



WESTPAC Project Group

Peter (Hak Yoel) YOU

North-East Asian Regional GOOS (NEAR-GOOS)

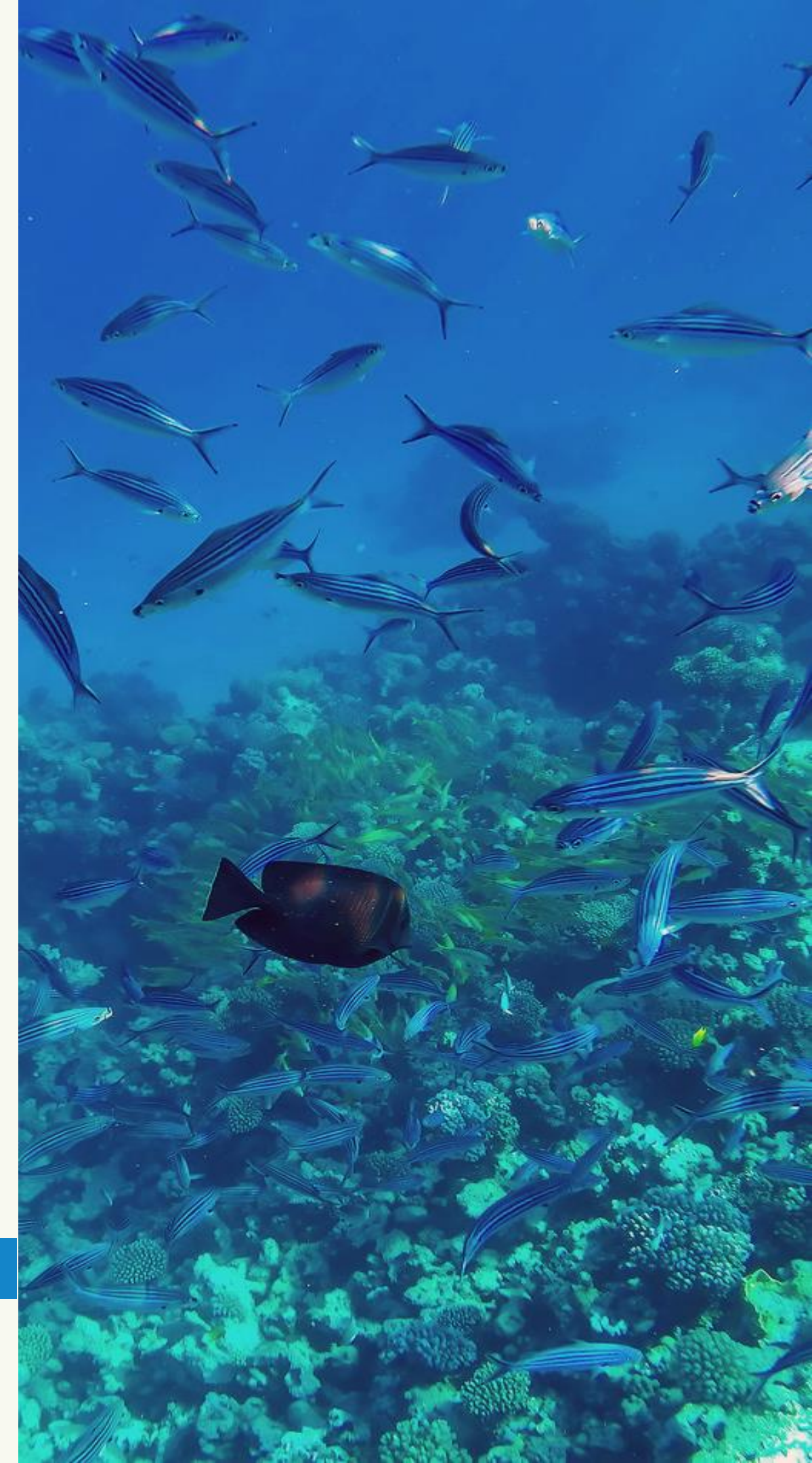
October 2024.



Summary Outline



1. Justification
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4. Problems encountered and recommended actions
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1. Justification

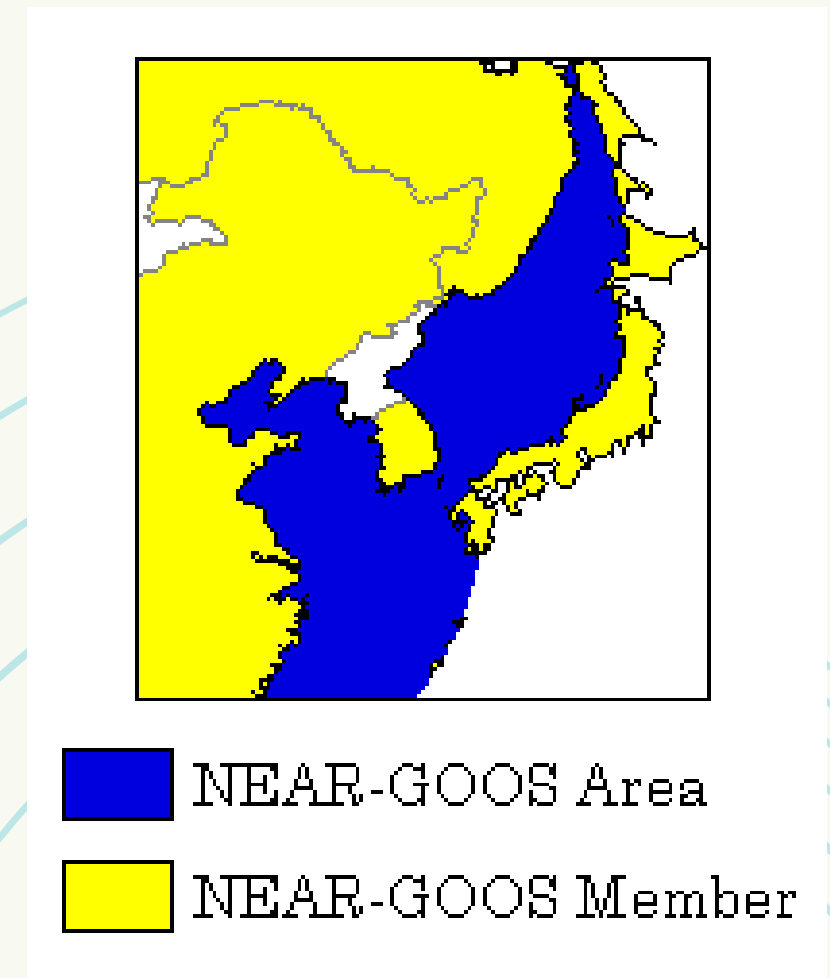
(Why this programme/project/working group is needed for the Sub-Commission)



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).



<https://goosocean.org/>



<https://near-goos1.jodc.go.jp/>

2. 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



Latest accomplishment, particular those during 2023 to 2024

Major activities

- Oceanographic data from buoys, observation stations, and forecasting products of currents, waves, sea surface temperature, and sea surface height have been provided in real-time and delayed mode through databases from 4 Member States of NEAR-GOOS.
- The NEAR-GOOS gateway website, designed to serve as a hub for real-time and forecast data from the four member states, was introduced in November 2021 and deployed for testing in the IOC-WESTPAC in June 2022. This development was presented at the 21st CC meeting in April 2024.
- Peter (Hak Yoel) YOU from the Republic of Korea was elected as the new chairperson.

Timeframe

Project start year: 2024

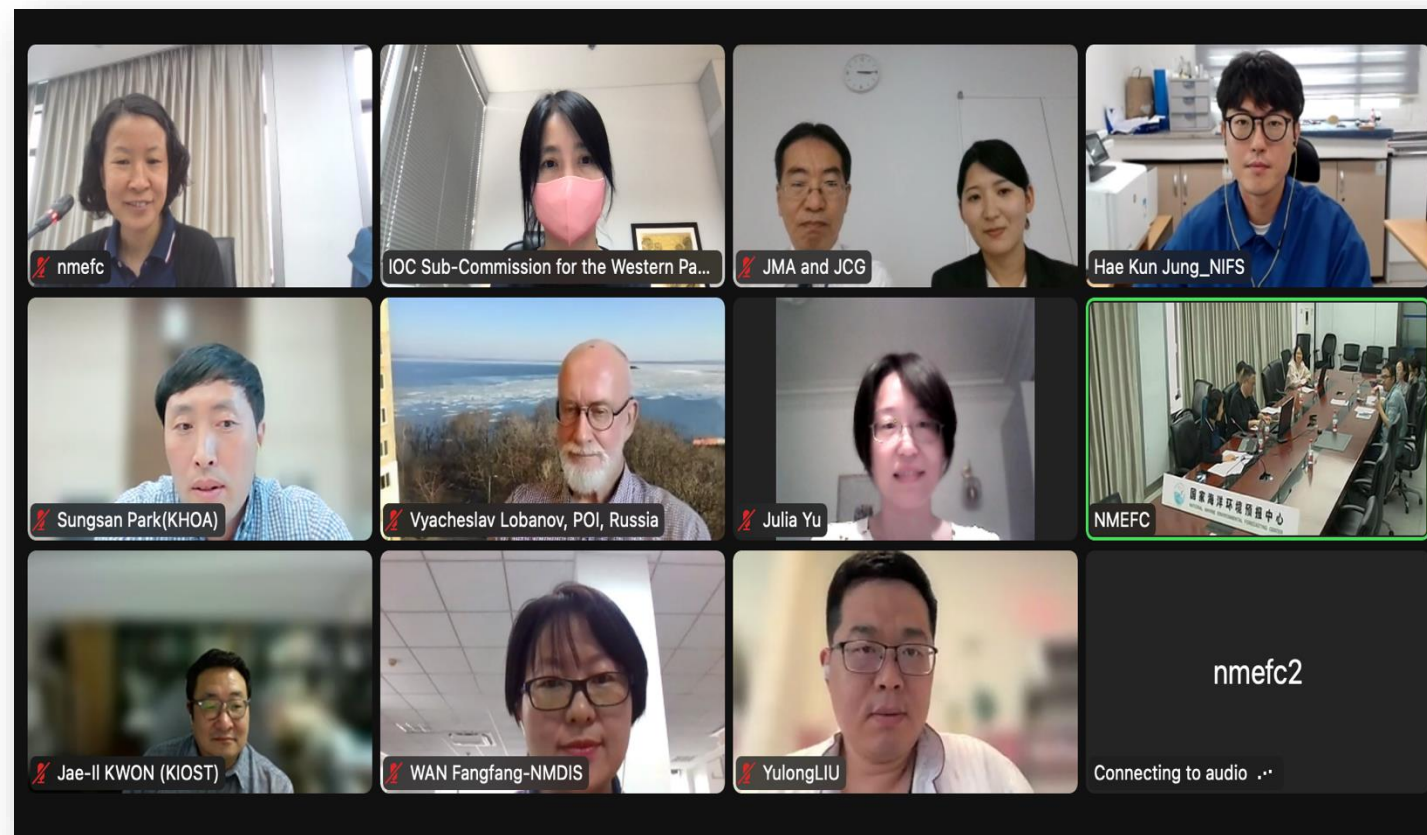
Latest accomplishment, particular those during 2023 to 2024

Outputs & Outcomes

- **China** provides real-time oceanographic data from 14 observation stations and offers daily forecasts for currents, temperature, salinity, and bi-daily forecasts for wave heights Output
- **Japan** has been providing a sustained service of real-time products, in-situ data, and cross-sectional data as part of the NEAR-GOOS Cross-Basin Climate Monitoring Section. The MGDSST service, which merges satellite and in-situ data for global daily sea surface temperature, has seen the highest usage.
- **Republic of Korea** operates a network of 139 oceanographic observation stations, offering real-time data with rigorous quality control. Furthermore, to enhance maritime safety, the country operates 11 sea fog stations to support vessel traffic.
- **Russia** have continued despite the imposition of restrictions on free data exchange since 2022. These restrictions have impacted data sharing within NEAR-GOOS in Russia.

Latest accomplishment, particular those during 2023 to 2024

Outputs & Outcomes (meetings)



NEAR-GOOS online Intersessional meeting on 12 October. 2023



NEAR-GOOS 21st meeting on 24 April 2024

4. Problems encountered & recommended actions



Problems encountered

- Further financial and administrative support is required to sustain the activities of NEAR-GOOS, its integrated **gateway operation***, working groups, and pilot projects.

* estimated at approximately 10k USD for hardware and network support, and 10k USD annually for website maintenance and editing.

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.

Timeframe

Project start year: 2024

5. Strategic considerations/thoughts for future development



- The NEAR-GOOS first-phase objective of facilitating oceanographic data sharing has been realized through the RTDB and DMDB websites operated by Member States. However, continued funding is essential for maintaining the operation of an integrated gateway. While significant progress has been made towards establishing a comprehensive and sustained ocean observing network in the North-East Asian region, further improvements are needed.
- The second-phase objective of developing an integrated ocean observing and operational forecasting system remains ongoing. Three working groups and one pilot project have been established within NEAR-GOOS to address this objective, fostering continuous technological cooperation.



6. Potential action plans for future implementation

for the period of 2025-2026 and beyond

- Beginning in 2025, we will organize annual scientific workshops, separate from the CC meetings, to facilitate the exchange of innovative technologies and achievements among Member States.
- 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 NEAR-GOOS Secretariat plans to implement a new integrated gateway website in the next period to further enhance oceanographic data sharing.

Planned activities



Program	Plan				Funding Required		Remark
	Activities	Objectives	Expected outputs/outcomes	Date and place	IOC	Other sources (i.e. from national or international)	
NEAR-GOOS	1. 22 nd CC	To review NEAR-GOOS's progress, plan its future, and organize workshops to facilitate the exchange of innovative technologies and achievements among member states.	Action plans and recommendations	March 2025, Japan		In-kind by host country/agency	
	2. 23 rd CC	same as above	Action plans and recommendations	April 2026 TBD		In-kind by host country/agency	
GOOS	GRA (GOOS Regional Alliances) Forum 12	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	TBD		In-kind by member countries/agencies	
IOC-WESTPAC	The 15 th Intergovernmental Session of the IOC-WESTPAC	Increase visibility of NEAR-GOOS and promote development of NEAR-GOOS	Support for development of NEAR-GOOS	March 2025, Japan		In-kind by member countries/agencies	
PICES	PICES Annual Meeting 2024 and 2025	Strengthen collaboration with stakeholders	Enhance awareness and technical cooperation on NEAR-GOOS	October 2024, Late 2025		In-kind by member countries/agencies	



Thank You

Peter (Hak Yoel) YOU



+82-10-3423-3826



peterhak@korea.kr



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