

Interactive comment on “Developing European operational oceanography for Blue Growth, climate change adaptation and mitigation and ecosystem-based management” by J. She et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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This position paper has been drafted by leading scientists, all deeply involved in the development of various components of operational oceanography at national, regional, and global scales.

The paper is quite extensive and despite the fact that the various sections are well written, certain sections confuse the reader, probably due to jumps from one topic to another: as for example on page 9, lines 10-27.

The paper has to be shortened and be more focused on those aspects that indeed concern practical topics of operational oceanography, and not on the theoretical topics. This is because several activities mentioned in the paper, as for example those regarding the ocean monitoring and data management, are not directly related to operational

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oceanography (SeaDataNet, EMODNET, ICES).

As clearly stated by the terms of the service operation, operational oceanography at coastal waters is not addressed by CMEMS. Following ECOOP, there was almost no serious-coordinated attempt to harmonize coastal operational oceanography on a systematic way, in order to align the models for example with the new developments implemented at regional levels of CMEMS. Any effort on coastal operational oceanography, particularly on forecasting, was mainly based on national interest.

The extended references for an ocean UOM system are indeed a vision. However, the operational oceanographic community at present, need to be consolidated with common tools that will ensure the harmonization with CMEMS in the coming years, to reproduce the correct sea conditions, assimilating in a common way in-situ and remote sensing observations.

Within the section on research priorities in the coastal waters, on page 30, lines 23-28, the text on EuroGOOS new membership does not add any important issue to the scope of the paper, therefore these lines must be deleted.

The paper as is in its present form is quite extensive, therefore I propose: a) To reduce it, excluding those paragraphs that do not add important or significant information about the needs and the aspects of operational oceanography. b) Present in a different and separate ways the vision for both global and regional operational oceanography, which despite their similarities are quite different. c) Provide further information about the coastal scale operational oceanography and expand on what has been achieved so far, as very little information is given in the paper at the present.

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