

Title: OceanGliders/Regional Technical Coordinator
Domain: Ocean Science
Grade: P-2

Organizational Unit: Ocean Observations and Services Section, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC/OOS)

Duty Station: JCOMMOPS Office, Brest, France
Type of contract: Temporary post (initial appointment of 6 months, renewable subject to funds availability. Successive contracts shall not exceed 24 months in any period of 36 consecutive months or up to the maximum of 24 months)

Annual salary (indicative gross salary): USD 56,542

Deadline (*midnight, Paris time*): 25 January 2019

UNESCO Core Values: Commitment to the Organization, Integrity, Respect for Diversity, Professionalism

Overview of the functions of the post

JCOMMOPS acts as a focal point for implementation and operation of relevant observing platforms, occupying a unique place as the focal point for the practical coordination of the 'global' in-situ ocean observing systems, such as Argo, DBCP, OceanSITES, GO-SHIP, SOT, GLOSS. And emerging 'global' networks such as OceanGliders, as defined by JCOMM Observations Programme Area (OPA). Its role consists of the following core activities:

- Supporting the implementation and deployment of the observing networks through close interaction with programme managers and platform operators, and through Capacity Development and outreach;
- Establishing, maintaining and verifying mechanisms for the timely exchange of data and metadata, including the facilitation of quality control and archival functions, with a primary focus on the flow of quality of metadata;
- Developing a consistent set of tools to monitor the status of the observing system and its attendant data and metadata distribution.

The JCOMMOPS Team continuously improves and adapts tools and services to the changing requirements of the global networks.

The OceanGliders/Regional Technical Coordinator role, within the JCOMMOPS team, will focus on work supporting the OceanGlider emerging network, in line with JCOMMOPS core mission and the OceanGlider Steering Team needs, and also develop new support and visualisation for the ocean observing system at a regional level (Mediterranean). The incumbent will perform the following duties:

1. OceanGliders (approx. 70% role):

- Support ensuring the flow of core OceanGliders metadata (as defined by JCOMMOPS) from the OceanGliders community of operators into the JCOMMOPS web-based Information System;
 - Provide specifications for Web developments needed to support monitoring and visibility of the OceanGliders network within the JCOMMOPS website, including the design of initial monthly maps to track and promote the global operations of OceanGliders;
 - Coordination of Data Management work to define a united OceanGliders format v1.0, including metadata;
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- Support the establishment of Global Data Assembly Centres (GDACs) for OceanGliders network serving OceanGliders data format v1.0;
- Support planning of meetings of the OceanGliders Steering Team and coordinate OceanGliders community activities and projects as determined by the OceanGliders Steering Team;
- Release a brief activity report on the OceanGliders network, including metrics on status, metadata quality and providers.

2. JCOMMOPS 'core' Operations and Regional Coordination (approx. 30% role):

- The incumbent will take part in supporting the JCOMMOPS team work, as defined in the JCOMMOPS Work Plan and priorities agreed by the JCOMM OCG and for the benefit of an integrated observing system;
- Specific support will be provided, as prioritized, to existing and emerging JCOMM observing networks;
- Survey and mapping of existing sustained ocean observing system implementers in the regional area - Mediterranean Sea - with assistance from the Balearic Islands Observing and Forecasting System (SOCIB);
- Communication with identified regional focal points in the Mediterranean Sea to register observing platforms into JCOMMOPS, if not already registered, thus enabling dataflow from systems that are not yet sharing data;
- Monitor and work with the identified contacts to improve metadata quality across the regional observing platforms and to enable metadata synchronization between established systems, such as CMEMS and EMODNet;
- Release a brief activity report on the Mediterranean Sea Observing System, including metrics on status and providers.

This position falls under the authority of the Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO) and the direct supervision of the Head of the IOC Ocean Observations and Services Section and the Joint WMO-IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM) Observing Programmes Support Centre (JCOMMOPS) Lead, and within the framework of IOC's Medium-Term Strategy, the JCOMM Observation Coordination Group and JCOMMOPS Work Plans. The incumbent shall undertake the tasks outlined above as a member of the JCOMMOPS team.

Competencies

A successful candidate will be required to demonstrate the following competencies:

Core Competencies

Accountability
 Communication
 Teamwork
 Innovation
 Results focus
 Planning and organizing
 Knowledge sharing and continuous improvement

Required qualifications

Education

- Advanced university degree (Masters or equivalent degree) in Oceanography, Marine Science, Earth Science or related field.

Work Experience

- A minimum 2 years of progressively responsible relevant experience in the field of ocean observations (ideally ocean gliders, unmanned systems, or similar platforms) or services, of which preferably 1 year at the international level;
- Experience in coordinating, managing and implementing projects or programs, national or international;
- Experience in data and metadata management.

Skills and Competencies

- Good knowledge of ocean instrumentation and in-situ observing systems;
- Strong project or program management skills;

UNESCO is committed to promoting geographical distribution and gender equality within its Secretariat. Therefore, women candidates are strongly encouraged to apply, as are nationals from non- and under-represented Member States. Persons with disabilities equally are encouraged to apply.

Worldwide mobility is required as staff members must be ready to serve in other duty stations in accordance with UNESCO's geographical mobility policy.

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- Excellent analytical skills, including ability to identify complex issues and advise on ways forward respecting the constraints of the organizations involved;
- Very good communication skills (oral and written) with proven ability to make effective and persuasive oral presentations to both technical and general audiences;
- Proven ability to work both autonomously and as part of an integrated team with colleagues, staff and stakeholders at all levels, internal and external, including building and maintaining partnerships;
- Good general knowledge in data management and/or web development would be advantageous;
- Appropriate attitude towards the international and multicultural characteristics involved in the assignment and working within the UNESCO system;
- Proven ability to communicate, advocate and negotiate with colleagues, staff and stakeholders at all levels, internal and external;
- Ability to maintain effective working relationship in a multicultural environment;
- Capacity to build and maintain partnerships with internal and external stakeholders.

Languages

- Excellent knowledge of English.
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Desirable qualifications

Education

- A first-level university degree in combination with two additional years of qualifying experience may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree.

Work Experience

- Experience with International Organization and/or United Nations agencies.

Skills and Competencies

- Availability for travel.

Languages

- Knowledge of other official IOC languages (French, Spanish, Russian, Chinese).
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Assessment

An assessment exercise may be used in the evaluation of candidates.

How to apply

Applications to be sent to:

Emma Heslop, e.heslop@unesco.org and Mathieu Belbéoch, mbelbeoch@jcommops.org.

Please provide letter of motivation, CV and a list of three referees that may be contacted.

Questions can be addressed to Mathieu Belbéoch, mbelbeoch@jcommops.org.

Benefits and entitlements

UNESCO's salaries are calculated in US dollars. They consist of a basic salary and a post adjustment, which reflects the cost of living in a particular duty station, as well as exchange rates. Other benefits include: 30 days annual leave, family allowance, home travel, education grant for dependent children, pension plan and medical insurance. More details can be found on the [ICSC Website](#).

Please note that UNESCO is a no-smoking Organization.

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