



GROOM

Gliders for Research, Ocean Observation and Management
FP7-Infra-2011-2.1.1 "Design Studies"

Deliverable D1.3

2nd Advisory Board meeting minutes

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Project website address <http://www.groom-fp7.eu>

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I. INTRODUCTION

This report presents

- the minutes of the 2nd Advisory Board (AB) meeting during the 3rd General Assembly of the project held in Paris on September 2014, 19th. The AB members present at this GA are members of other European Marine Research Infrastructures and from EuroGOOS, the major European stakeholder for observations for operational oceanography,
- and a summary of the others meetings with AB members held during the 2nd reporting period.

II. ADVISORY BOARD AT THE 3RD GROOM GENERAL ASSEMBLY

GROOM 3rd General Assembly convened at Université Pierre-et-Marie Curie in Paris on the 19th of September 2014. The following three members of the AB were present:

Dr. Richard LAMPITT, coordinator of the ongoing FP7 FIXO3 project,

Dr. Patrick GORRINGE, Senior Operations Officer from the AISBL EuroGOOS,

Dr. Pierre-Yves LETRAON, coordinator of the ERIC Euro-Argo.

After the scientific presentations during the GA, the AB members presented their feedbacks and recommendations to the project during the last session of the GA. In addition to their feedbacks based on the presentations and discussion during the GA, the AB members were asked to comment or answer the following questions:

- GROOM @ EuroGOOS (P. Gorringe):

- Which institutional support from EuroGOOS can be established to the European glider Research Infrastructures as a whole, after the end of the GROOM project?
- Which kind of concrete actions can be conducted with EuroGOOS to exploit EGO/GROOM momentum?

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- GROOM @ FIXO3 (R. Lampitt):

- How to concretize potential GROOM inputs to the workpackage 11 "Optimization of ocean observing capability" of the FIXO3 project?
- Which kind of concrete actions with FIXO3 and other MRIs can be conducted to exploit EGO/GROOM momentum?

- GROOM @ Euro-Argo (P.-Y. Letraon):

- Which concrete work can be conducted with the Euro-Argo ERIC after the end of GROOM?
- Comments on the existing (or may be not) present ESFRI trend toward larger Marine RIs.

The feedbacks, comments and recommendations of the AB members are the following:

Dr. Richard LAMPITT

- was very enthusiastic about the project and progress made in three years. He highlighted that GROOM community has real strengths for a concrete and significant participation in observing systems. He strengthened the fact that a structured community with governance is mandatory and needed for a participation to the GOOS and that GROOM has achieved good progresses for that, but also raised the question on how the community will move forward after the project.
- He congratulated the project on its achievement, going from 1 glider 10 years ago to over 80 gliders now.
- He pointed out the advantages of the glider in observing systems such as mission planning, recovery and relatively low risk potential (collision, fishery, landing...). He also describes the developed tools (piloting, mission planning, fleet experiments) as a great strength for a joint glider MRI.
- He remarked that the main present disadvantage of the present glider technology for observing systems is reliability. He insists on the necessity to keep pushing on the manufacturers and gliders operators to improve reliability.

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Dr. Pierre-Yves LETRAON

- highlighted the outstanding achievements of GROOM for sustained observations with gliders. For this, GROOM has successfully analyzed and also started to implement a complex work/data flow organization to safely operate gliders.
- He recommended keeping clearly separated in the infrastructure the research and the operational activities. The final report should make that clear and present the need for an infrastructure at European level covering both objectives or only the operational ones.
- He also advised to better define the link with the private sector, not only as instrument provider but also as a service provider/user.
- He also highlighted that a long-term commitment from national funding to make glider activities sustained is still to be found in most GROOM countries, like it is the ERIC Euro-Argo which is now running only with national funding. Also, the long-term organization of the future glider RI should start first at the level of the institution which owns the glider. This seems not to be the case in all the GROOM partner's countries.

Pierre-Yves Letraon provided then more detailed comments to better understand the potential link between GROOM and the ERIC Euro-Argo.

- He suggested that process studies and operational monitoring (that is required both for research and operational oceanography) should possibly be considered differently from an organizational point of view. There is a relevant parallel to be drawn between Argo monitoring (the ERIC Euro-Argo vs Argo research (where Argo profilers are used for process studies) does not follow the sampling rules as for global Argo monitoring) and glider monitoring vs glider process studies. It is important to notice that in the case of Argo, data from both activities (monitoring and process studies) are added to the global Argo dataset.
- Again, thinking and explaining what could be the added value of a European umbrella for both activities has to be done carefully. Are they really needed for both research studies and monitoring? This question should be clearly solved by the end of the GROOM project.
- He recommended that the glider community considers EU funding only as a "glue", but not to build anything. By working more clearly on a long term commitment at the

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member states level the glider community will gain credibility and will be in position to ask for EU funding for the implementation of the European glider RI itself.

- From Euro-Argo experience, he believes that institutional funding is easier than thought to secure the coordinator position(s) (in the case of Euro-Argo, Ifremer supported this position). He thinks that securing the coordination of the glider Research Infrastructure must be the priority now.
- With institutional funding commitments and a secured coordination position, commitments at the national level in the framework of the ESFRI roadmap will be much easier to get. ESFRI is in fact the right tool to get national long term funding commitment.
- About the links with private sector, he indicated that GROOM must have a more clear position. For example, concerning the question "is the RI willing to offer services to the private sector?", he thinks that the organization and economic model of the RI could be quite different. GROOM should work better this entire question and its consequences on the organization before opening the infrastructure to industry.
- He agreed on the fact there are many complementarities between Argo and Gliders. He maintained the wish of Euro-Argo to work together with glider on common subjects such as delayed mode data management, use of sensors, etc. He also pointed out the necessity to have a common position on observing ocean strategy to optimize the future European Ocean Observing System. This common position should be worked out possibly within EuroGOOS and an active contribution of GROOM to EOOS EuroGOOS Task Team.
- Concerning the need for an ERIC to ensure the development of the glider activities in Europe, he warned GROOM on the complexity of such organization. He suggested that with the clarification of GROOM on its long term strategy, the need for the right type of legal structure will become clearer.
- In any case, Euro-Argo stakeholders are ready to work with the GROOM Community to improve the GOOS. Based on the work already done, this coordination level is easily possible today and it surely doesn't need an ERIC or ESFRI funding, but however some funding for that at the institutional level must be secured. Again, such cooperative actions between the two RIs will be very helpful for any ERIC/ESFRI perspective.

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- Pierre-Yves Letraon final message was: By setting up a sustained coordination process for GROOM at a European level without any EC funding will be a very good sign to show the maturity of the community. He added that he is ready to help GROOM to organize the glider coordination at the international level in the GOOS context, where GROOM has shown its relevance by its important achievements, in particular for data management.

Dr. Patrick GORRINGE

- was impressed by the work done in GROOM and the progress made, in general and also since the previous AB in Trieste.
- He stressed the importance of well organized marine observing systems communities to show the strength of ocean science with respect to other science communities in Europe which seems to be more efficient to get long term funding commitments from the member states. Generally speaking, he explained that only a well organized group at the national and European level could efficiently claim for sustained national funding.
- EuroGOOS is organized along working groups and task teams. He recommended that GROOM establishes as soon as possible a glider Task Team with its own terms of reference. EuroGOOS can also provide support to GROOM by offering technical assistance to the community (web site, link with EMODNET).

III. OTHER MEETINGS WITH ADVISORY BOARDS MEMBERS

1 - Workshop on Arctic and Marine Research Infrastructures, 17/09/2013, Rome, Italy

Meeting with Jacques Binot (EuroFleet)

2 - EuroGOOS AISBL annual General Meeting, 20/11/2013, Brussels, Belgium

Meeting with Pierre-Yves Letraon (Euro-Argo), Pierre Bahurel (MyOcean), Patrick Gorringe (EuroGOOS)

3 - Oceanology International 2014, 11/03/2014, London. UK

Meeting with Zdenka Willis (IOOS/NOAA)

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4 - ICRI 2014, 02/04/2014, Athens, Greece

Meeting with Paolo Favalli (EMSO), Michael Thorndyke (EMBRC)

5 - Workshop "Landscape of the European Research Infrastructures for Environmental Sciences", 22/05/2014, Paris, France

Meeting with Paolo Favalli (EMSO), Sylvie Pouliquen (Euro-Argo)

6 – Tara Expeditions Workshop at Stazione Zoologica du Napoli, 10/09/2014, Naples, Italy

Meeting with Wiebe Kooistra (EMBRC)