



Mercator Ocean International has been a pioneer in operational oceanography activities for nearly 25 years through its public service mission to preserve the ocean. Many scientific and societal challenges need to be met in order to ensure a sustainable ocean, whether they relate to the environment, biodiversity, climate change, the blue economy or education. To meet these challenges, we are required to constantly and in real time describe, analyse and forecast the state of the global ocean using reliable numerical models, then make this information relevant and accessible to all — whether public or commercial services, manufacturers, policy makers, associations, NGOs, teachers or citizens.

Mercator Ocean International thus combines scientific excellence and social commitment on a daily basis. As a non-profit company under multinational governance (ES, FR, GB, IT, NO), we work in a climate of trust with our nine shareholding partners, all key players in the development of European oceanography.

For five years, Mercator Ocean International has been conducting the Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service on behalf of the European Union. CMEMS offers free, open access to scientifically validated operational information on the ocean to several thousand subscribers worldwide. To this end, the company coordinates a unique network of around 100 partners in Europe specialising in Earth observation and ocean forecasting.

Based near Toulouse in South-West France, the company's 100 or so contributors are all committed to achieving the United Nations' sustainable development goals. We are offering a short term (2-year project) contract for a:

Head of the G7/GOOS European Office (F/H)

In 2018, G7 members agreed to establish a Coordination Centre for ocean observation platforms that will interface with the GOOS international programme executed by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC). Mercator Ocean International has been tasked by the European Commission to support the G7/GOOS coordination center activities and to strengthen the European Commission visibility and influence in the G7/GOOS activities. To answer this need, Mercator Ocean International, will set up a G7/GOOS European office

Within the Mercator Ocean International Scientific Direction, you will be in charge of the G7/GOOS European Office (see detailed description below).

Your Mission:

- contribute to strategic planning and co-coordinate actions in the G7/GOOS coordination centre based on existing European investments and ensure their promotion to main international stakeholders;
- co-animate and contribute to scientific and technical G7/GOOS coordination working groups including developing specific actions in relation to the main priorities of the Commission and EU Member States;
- engage with actors along the value chain to promote the use of ocean observations, the development of sustainable applications and best practices related to seas and oceans with training, technology transfer and scientific exchanges within the EU regional area of intervention (e.g. Arctic/Europe/Africa).
- Integrate these activities with Mercator Ocean International ocean monitoring/forecasting activities and ensure they benefit to and from them.

The qualities we are looking for :

- PhD in marine science (preferred) or equivalent engineering degree
- At least 5 year experience in ocean physical and biogeochemical observing systems.
- Experience in international and European initiatives and programmes related to ocean observations.
- Good knowledge of GOOS international programme and the G7/Ocean initiative.
- Good knowledge of the European landscape in ocean observing and information services.
- Good verbal and written communication skills.
- Ability to build and maintain effective working relationships with colleagues across the organisation and externally
- Fluent in English.

Send your cover letter and a detailed CV with the following reference **2020-06/DS/GOOSG7** to recruitment@mercator-ocean.fr by July 13, 2020 at the latest.

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Terms of Reference of the Mercator Ocean International “G7/GOOS European Project Office”

Mercator Ocean International sets up within its organization a *G7/GOOS European Project Office* to support on behalf of the European Commission the G7/GOOS coordination center and notably to advance the actions related the Future of the Seas and Oceans initiative.

The G7/GOOS office is fully integrated into the MOi organization, benefits from its resources and skills, and will be initially staffed with a 2-year position to lead the action, with a possible extension. As the activity develops, it is expected to reinforce the team by one or two short term positions. At the same time, Mercator Ocean International sets up a *GEO Blue Planet European Office* under the same model and will foster synergies between these two actions and its other international developments.

The terms of reference of the G7/GOOS European office are defined as follows:

Presentation of GOOS and G7 Coordination Center

GOOS (Global Ocean Observing System) is the international programme executed by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of the UNESCO to coordinate the long-term deployment and sustainability of all ocean observations at sea, provided for by 148 Member States.

In 2016, the G7 Science and Technology ministers recognising the importance of tackling global challenges such as climate change, food, marine litter or biodiversity conservation decided to increase their cooperation for the “Future of the Seas and Oceans”. Five lines of actions were agreed:

1. Support the development of a global initiative for enhanced, global, sustained sea and ocean observing system;
2. Support an enhanced system of ocean assessment through the UN Regular Process for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment;
3. Promote the improvement of global data sharing infrastructure to address the challenges of physical, chemical and biological data;
4. Strengthen collaborative approaches to encourage the development of regional observing capabilities and knowledge networks;
5. Promote increased G7 political cooperation by identifying additional actions needed to enhance future routine ocean observations.

At the 2018 G7 Summit, G7 members agreed to establish a Coordination Centre for ocean observation platforms that will interface with the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) and be inter-linked with other G7 priority areas. This Centre will build upon and improve the coordination between existing programs and implement the action plans that have been developed for each of the five Action Areas. Where appropriate, the G7, in collaboration with GOOS, will explore options to use the Coordination Centre as a vehicle to usher forward recommendations forthcoming from the IOC Assembly and OceanObs'19 conference as well as support other relevant initiatives, such as the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030).

Objective of the G7/GOOS European Office:

By setting this office, the objective of Mercator Ocean International is to support the G7/GOOS coordination center and notably to advance the actions 1, 3 and 4 of the Future of the Seas and Oceans initiative. The office, supported by the European Commission, will contribute to the G7/GOOS coordination center activities. This includes monitoring of European activities for the five actions defined by the G7 nations with a focus on European seas and in the Atlantic (contributing to the All Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance and swiftly implement the roadmaps and liaise with projects funded under the H2020 and Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programmes).

Activities of the G7/GOOS European Office:

The work plan of the office includes three pillars of activities:

1. Scientific diplomacy: contribute to strategic planning and co-coordinate actions in the G7/GOOS coordination centre based on existing European investments and ensure their promotion to main international stakeholders (e.g. G7 Member States, European Member States, regional sea conventions, GEO Members, OECD, African, Arctic and Atlantic stakeholders);
2. Technical coordination: co-animate and contribute to scientific and technical working groups including developing specific actions in relation to the main priorities of the Commission and EU Member States;
3. Scientific and societal awareness and outreach: engage with actors along the value chain to promote the use of ocean observations, the development of sustainable applications and best practices related to seas and oceans with training, technology transfer and scientific exchanges across regions addressed by Europe.

The office will promote, interact with and support the main European initiatives related to the development of the Global Ocean Observing System and its regional and coastal components. The office will work to develop links with ocean and climate modeling and forecasting communities, in particular in the framework for the EU Copernicus programme.

Specific objectives include:

- Participate to the GOOS G7 coordination centre.
- Promote European activities related to ocean observation and directly linked to EU priorities and policy implementation (e.g. green deal, MPAs, CBD, MSFD, MSP, ...).
- Contribute to the development of sustained ocean observing systems in Europe.
- Increase cooperation on ocean observations and data sharing worldwide, and more specifically in the Atlantic, Arctic and European seas.
- Consolidate the performances of the Copernicus marine and climate services by improving the deployment and access to critical ocean observations used in combination with Copernicus satellites to produce information products in support to EU policies.
- Consolidate the performances of other EU services such as the Blue Cloud of the European Commission and EMODnet.
- Contribute to the development of sustainable practices in four geographical areas Europe, Arctic, Africa and Atlantic coasts: facilitate access to additional sources of ocean observations and science in and outside EU to foster the development of marine applications in line with the Sustainable Development Goals and the International Ocean Governance.
- Foster international cooperation and exchange of data and best practices on strategic topics such as climate challenges: contribution of the ocean to Green House Gas emissions and CO₂, interactions between ocean and climate change, on the marine ecosystems and implementation of related SDG indicators.

European activities related to the G7 Future of the Oceans and Seas initiative will be integrated and coordinated with the ones related to GEO Blue Planet, notably in the Atlantic and the European sea basins. This will especially link to the EU international ocean governance policy, the All Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance (Galway and Belem Statements), SRIAS in the Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea, Baltic Sea and Arctic Ocean as well as relevant sea basin strategies. Coordination activities will be supported by the development of a few use-cases (based on existing initiatives) which will allow a “data value chain approach”, de facto involving GOOS (observations), Copernicus Marine Service (modelling and ocean forecasting) and GEO Blue Planet (users and applications).