

Breakout Group on Standards and Best Practices

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Discussion items

- Collecting these best practices in a central repository, the IODE Ocean Best Practices System (OBPS), is of high value for the ocean observing communities and the science community as a whole
- Not all Best Practices have to be transferred to standards. It depends on the value/benefit for the community
- Mission critical observations, for instance Tsunami forecasting systems, need standards
- Metadata of data is very important for data users. WMO has developed the Observing System Capability Analysis and Review ([OSCAR](#)) tool which targets all users interested in the status and the planning of global observing systems as well as data users looking for instrument specifications at platform level

Questions?

- Where do we go with standards, a clear goal has to be defined?
- Can standards inhibit technological innovation or will standards promote innovation?
- How do we highlight the best practices that shall be converted to standards?
- What is a good time to define standards and what is the value and the maintenance of that and how to interact with WMO?
- Should a rating system be established? This has to be a moderated process to avoid any conflicting views.

Recommendations

- It should be considered to develop a more elaborate structure for the OBPS portal that make the access to the required information more intuitive
- Pilot projects shall be initiated to assist this process where a certain number of different use cases shall be elaborated to act as template for other domains. This will include capacity building aspects. Champions could be the cases of the carbon measuring community, ARGO, GO-SHIP, and HF RADAR. The promotion of communities like the glider community would benefit from this effort
- It should be considered to connect OBPS to GITHUB, or at least make use of the GITHUB platform