cooperation with other GOOS Regional Alliances	Late 2023		In-kind by member countries/agencies	
IOC-WESTPAC	4. The Fourteenth Intergovernmental Session of the IOC-WESTPAC	Increase visibility of NEAR-GOOS and promote development of NEAR-GOOS	Support for development of NEAR-GOOS	April 2023, Indonesia		In-kind by member countries/agencies	
PICES	5. PICES Annual Meeting 2023 and 2024	Strengthen collaboration with stakeholders	Enhanced awareness on NEAR-GOOS	Late 2023, Late 2024		In-kind by member countries/agencies	