

# International conference on Marine Data and Information Systems



























# A first roadmap for data management solutions of low-cost ocean observing technology

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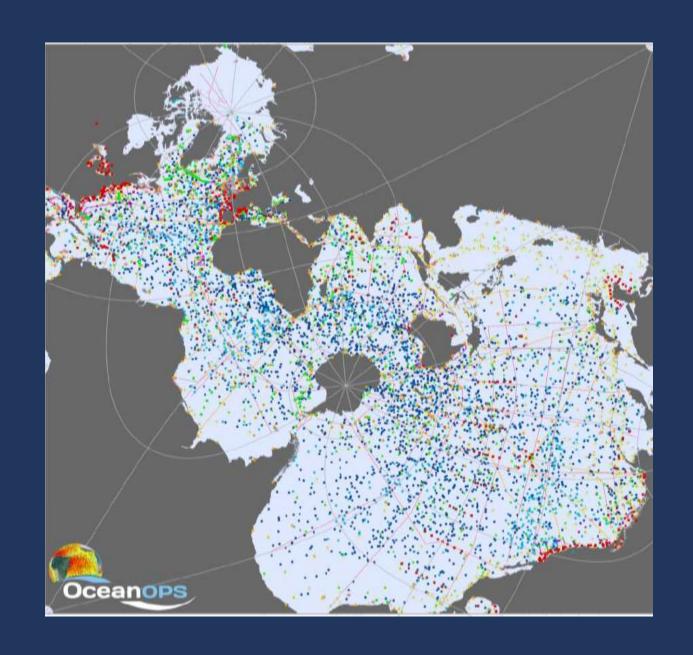








#### Why observe the ocean?



**Sea covers 70%** of the Earth's surface.

About **40**% of the world's population lives within 200 km from the coast.

Ocean **regulates climate** absorbing 90% of excess of heats and 26% of anthropogenic carbon every year

Ocean regulates **weather:** ocean and coastal patterns, extreme events

Ocean is a resource in terms of **food, energy, materials, transportation, and tourism**.

#### A common challenge

































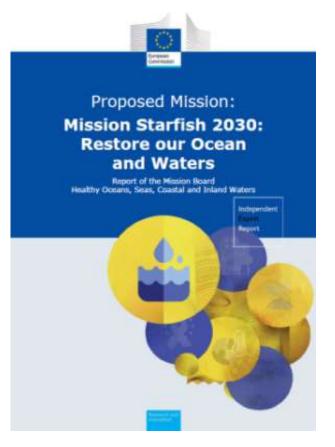




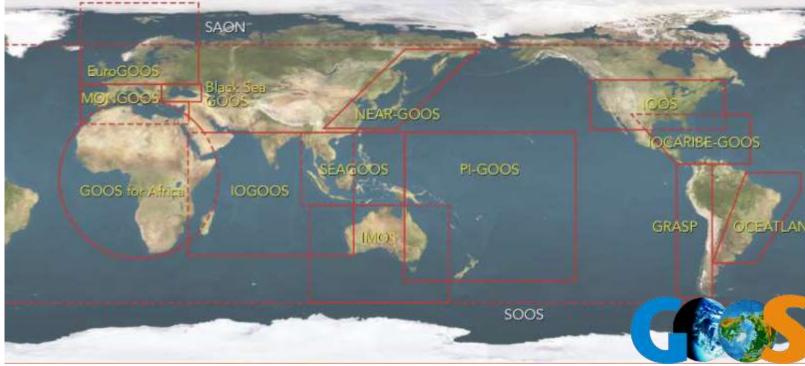
The United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)

















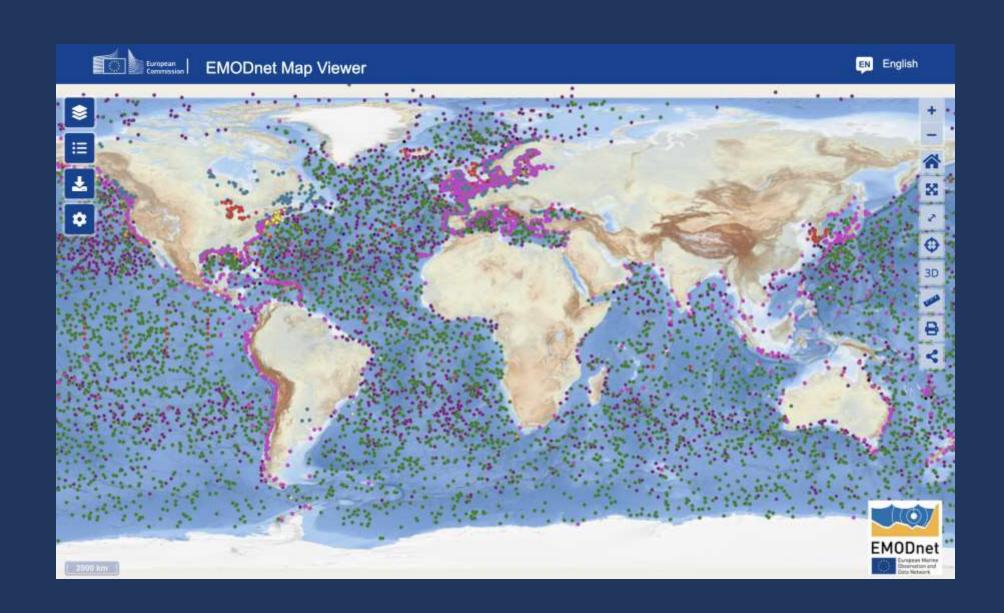
#### **Observations**

#### **OCEANOPS** report on IN SITU GOOS:

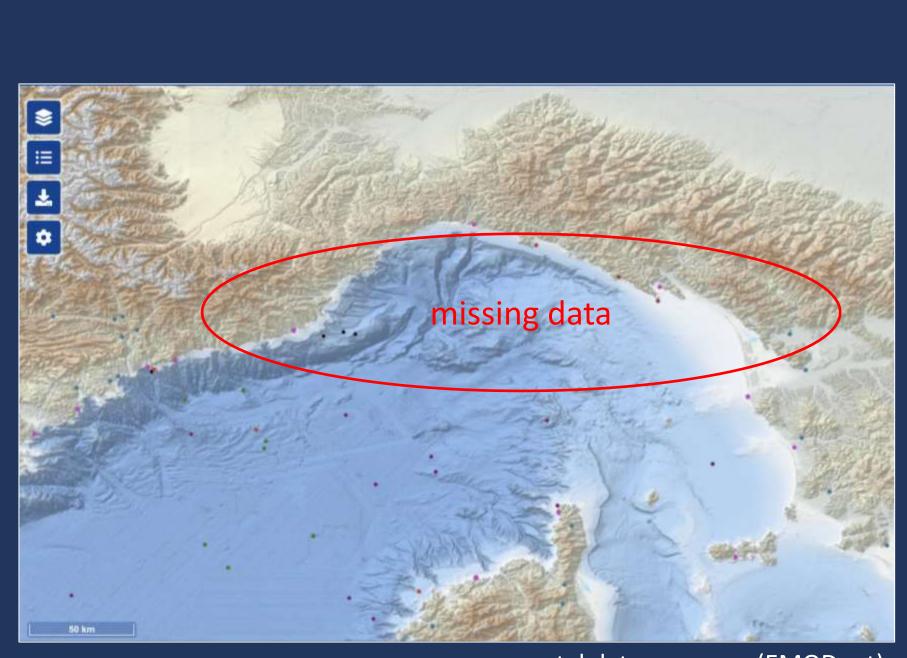
- 9.000 met-ocean observing instruments and ships
- 13 global ocean observing networks
- 84 countries
- >100.000 daily observation (EOVs)

#### **EMODnet study:**

In Europe we spend ca. 1.4 billion Euro annually for collecting marine data (1.0 billion Euro in-situ; 0.4 billion Euro remote sensing)

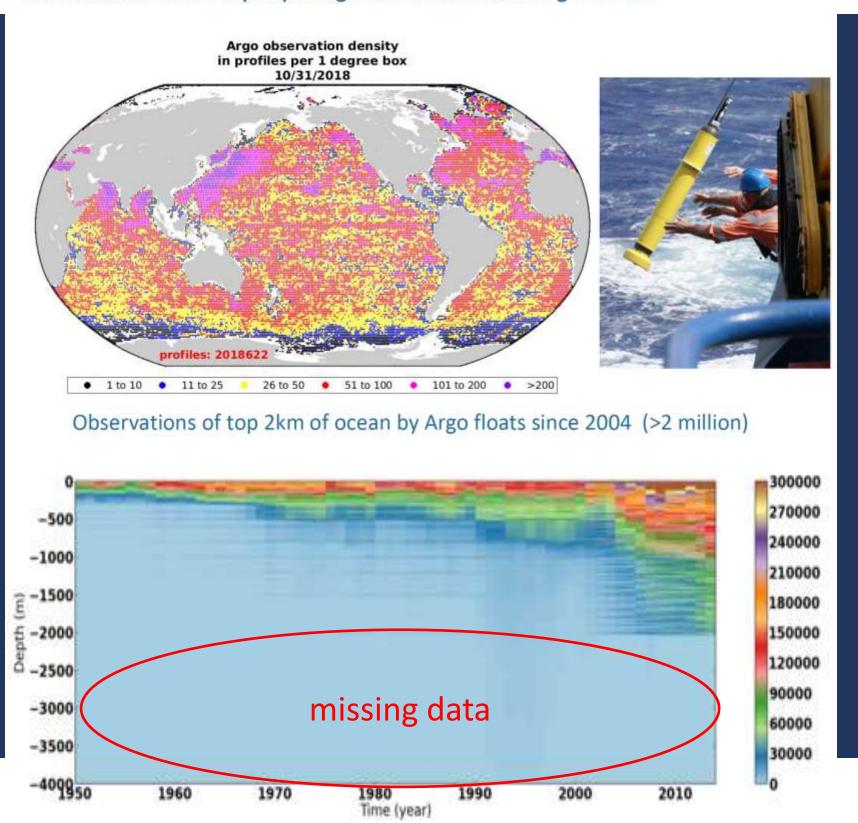


#### and gaps

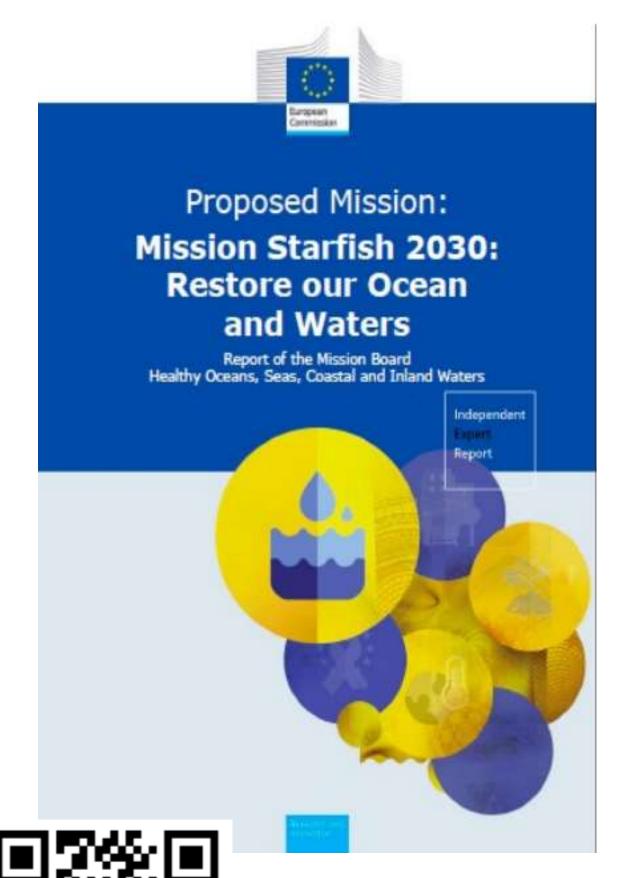


coastal data coverage (EMODnet)

#### The Southern Ocean is (still) a huge hole in our observing network



Source: CORA: Coriolis Ocean database for ReAnalysis



# EU requires 20% of the marine data to come from citizen science by 2025







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#### What's popup first into you mind when you think of Citizen Science?

Wordcloud Poll 

32 responses 

22 participants





### Citizen science

#### Noun [U]

/ˈsɪt.ɪ.zən ˌsaɪ.əns/ /ˈsɪt.ə.zən ˌsaɪ.əns/

### i.e.: participatory science

Scientific work, for example collecting information, that is done by ordinary people without special qualifications, in order to help the work of scientists:

- has emerged as a powerful tool and popular activity to enthuse and actively involve citizens in environmental monitoring and restoration, collecting extensive data sets for scientific research, environmental awareness and policymaking
- an active proposal to the European Commission asks for 20% of marine data to come from citizen science by 2025

# a growing community of interest



#### Coastal sentinels

Nearly 1800 sensors (@) now monitor temperatures at about 160 locations along more than 21,000 kilometers of Atlantic coastline. The Coupled Temperature and **Biodiversity Observation** Network, which is still expanding, is helping scientists understand how climate change and other factors are influencing the thermal environments of marine organisms in the highly dynamic intertidal



Opinion



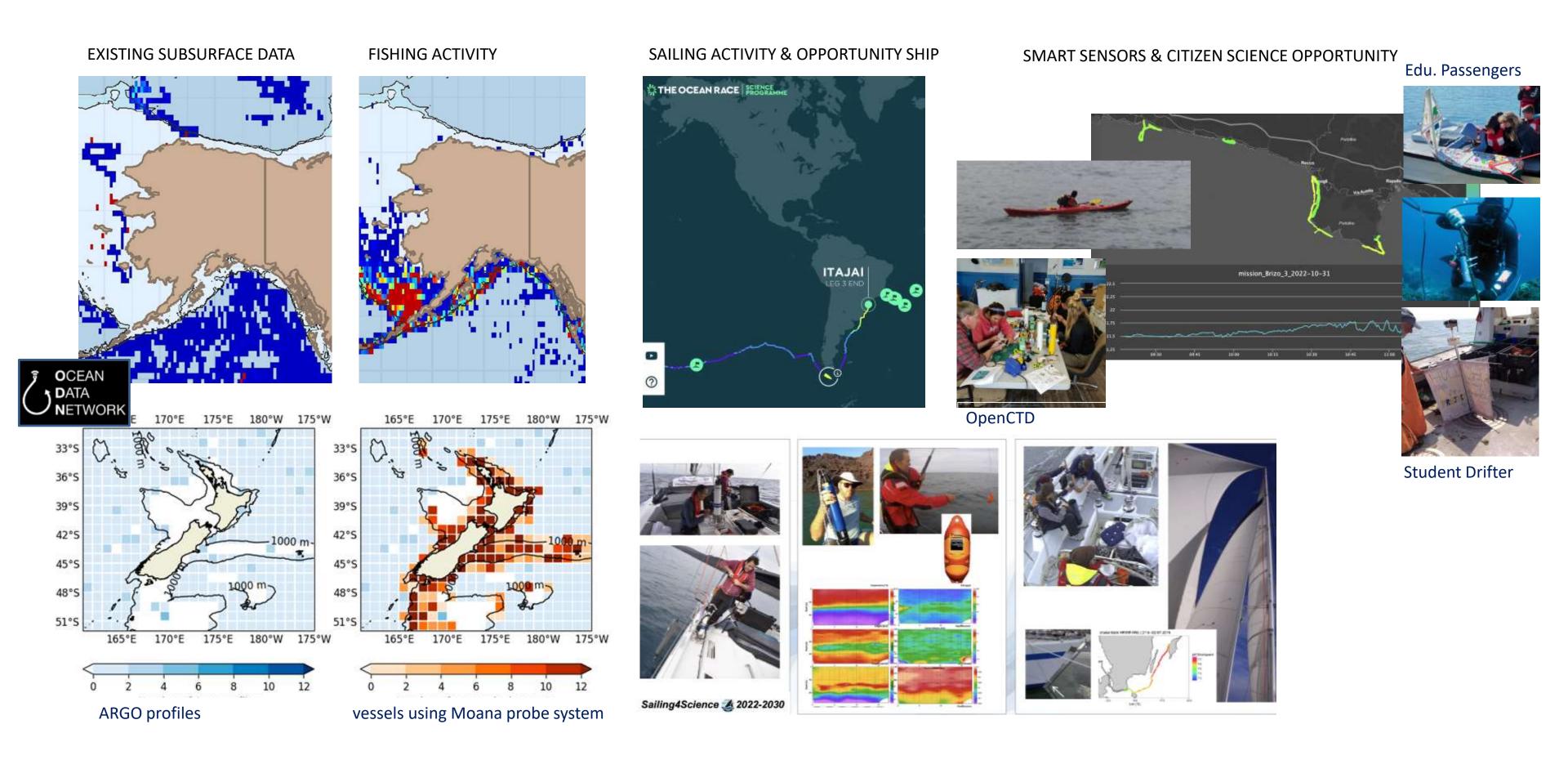


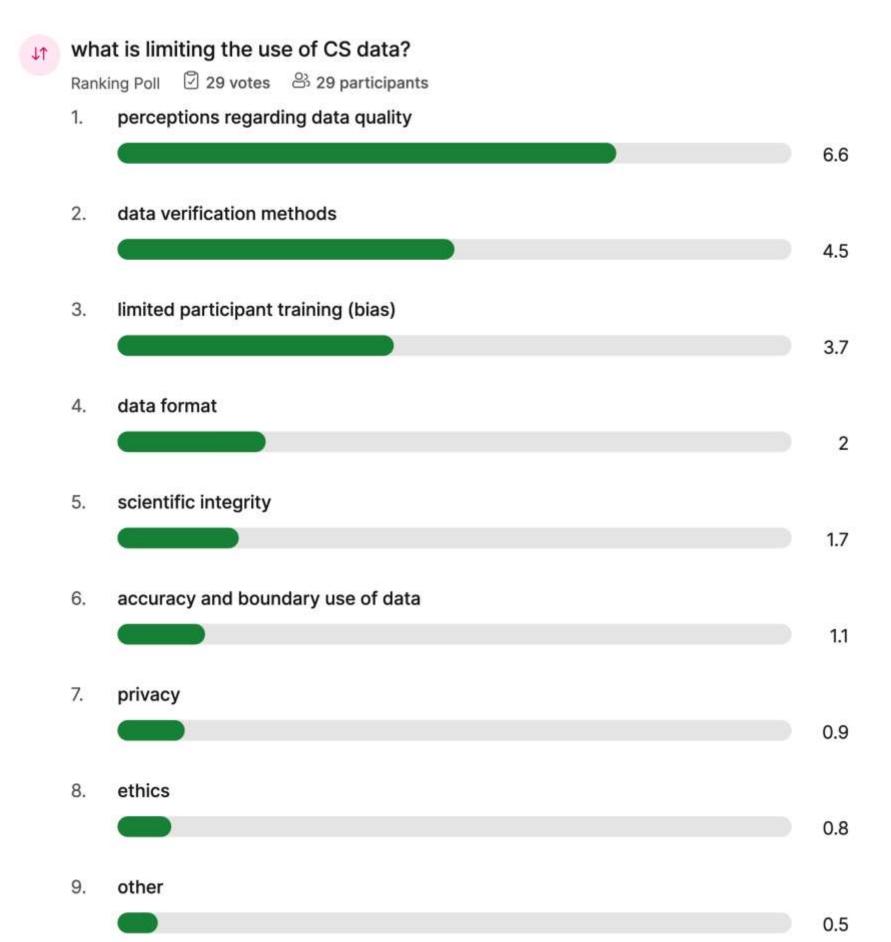
'It's ridiculously antiquated': could robot boats transform ocean science?

Sport Culture Lifestyle

https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/may/29/robot-boats-marine-science-wales-laverack-dowds-oshen

## **EMODnet** | examples of Citizen Science projects





An obstacle facing citizen science is **perceptions** regarding data quality despite several studies demonstrating that the data meets accepted **quality** standards (Cox et al. <u>2012</u>; Forrester et al. <u>2015</u>; Kosmala et al. <u>2016</u>; Schläppy et al. <u>2017</u>).

These concerns often relate but are not limited to a lack of attention to project design and standardized data verification **methods**, limited participant training and sampling **biases** (Conrad and Hilchey <u>2011</u>; Burgess et al. <u>2017</u>)

The aim is not necessarily to reach the highest precision level with Citizen Science measurements, but to provide a consistent data quality (accuracy) and description of limitations that define the boundaries of use for applications

### Dealing with CS data | legal concerns

When we speak about citizen science data collection we speak about data that are collected by citizens while performing other activities (e.g. outdoor, fishing, ...), projects that are involving communities to collect data cost effective sensors that may need a scientific validation/review different workflows and resolutions (pictures, annotations, cheap sensors ...)

Legal concerns may raise on: privacy, security, quality, use... ethics

Research ethics is based on a clear distinction between a researcher and a research participant. Research ethics has as its main focus the protection of research participants from risks of harm, and charges the researcher with providing these protections.

The citizen science research can take a number of configurations, ranging from absolutely centralized to absolutely de-centralized, and the many degrees of de-centralization in between

## Dealing with CS data | General Status and Next Steps

- most of the projects are dealing with census/presence, abundance, assessments, ...
- snap and share approach is an easy recruiter
- "zero-reporting" approach very well received
- sensor based approach still very limited
- SCUBA divers, fishers, sailors, students, biggest contributors for "marine" CS
- Need to understand the full landscape and needs
  - What low-cost sensors exist?
  - Developers?
- More widespread acceptance of cost-effective tech and data collected by Citizen Scientist
- Need for a centralized marketplace website to distribute information
  - Create a website/database/directory of low-cost tech, providers, & testbeds
- Need for a set of best practices and standards to be readily available
- Move away from the term "cheap" and "low-cost "as it conjures sense of low quality



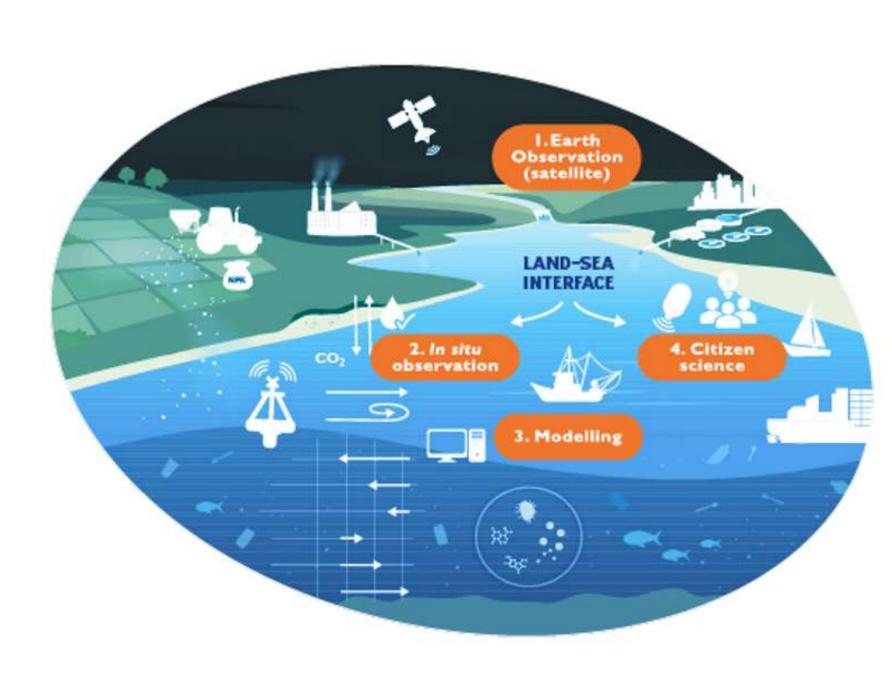
#### HORIZON-CL6-2023-GOVERNANCE-01-11: Reducing observation gaps in

the land-sea interface area

LandSeaLot: Land-Sea interface: Let's observe together!

#### Aim:

- better integration and collaboration between communities working in the LSI: in situ observations and citizen science with satellite observations and models.
- to provide technical solutions to collect new in situ observations to close coastal observation gaps
- The technical solutions are composed of low-cost/costefficient technologies and/or citizen science activities to collect the data and expand the number of in situ observations
- make an inventory of sensors and sensor developers to create a "market place"
- observational data and integrated information products FAIR through EMODnet, Copernicus and DTO



#### Next steps:

- Provide a **focal point for coordination** and alignment of initiatives to identify synergies
- End-user engagement to inform co-design of cost-effective ocean observing solutions
  - **User/stakeholder engagement** is critical in design of systems
  - Create communication between users and providers
- Network building
- Develop a **framework** to enhance and enable **data interoperability**.
  - development of standards
  - Support connections to existing data ingestion platforms e.g. EMODnet
  - Support FAIR access to data and link to the modelling community so that in-situ data can be readily used in models







Observations in Under-**Resourced Countries** 



Sailing4Science











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