



European  
Ocean  
Observing  
System

## Strategy 2023-2027 launch

# Regions with sparse observations - the Arctic

Agnieszka Beszczynska-Möller

Institute of Oceanology PAS, Poland

(ArcticROOS, Atlantic-Arctic DBO, IASC MWG,  
SAON Board, EU H2020 INTAROS, EU HE HiAOOS)

Organised by:

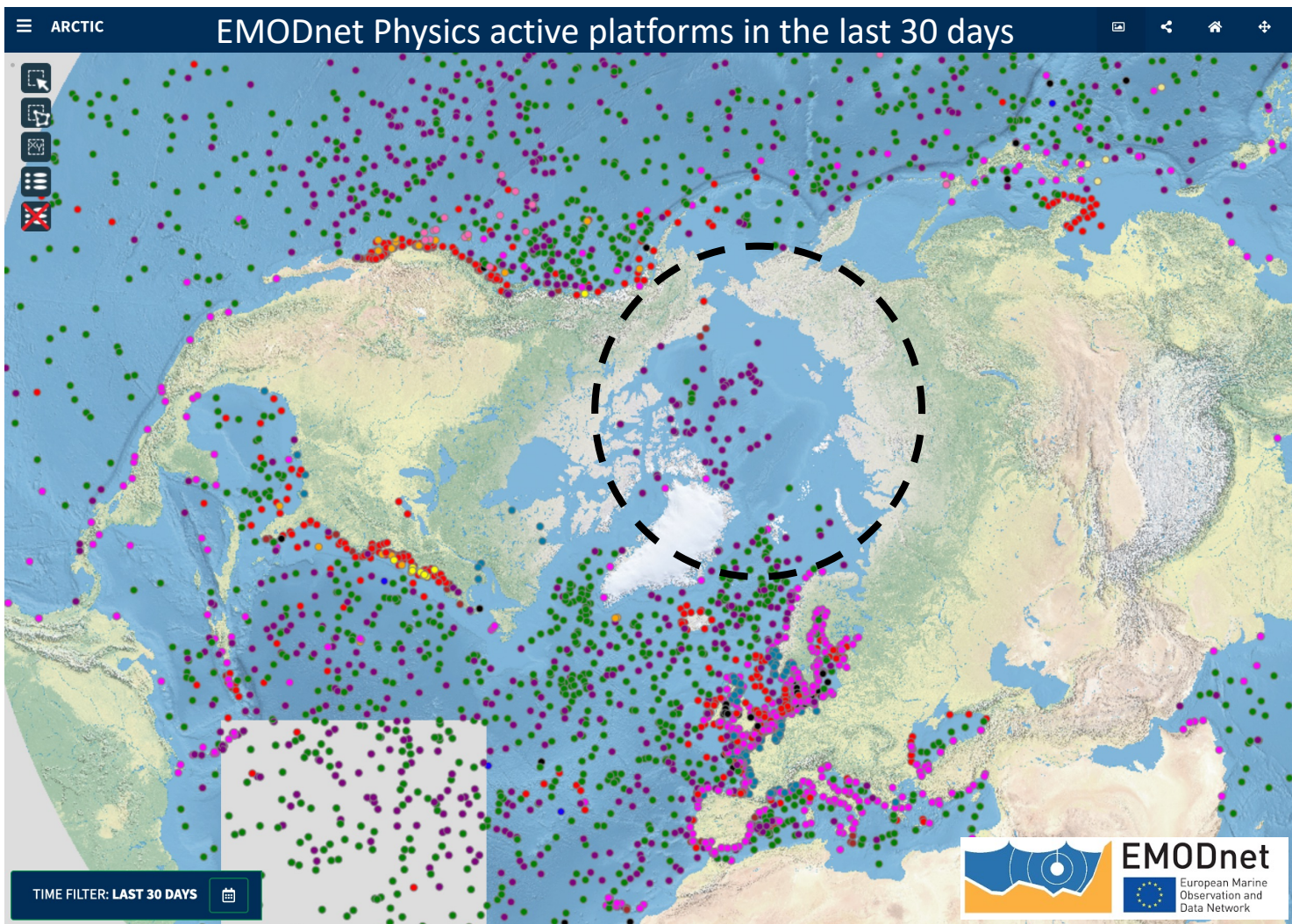


**EuroGOOS**  
European Global Ocean  
Observing System

European  
**MARINE BOARD**  
Advancing Seas & Ocean Science

Thursday, 2 March 2023

In situ observations are extremely sparse in the Arctic Ocean and Arctic seas as compared to other regions



## Challenges of Arctic observing

- **Scales**
  - Different needs for climate, operational forecast, constraining models, process studies,...
- **Access**
  - Physical - remote, harsh environment, sea ice
  - Political - critical areas within national EEZs
  - Technological - ice prevents access to critical services (GPS, Iridium), low temperatures, high risk to platforms and sensors
- **Coordination**
  - Scientific - coverage, protocols, priorities
  - Logistics – complex, costly, high risk operations
  - Data and product delivery - timely data provision for services, data curation
- **Scalability/Flexibility**
  - Sustaining long-term integrated measurements
  - Different needs from climate to tactical
  - Evolving with changing environment

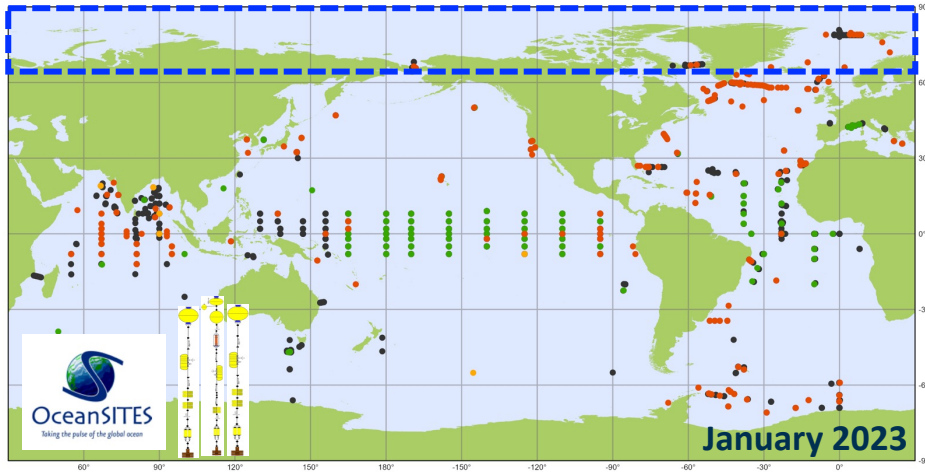


Arctic observations are growing in number but still underrepresented in the main global ocean networks

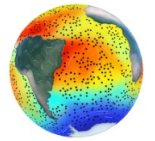
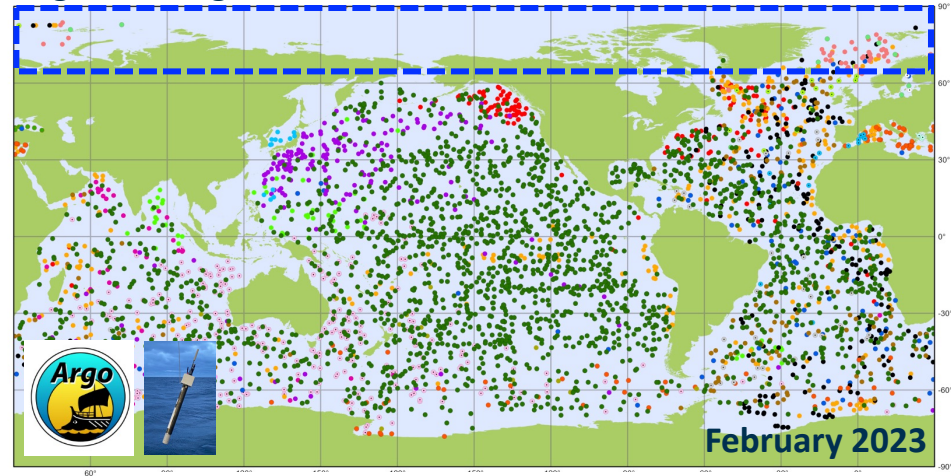


European  
Ocean  
Observing  
System

Sustained Mooring Deployments

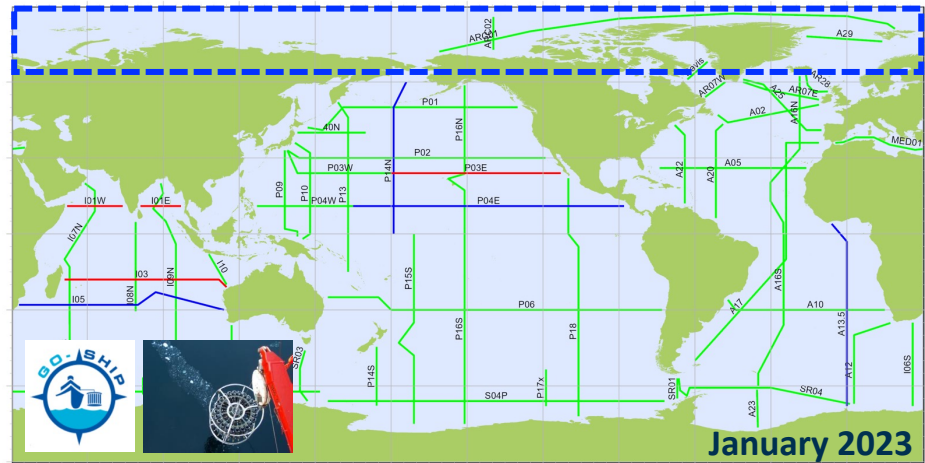


Argo Profiling Float Network

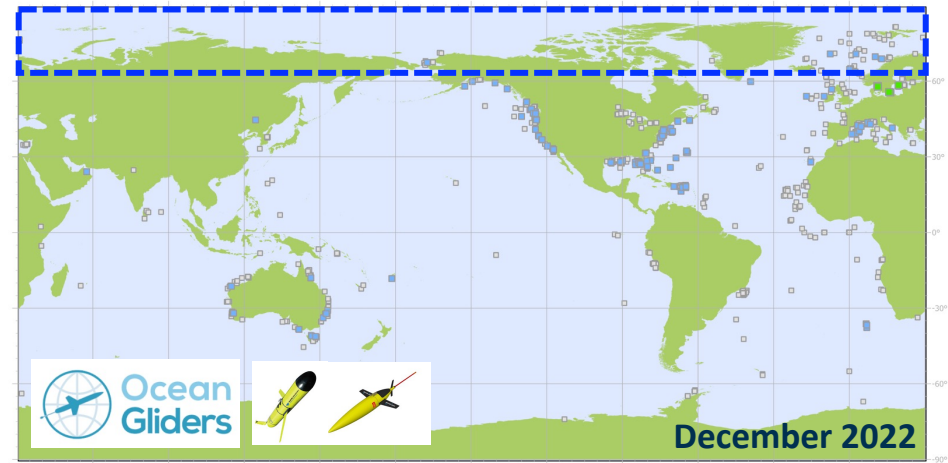


Generated by  
ocean-ops.org

OceanSITES



Argo



GO-SHIP

Sustained GO-SHIP Core Lines

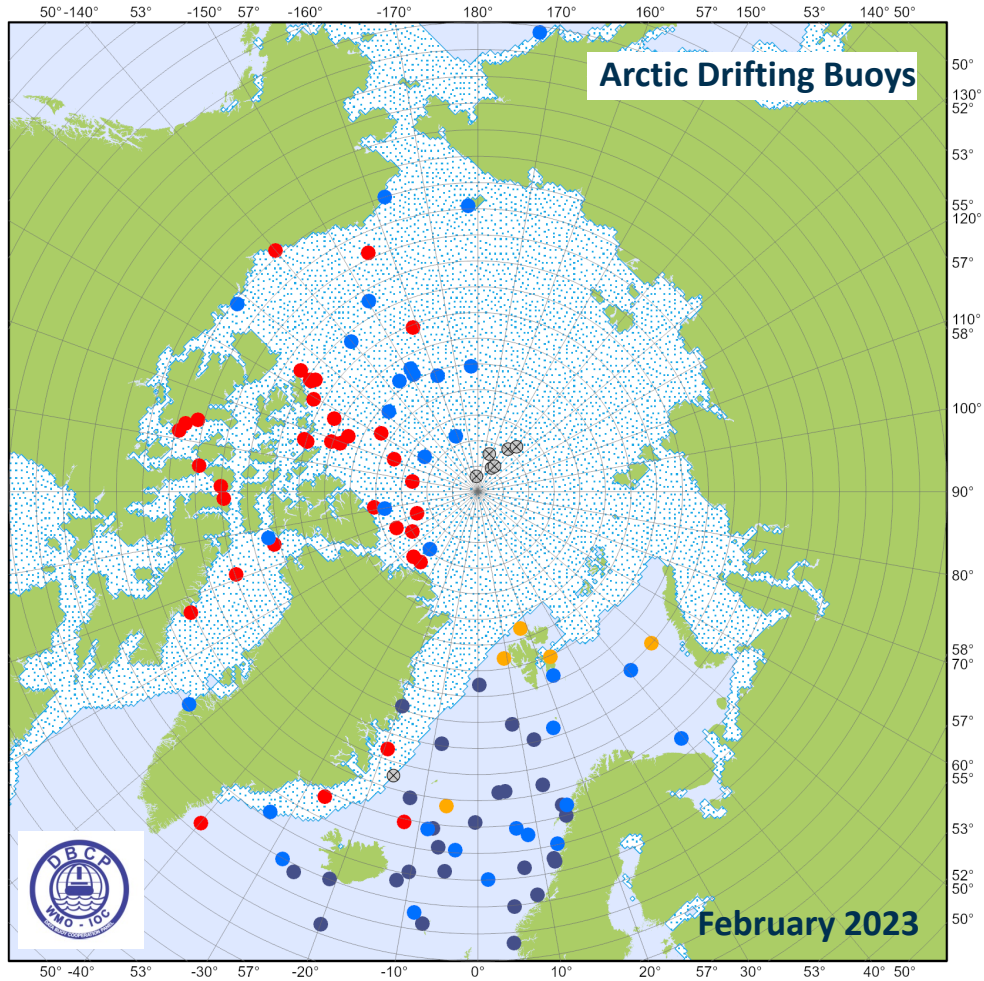
OceanGliders

Ocean Gliders Deployments

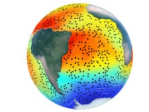
Most of operational data provided by the ice-based platforms drifting in the ice covered Arctic regions



European  
Ocean  
Observing  
System

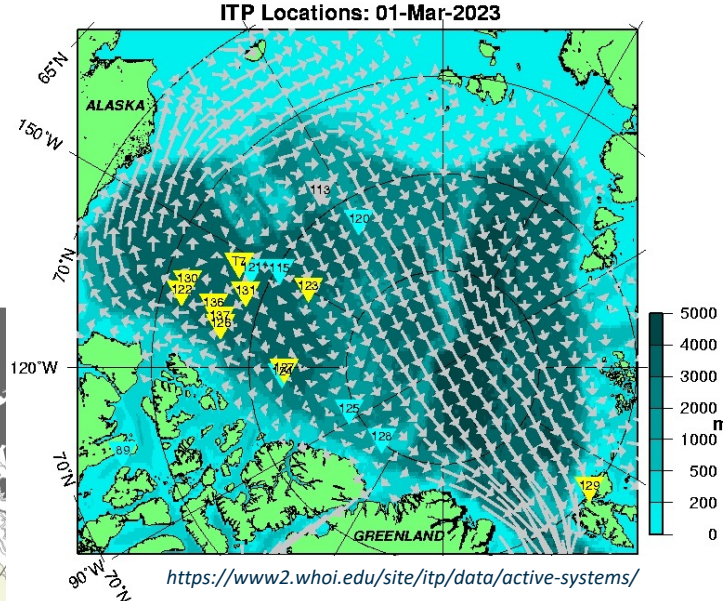
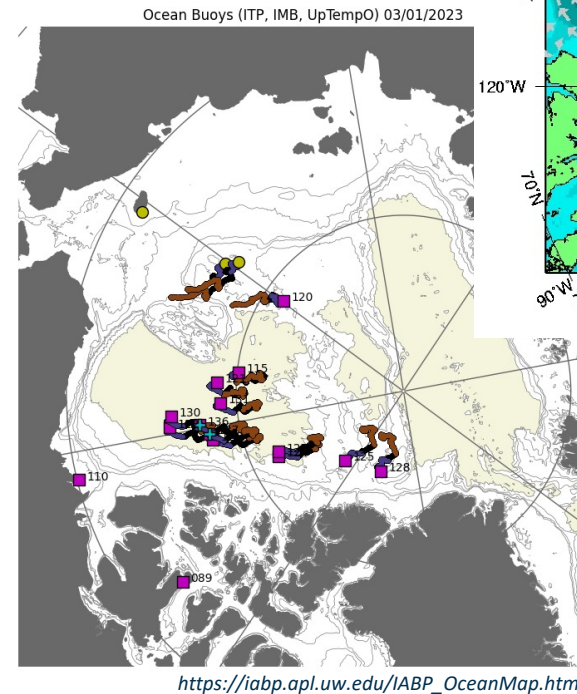


Drifting buoys providing data to the GTS



Generated by  
ocean-ops.org

### Ocean and Ice Buoys (IABP)



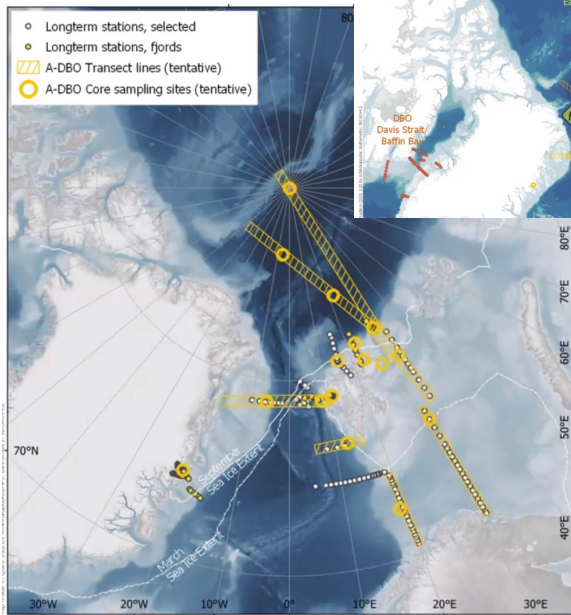
Ice-Tethered Profilers (WHOI)  
providing the in situ data  
from ocean under the sea ice

- Shrinking and thinning sea ice cover
- Problems with operating in the Marginal Ice Zone

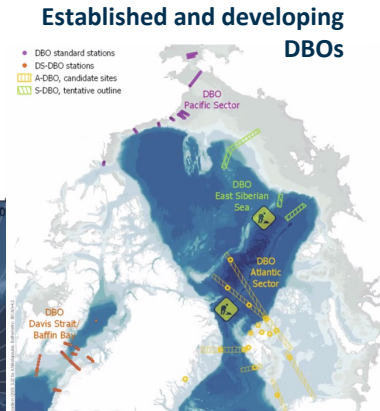


European Arctic observation networks are fragmented and only weakly connected to global and other regional observing systems...

*Basin-wide, international, under development, interdisciplinary, bottom-up initiative*



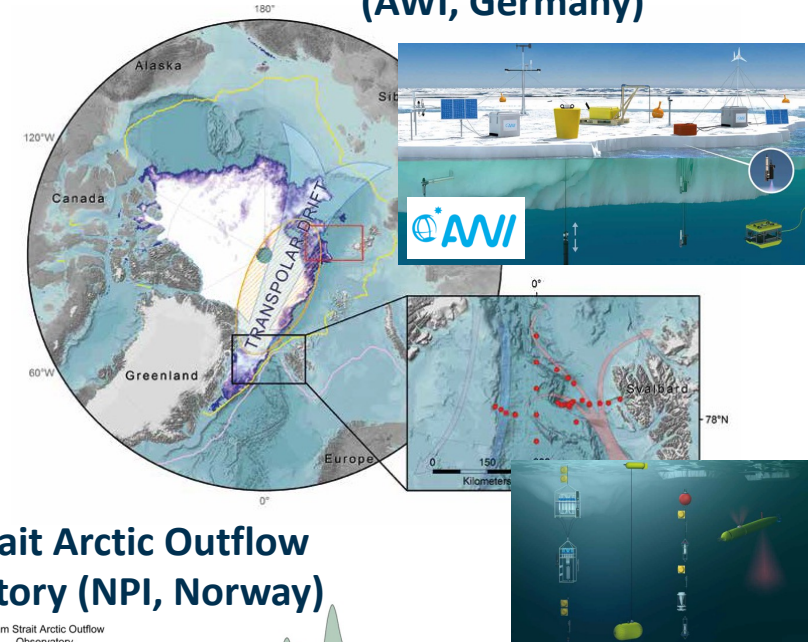
**Atlantic Arctic Distributed Biological Observatory (A-DBO)**



**Svalbard Integrated Arctic Earth Observing System (SIOS) - marine component**  
*Regional, international, coordinated, cross-domain*

**EU Polar Cluster**  
 EU Polar Cluster projects with the focus on an Arctic (including ocean) observing systems:  
**INTAROS, Arctic PASSION, HiAOOS, ...**

**FRAM (Frontiers in Arctic Marine Monitoring) (AWI, Germany)**



*Examples of national observatories: regional, different scales, different level of coordination*

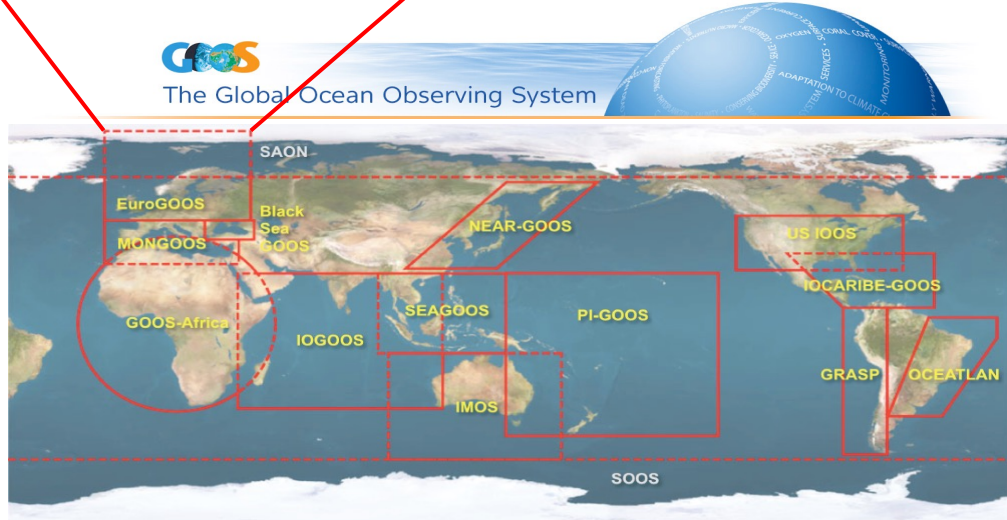
# Existing and emerging initiatives and processes on better integration and coordination of a (pan)Arctic ocean observing system



European  
Ocean  
Observing  
System



Arctic Regional Ocean Observing System – a regional node under EuroGOOS, the European Global Ocean Observing System



- **SAON** (Sustained Arctic Observing Networks) **ROADS (Roadmap for Arctic Observing and Data System) process** – cross-domain, high level planning, strong links to Arctic Council and IASC, based on SBA value tree analysis and developing Shared Arctic Variables (SAVs)
- **EuroGOOS** and **ArcticROOS** initiative (in partnership with other groups and networks) of developing a **pan-Arctic alliance for ocean and sea ice observing**, with the possibility of establishing it as a **GOOS Regional Alliance (GRA)** in the future – advanced with the roundtable discussion during ASSW2023
- **IASC MWG** Strategic Plan defining research priorities to support implementation of the **UN DOS Arctic Action Plan** - establishing an **Arctic Regional Programme Office**, potentially developing into an **Arctic DCC** (Decade Collaborative Centre)
- Contributions to **ICARP IV** (2022-2026) and **5<sup>th</sup> IPY** (2032-2033)

# How can an Arctic observing system be improved with a coordinated European Ocean Observing System?



European  
Ocean  
Observing  
System



Understanding user  
and stakeholder  
needs and priorities

- Better recognize users and stakeholders needs and priorities for Arctic data and products
- Improve uptake and integration of Arctic data into services and products



Promoting best  
practices and open  
data sharing

- Exchange and adapt best practices for specific requirements of data collection, operations and technology in the Arctic
- Promote FAIR sharing of Arctic data/products by enhancing their availability through EOOS related services (EMODnet, SDN, CMEMS)



Improving the visibility  
of ocean observing  
activities

- Improve overview of ocean observing networks in the European Arctic, include them in the performance monitoring
- Enhance visibility and accessibility of Arctic observing assets in OceanOPS



Advancing the transition  
to a well-connected,  
coordinated ocean  
observing system

- Help to improve integration between coastal observing and deep ocean and between physical, biogeochemical and biological observatories
- Establish dialog and align activities with different organizations/initiatives focused on coordination and integration of Arctic observing



Fostering innovation  
in ocean observing

- Foster and promote innovations and technology developments critical for Arctic ocean observing
- Include needs and requirements for Arctic-capable technologies when in dialogue with developers and suppliers



Communicating the  
value of ocean  
observing

- Identify and communicate societal/economical value and benefits of including Arctic observations in the EOOS value chain
- Identify and explore synergies between EuroGOOS and a potential future Arctic GRA