

## Ocean data networks and its utilization in Asia-Oceania region - challenges in AOGEO

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Ranging from the mountaintops of the Himalaya to small atoll nations in the Pacific Ocean, the Asia-Oceania (AO) region encompasses two-thirds of the world's population, that live in more than 60 countries that vary in size, economy, development status and environmental condition. With continuing development, particularly urbanization, the AO region is subject to rapid and widespread environmental changes that result in environmental deterioration, habitat and biodiversity loss and pollution that even reaches to the farthest waters for the Pacific. Sustainable development must therefore be based on a comprehensive assessment of disaster and environmental risks, along with their potential ramifications for environmental security and human well-being.

Thus, the Group of Earth Observation (GEO) has developed a new regional initiative, Asia Ocean GEO (AOGEO), that seeks to exploit coordinated access to earth observations to support sound decision-making at local, national and regional scales.

Under the AOGEO, the "Ocean, Coasts and Islands Task" promotes better access to marine data through: interoperability of data such as catalogues of state owned-data; standardization of in situ and satellite data through the development and application of standards including Analysis Ready Data (ARD), that provide confidence and consistency, and to better validate satellite based marine and coastal products by applying in-situ observation for calibration, validation and algorithm processing. OCI continues to build upon its user-engagement activities with Oceania states to provide capacity building and training, develop regionally-specific best-practice EO methods and products that are useful to these communities in addressing climate, environment and livelihood issues.

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