




Operational Ecology

Ecosystem forecast products to enhance marine GMES applications

DG SPACE

Collaborative Project - small or medium-scale focused research project

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OPEC Overview

“OPEC provides an enhanced capability to predict indicators of good environmental status in European regional Seas“

The OPEC project (Operational Ecology) will help develop and evaluate ecosystem forecast tools to help assess and manage the risks posed by human activities on the marine environment, thus improving the ability to predict the “health” of European marine ecosystems. The programme will focus on four European regional seas (North-East Atlantic, Baltic, Mediterranean and Black Seas) and plans to implement a prototype ecological Marine Forecast System, which will include hydrodynamics, lower and higher trophic levels (plankton to fish) and biological data assimilation.

Products and services generated by OPEC will provide tools and information for environmental managers, policymakers and other related industries, laying the foundations for the next generation of operational ecological products and identification of knowledge / data gaps.

OPEC will use the EU’s [Global Monitoring for Environment and Security Marine Service](#) as a framework and feed directly into the research and development of innovative global monitoring products or applications. This in turn will advise policies such as the European Marine Strategy Framework Directive and Common Fisheries Policy, as well as the continued monitoring of climate change and assessments of mitigation and adaptation strategies.

www.marineopec.eu

D7.1 OPEC Project Intranet

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Executive Summary

As part of the main OPEC project website (www.marineopec.eu) a project intranet/restricted section has been developed to support and improve internal project communication and management.

The key function of the intranet is a repository for documents and to provide a secure area to exchange and develop ideas across the consortium. Secure intranet pages have been embedded within the main site since the launch of the final website in February 2012.

OPEC Intranet

Restricted access documents

The restricted areas of the website provide a repository for sensitive and private project documents, allowing partners to access and download the latest versions of contractual and project documents swiftly and easily. Documents with restricted access include the project's Consortium Agreement, project gant chart and risk register and other sensitive documents. Templates for reporting are also provided.

Internal communication

Through the intranet a contact list of all scientists working on the project is available in an easy to download and use format. The details will be updated over the life of the project to include new scientists who may join the OPEC community.

Wiki pages

Project partners are encouraged to communicate further through the wiki pages created for WP or working groups as required. The wiki pages will facilitate the exchange of ideas and project developments between partners outside of meetings and workshops. A [wiki page for WP6](#) (Data delivery and downstream services) has already been created and is functioning to promote flow of information and ideas across the OPEC community (image 1).

Conclusion

The OPEC intranet pages provide added value to the website not only as a project management tool but it is intended they will also promote integration and collaboration across partner institutes and work packages to ensure the project meets its intended goals and objectives.

Operational Ecology
Marine Ecosystem Forecasting

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wiki: WikiStart

Welcome to the OPEC WP6 Wiki

This Wiki will be used to provide a point of contact between WP6 and all the OPEC partners. Source code and documents will be held here under version control.

Update (26/06/2012). For the latest development information including web interface screen grabs please go to the [web-based visualisation main page](#).

Task 6.1 Data visualisation

To set the stage we have reproduced the relevant section of the DoW below:

The web-based visualisation system will comprise of a portal (with the potential to be mirrored or customised at partner sites) and data and processing services distributed amongst the partners. This open architecture follows the GEO Common Infrastructure principles and allows for easy reuse and combination of data products sourced both inside and outside the project. The development of the web portal and services will occur over a number of iterations, with continual improvement. The formal deliverables provide checkpoints for feedback.

The web portal will host the results for each region on one site and will enable easy integration and visualisation of data from multiple sources, with clear indications of quality and source. The focus will be on delivering data in a form that allows for rapid interpretation in regional contexts, and supports policy implementation, environmental management and relevant commercial uses.

Alongside model data produced within the project, the portal will include near real time observational data from in situ monitoring and remote sensing platforms. There will be provision for fast visual comparison as well as tools to perform more complex summarisation and comparison operations on live data. Data will be visualisable in map form (model fields, remote sensed data, error quantification fields, area-based summaries) and plots (in situ data, extracted data at points). The portal will allow exporting data in a number of formats appropriate to the data type (e.g. CSV, KMZ).

The underlying data and processing services will be hosted in the most appropriate location (typically at the partner providing the data in question) and use standards-based (OGC WxS services) and freely-available data servers. PMLA will provide support to partners establishing services.

The presentation from the Kick-Off is available on the main web site, [here](#).

Model Output Description Document

Norman circulated an email (27/03/2012) asking partners to provide Model Output Description Documents describing the contents, structure, etc of the outputs of your models. Please use this [template](#) for the collection of this information. May I kindly ask you to fill out that template and send it back to [Norman](#) by April, 16. It won't take more than 30 minutes to fill it out. The completed information will be available on the wiki.

Important Update (15/05/2012) We are still missing the Model Output Description Documents of a few partners. Can you please fill out the [template](#) and send it back to [Norman](#) as soon as possible please. We really need to get descriptions and sample data as soon as we possibly can.

OPEC Partners - For access to this WIKI

Image 1: OPEC Wiki page