



Co-designing All-Atlantic Ocean Observations and Modelling: Implementing Community Recommendations

Side Event alongside the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance (AAORIA) 2025 Forum

24 September 2025, 3:00-5:30 PM
Charlemagne Building, European Commission, Brussels



Please plan to arrive early, as going through security and obtaining a badge at the entrance may take some time. We recommend arriving at least 30-45 minutes before the official start of your session.

Event background and description

The AAORIA High-Level Board endorsed a [Work Plan for Ocean Observations and Modelling](#) as a path forward for AAORIA's Area of Action #2. Five expert groups were convened and consulted over the spring of 2025 for their recommendations for impactful activities that would advance the objectives in the work plan. The five groups recommended specific activities which, if funded, would help to increase our understanding of 1) ocean productivity across trophic levels; 2) productivity in the deep sea including connections to the upper ocean; 3) the dynamics of the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC) and how they may change; 4) connections between coastal land, coastal ocean, and open ocean; and 5) methods to improve Atlantic ocean data management with FAIR and CARE principles.

[The recommendations report](#) is intended to be a menu of options to direct current or future collaborations and resources with maximum impact. Many of the recommended activities build on existing global or regional efforts, with an emphasis on the Atlantic and its less well understood areas. All of them will require thoughtful planning and partnership-building to be successful. To this end, AAORIA is convening this side event to consult the All-Atlantic community on co-designing activities to ensure implementation meets needs, is inclusive of partners and stakeholders, and results in a maximum impact.

Following a brief overview of the recommended activities, a representative from each expert group will guide the audience through a detailed discussion on implementing one or more activities recommended by their group. All of the activities are equally highly recommended by the expert groups, but we will use the time we have to focus on a subset of activities that require more complex planning and interdisciplinary partnership.



Objectives

- Highlight the *Recommendations from the Ocean Observations and Modeling Expert Groups to the AAORIA High-Level Board*
- Lead the audience in a discussion on co-designing the implementation of selected recommended activities.
- Solicit audience input on cross-cutting considerations, especially with respect to ensuring All-Atlantic representation and participation.
- Discuss how to leverage private-public partnerships and encourage novel types of partnerships during the implementation of the activities.

Agenda

Run of Show:

Moderator: Meredith Kurz, NOAA

	Time	Description	Speaker(s)
Introduction	15h00	Welcome Background and overview of the Recommendations and the objectives of the session	Dr. Steve Thur, Assistant Administrator for Research, NOAA
	15h10	The EU host perspective Presenting cross-cutting considerations from the EU perspective as Forum host	Dr. Nicolas Segebarth, European Commission
	15h15	Principles of co-design Overview of co-design principles and lessons to be used in implementation of AAORIA activities	Jessica Snowden, NOAA
	15h23	Audience Q&A Open floor for the audience to ask general questions which could be directed at Steve, Nicolas, or Jessica	Meredith Kurz, NOAA



Expert perspectives	Priority area expert perspectives <i>The objective is for an expert to stimulate conversation by sharing their perspective on the priority area. Presentations will highlight their organization's efforts in this space, and also touch on how that fits into the landscape of the All-Atlantic.</i>		
	15h30	Productivity across trophic levels Argentina's observations from space	Dr. Josefina Pérès, National Space Activities Commission of Argentina (CONAE)
	15h42	Productivity in the deep sea Digital Deep Cabo Verde	Dr. Yara Rodrigues, Instituto do Mar (IMar)
	15h54	The Atlantic Meridional Overturning Current (AMOC) Atlantis, AtlantOS, and AMOC	Dr. Jason Holt, UK National Oceanography Centre (NOC)
	16h06	Interactions across zones Synergies with CoastPredict and connections between observing and modeling the coasts	Dr. Giovanni Coppini, CoastPredict
	16h18	FAIR and CARE data for all, across zones Mapping the Atlantic Digital Landscape	Dr. Adam Leadbetter, Decade Coordination Office for Ocean Data Sharing (DCO-ODS)



Small group discussions	Small group discussions <i>The objectives are 1) to engage an audience with diverse expertise and backgrounds in discussions about these recommended activities; and 2) to gather community input on these activities and integrate it in our plans for implementation, should they be fully funded and resourced.</i>		
	The room will be split into five sections for each of the five themes, and the audience will choose to visit two of the five sections for 20 minutes. The expert speakers will stay with their associated theme. The audience may ask them questions about their initiative, but the general discussion should focus on the guiding discussion questions. Discussion questions at each small group: - What groups/activities/initiatives NEED to be involved in planning and implementing this action? - Who are the primary end users of the output from this activity (e.g. where should benefit be seen)? - Could we benefit from engaging additional areas or sectors, either in implementation or in distributing the output? [i.e., economists, private sector, reinsurance industry etc.] - What capacity needs in the Global South can or should be addressed through this activity? What recommendations do you have for integrating capacity building and/or development into the planning and implementation process?		
	16h30	Moderator gives instructions and framing questions	Meredith Kurz, NOAA
	16h40	Phase one Participants spend approx. 18 minutes at their first station of choice before rotation to next station	
	17h00	Phase two Participants spend approx. 18 minutes at their second station of choice before settling back into seats for wrap up	
Wrap Up	17h20	Wrap Up Brief summary of event and how to stay involved	Dr. Steve Thur, NOAA