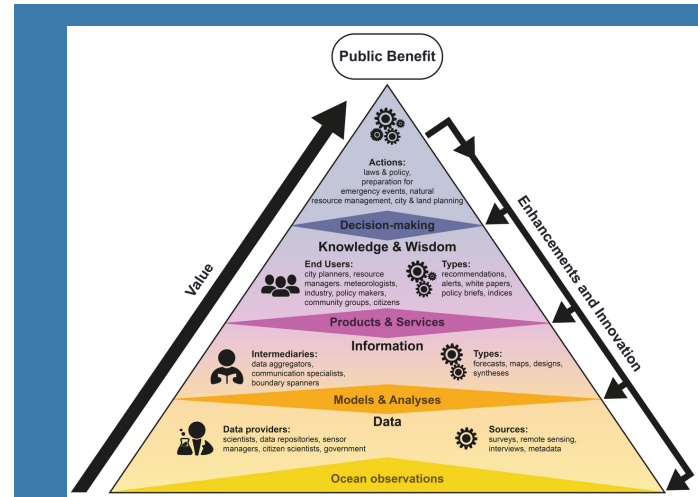


# IMPACT REPORT

Sustaining *in situ* Ocean Observations in the Age of the Digital Ocean

EMB Policy Brief 9, June 2021



The EMB Policy Brief on “Sustaining *in situ* Ocean Observations” is the output of an *ad hoc* Working Group of 7 members established by the European Marine Board. The result of this short-termed Working Group (January 2021- June 2021) was launched in a dedicated webinar on 17 June 2021 by Prof. Edward Hill (NOC, UK), one of the co-authors.

The document and its recommendations were presented or highlighted at the following events: (i) a dedicated European Commission event on Ocean Observation on 18 June 2021, (ii) a OECD online session on strategic approaches to sustainable marine data infrastructures on 28 June 2021, (iii) the 3rd EOOS Operations Committee meeting on 15 September 2021, (iv) the UN Decade Predicted Ocean Laboratory on 15-17 September 2021, (v) the International Digital Twins of the Ocean Summit on 4-5 May 2022, (vi) the 22nd Meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea on 7 June 2022 and (vii) the thirty-second Session of the Assembly of the IOC UNESCO on 27 June 2023.

The Policy Brief has been widely cited in both academic and grey literature, and since its publication, the topic of sustaining *in situ* Ocean Observations has increased in relevance and more discussions are taking place in different arenas at international, European and national levels on how to implement sustained Ocean observations and overcome the main challenges.

“The Policy Brief on Sustaining Ocean Observations from the EMB has significantly enriched EU research programmes by advocating for a European Ocean Observing System, fostering collaboration, and aligning with the objectives of Horizon Europe, thereby enhancing the prioritisation and integration of Ocean-related research endeavours.” **John Bell**, Director, Healthy Planet, Directorate-General Research & Innovation, European Commission

“The EU aims to collectively deliver on the Green and Digital transitions for the marine environment, towards healthy and resilient Ocean hosting a thriving sustainable blue economy. The success of the European Digital Twin Ocean is entirely connected with our capacity to coordinate and make available data from European Ocean observation and this publication demonstrates the cornerstone actions on how to achieve this” **Charlina Vitcheva**, Director General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commission

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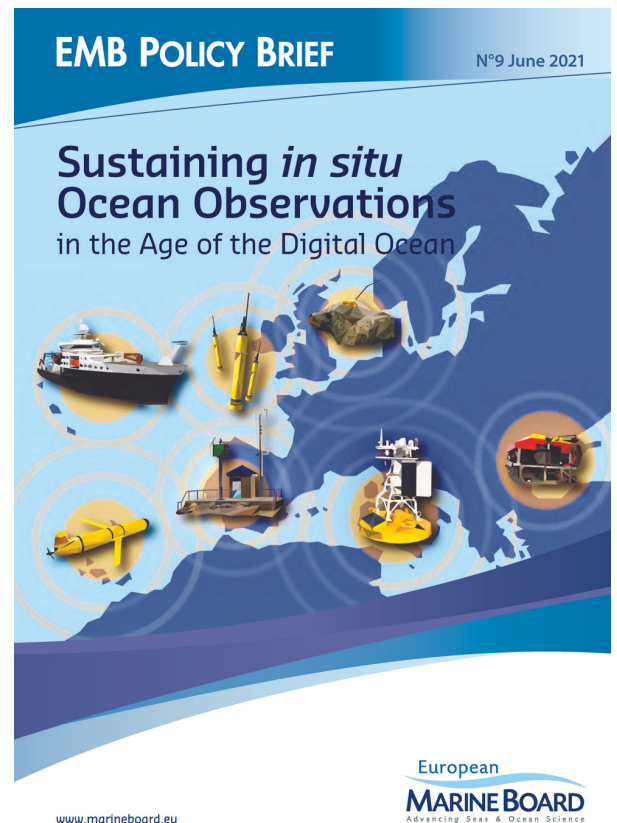
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