



**MERCATOR
OCEAN**
INTERNATIONAL

World leader in ocean monitoring,
forecasting and expertise

PRESS KIT

About Mercator Ocean International (MOi)

Mercator Ocean International (MOi) is a non-profit organisation committed to **building a science-based Digital Ocean for supporting the conservation and the sustainable use of our oceans and seas.**

MOi delivers an operational digital description of marine environments worldwide and helps organisations implement community and institutional programmes, projects and initiatives. It values its expert services in finding solutions for major ocean-related environmental, climate and societal challenges of our planet. It continuously builds interactions between scientists, policy-makers, public and institutional decision-makers and the civil society.



The organisation was founded by the five major French institutions involved in operational oceanography. In December 2017, they decided to open up the capital of Mercator Ocean to major and prominent players in operational oceanography to strengthen Mercator Ocean's capacity to expand in Europe and internationally. They now include: the French CNRS, Ifremer, IRD, Météo-France and SHOM; the Italian CMCC and CNR; the British MET OFFICE; the Norwegian NERSC, and the Spanish Puertos Del Estado.

Led by Director-General Pierre Bahurel, MOi is based in Toulouse, France and has over 100 employees.



Transforming into an intergovernmental organisation by 2025

At the One Ocean Summit organised by France in Brest in February 2022, six European states (France, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Spain, and the UK) showed commitment to developing European oceanographic excellence by transforming MOi into an intergovernmental body by 2025 through the "[Brest Declaration](#)".



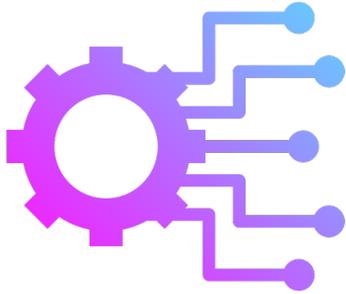
Press releases:

- [The Declaration of Brest at the One Ocean Summit: Mercator Ocean International to become an Intergovernmental organisation](#)
- [Transformation of Mercator Ocean International into an intergovernmental organisation](#)



What we do

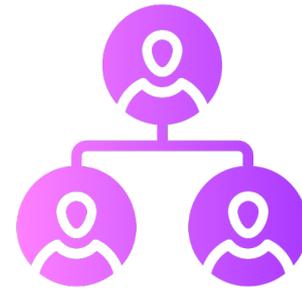
MOi has developed complex ocean simulation systems (numerical models) based on ocean observation data (satellite and in situ) that are able to describe, analyse and forecast the physical and biogeochemical state of the ocean at any given time, at the surface or at depth, on a global scale or for a specific zone, in real-time or delayed mode.



We **produce**
ocean data, information
& knowledge



We **develop** digital
systems and cloud
infrastructure



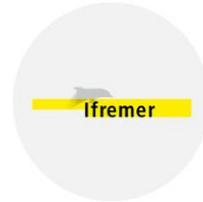
We **coordinate**
communities, projects
& programmes



Our governance

The organisation is governed by its General Assembly where each of the ten shareholders are represented. The organisation is directed by its Director General under the supervision of the Management Board. The Scientific Council, with an advisory role, reports to the General Assembly.

The shareholders



Learn more 



Pierre Bahurel, Director General of MOi



A graduate of the Ecole Polytechnique and an oceanographer, he began his career in Toulouse in 1994 at SHOM, the French Navy's Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service, where he worked on the development of the first real-time ocean forecasting systems. In 1999, he was in charge of coordinating the French ambition in this field, launching the first French ocean forecasting service and creating Mercator Ocean in 2002 to develop it. In 2006, he attended the CPA Executive MBA program at HEC in Toulouse, France, and engaged Mercator Ocean on the European scene. From 2009 to April 2015, he coordinated all the ocean forecasting centers in Europe that are partners in the European project MyOcean. At the end of 2014, he was awarded the EU delegation to set up the European Copernicus ocean monitoring service.

For more information on our team at MOi, click [here](#).



Programmes and activities



MOi serving EU priorities

Mercator Ocean International is fully committed to supporting the European Union's (EU) policies and goals in which the understanding of the current state of the ocean and predicting its future play a critical role. With its longstanding experience in serving EU priorities of the European Commission (Directorates-Generals on Defence, Industry and Space; Maritime Affairs and Environment; Research and Innovation; External Affairs), MOi continues to take an active part in helping the EU pursue its agenda towards a green and digital transition.

The Copernicus Marine Service



**Copernicus
Marine Service**
marine.copernicus.eu

MOi was officially entrusted by the European Commission in 2014 to design, manage, implement and operate the Copernicus Marine Service over the multi-annual financial framework 2014-2021. This role and responsibility has been renewed over the next phase of the Copernicus programme 2021 – 2027.

Copernicus Marine is one of the six thematic services of Copernicus, the European Union's Earth observation programme, providing free, regular and systematic authoritative information on the state of the Blue (physical), White (sea ice) and Green (biogeochemical) ocean, on a global and European scale.



Copernicus WEKEO DIAS Cloud Platform



In 2018, the European Commission launched an initiative called DIAS (Data and Information Access Services) to provide a single access point to all Copernicus data and information, alongside processing resources, tools and other relevant data. As key organisations in the Copernicus Programme, EUMETSAT, ECMWF, EEA and MOi were selected for their long-standing experience to develop the WEKEO Copernicus DIAS service for environmental data, virtual processing environments and skilled user support.

EU4OceanObs EU Foreign Policy Action



Since November 2020, MOi has been entrusted with the European Commission Service for Foreign Policy Action: International Ocean Governance: EU component to global observations. This action will be executed by MOi through a project entitled “EU4OceanObs” which aims to increase the EU’s visibility as a leading global actor, defend its interests and strengthen its influence in international decision-making bodies on the collection, sharing and use of ocean observations to address societal and environmental needs.



Working with the United Nations for “the ocean we want”

The United Nations adopted in 2015 the Sustainable Development 2030 Agenda, a voluntary plan of 17 goals (SDGs) and associated targets devised to link human well-being - today and for future generations - with economic progress, social justice and the health of the natural environment. The Agenda includes a goal dedicated to the ocean: **SDG 14**. MOi contributes by providing reliable data to measure several targets defined within SDG 14.



The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO) coordinates the [Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development](#) 2021-2030 to promote transformational, large-scale change to advance urgent action on moving from the 'ocean we have' to the 'ocean we want'.

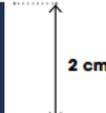
MOi hosts the [OceanPrediction Decade Collaborative Center](#), a Decade cross-cutting structure that will work at the global scale to develop collaboration between Decade Actions and other key actors related to ocean prediction. [Learn more](#)

Mercator Ocean International is also a member of the [United Nations Global Compact](#), the world's largest voluntary corporate sustainability initiative, since August 2019



Brand guidelines

For high resolutions of the MOi logo, please contact the MOi communication team communication@mercator-ocean.fr.



For reasons of legibility, the logo should never be used at sizes that would make it difficult to read or identify; it should not be reduced to less than 2 cm in height.



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#WeAreAllOceanCitizens

