Meeting Notes

IMBeR IPO-China and Chair Meeting

18 October 2022, Tuesday

Diana, Gi, Kai, Fang and John

Apologies from Lisa – her flight arrived at midnight, just a few hours before the meeting

1. **Ocean Visions released seaweed sinking group report**

- Link to the report *Answering Critical Questions About Sinking Macroalgae for Carbon Dioxide Removal*
- The idea is to grow macroalgae kelp on the western Canadian coasts and harvest kelp beds and sink them to the bottom of the sea for sequestration for 100 years or more.
- Never done a massive amount of organic material sink and evaluated its environmental impact before. The deposition rate of a certain material has not been well studied yet.
- This expert group developed the idea of how to execute experiments in the past ten months (meeting once a month). According to the budget tools, US$ 17 million is requested for a one-hectare experiment.
- Delegates from Ocean Visions also participated in IMBIZO6 Workshop 1. The article from Workshop 1 is waiting for the lead author to wrap up.

Action 1: IPO-Canada to follow up on the outputs from IMBIZO 6.

2. **IMBIZO 7 related administrative tasks**

- Considering IMBIZO 7 and the 2nd West Pacific Symposium will be prepared and held in the same period in 2023, it is decided to stay with the original allocation of tasks: IPO-Canada to take the lead of organising IMBIZO 7, with support from IPO-China; IPO-China to take the lead of organising 2nd West Pacific Symposium, with support from IPO-Canada.
- Fang: a little bit worried about IMBIZO 7 – 1) no well-summarised output yet; 2) too close to the Open Science Conference (OSC), half-year in between, and the same to progress GC priority research objectives.
- John: the scope and structure of IMBIZO 7 need to discuss, so that not becoming a kind of parasitizing stuff of the OSC. It is still viable and feasible to have a physical IMBIZO 7.
- Gi: IPO cannot make determinations, but still a little bit concerned about the emerging three topics of IMBIZO 7 – two of three are governance, similarly to IMBZIO 6. Whether the topics should be fitting around the community or what we've declared with the priority research areas?
- Diana: having been working on the topics for the IMBIZO 7 and will receive proposals

from GCII from Marion.

Action 2 [high priority]: To discuss the location of IMBIZO 7 at the IPO-Canada and Chair meeting next week.

3. SIOA/OA-ICC meeting 2022 in Peru – recap what was discussed

- The meeting report with annexes (agenda and slides) was shared by OA-ICC Secretariat.
- Sam Dupont (SIOA Chair) participated onsite, Diana and Gi participated partially online
- Gi: SOLAS-IMBeR Ocean Acidification (SIOA) is administered by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Monaco. Activities are mostly on capacity building and training around the globe, and the science part is not quite new anymore.
- Diana: A lot of progress on the rapid answer of the ecosystem to the OA, but longer experiments and longer observations are needed (decade scale) to understand adaptation. Smaller instruments can be used in Australia, Africa, and Latin America. SeaFET sensor receives a lot of critics (not chemical). New instruments need to be developed (pH can be calibrated) to compound data from different places. Capacity building will be the focus, for countries that have no data in the coastal ocean. Difficulties from early career researchers were also mentioned, e.g. no permanent positions.
- Funds to apply from IAEA for capacity building and synthesis related to the OA.
- John noticed that they are putting together a synthesis report over the last 10 years. A conversation with Sam about what to claim (not overclaim) as IMBeR's contribution/output would be quite helpful.
- Gi: Agreed with John to identify the relationship between Sam (SIOA) and IMBeR: what's the SOLAS part and what's the IMBeR part, and how the two can work to produce the 10-year synthesis? James Orr (Past Chair) never showed up at SSC or reported anything at least for the past 2 years. Technically, having an IMBeR-side committee to prepare some documents to contribute to the synthesis could be useful.
- Diana: SOLAS submitted two proposals to SCOR asking for funding to create working groups to prepare such synthesis. Diana is organised to talk with SOLAS Chair.

Action 3: John to discuss with Sam Dupont how to define the SIOA's relationship with IMBeR better.

Action 4: IPO-Canada to facilitate the creation of an IMBeR-side committee for SIOA, to prepare for and contribute to the 10-year synthesis.

Action 5: To discuss at the next SSC meeting a proposal for a SCOR working group to prepare synthesis.

4. The Physics of Estuaries and Coastal Seas (PECS 2022) meeting, 24-28 October 2022,

Shanghai, China

- SKLEC is the meeting host. IPO-China, also attached to the International Department of SKLEC, took parts of the logistics for the meeting. Kai is in charge of setting up the venue and will monitor zoom during the meeting.
- Two locations on the same time zoom: Shanghai, China, and Perth, Australia. Presentations will be shared between the two locations and no channel for individual online participation.
- IMBeR is acknowledged as a co-sponsor and will have a one-page flyer in the booklet (both pdf and hard copy) and several display panels in the venue.

Action 6: Kai to edit the flyer and upload it to the IMBeR Portal. Done.

Action 7: IPO-China to provide a meeting report afterward.

5. Eutrophication synthesis group kick-off meeting, next week, online

- One hour and a half meeting next week. Tuesday night or Friday morning, Shanghai time. Co-Chairs to decide the date. Members will refine the objectives and start to write a draft.
- Diana met Alice Newton in Paris last week. Alice is now applying for financial support from Sorbonne University to stay for one year to work on Eutrophication synthesis.
- Gi & Fang: Regarding questions about no link between GCI and the Eutrophication group: GCI decided in the fact sheet that the interplay between multiple drivers will be progressed through interaction with the SCOR working group (i.e. COBS), as well as IC5. Eutrophication is a huge topic, and GCI Co-Champions have their ideas – can be exclusive or not. At the August SSC, IPO-China presented the Eutrophication group's wish to contribute to GCI, acceptance or not is up to GCI Co-Champions, and it doesn't matter whether acceptance or not.
- Gi: In the Asia context, eutrophication with HABs interferes with net pen aquaculture (fish, shellfish, macroalgae), which is regionally demanded to assess and need by governments (to avoid massive fish mortality) and has nothing to do with the usage of marine spatial planning.
- Diana: How the GCs progress and how to review / mechanisms to monitor the progress of GCs. Not saw something coming from the champions. Would like to know directly the information from the champions.
- John: The role of champions evolved. Previously, champions made sure that GCs were being addressed through RPs and WGs and to assess. And fact sheets were developed in such a way. Now, GCs can also be progressed through the development of implementation teams that has RPs, WGs, and other partners within them, and are led by champions.
- John: the previous mechanism was to have reports from GCs and ICs at each SSC meeting, and then since 2019, a fact sheet with an updated version, as a smaller,

digestible form for a broader community.

Action 8: John to invite GCI champions to talk to the Eutrophication synthesis group chairs. Done.

Action 9. IPO-China to prepare a report from the Eutrophication group meeting, distribute it to the GCI champions, and ask champions to provide feedback. Invalid Action – GC1 champion Alice Newton participated in the Eutrophication group meeting on 25 October 2022 and has been invited to the group.

6. CMWG meeting, 14-15 November 2022, online

- Formed in 2018, and delayed with agenda due to Covid. Su Mei (Co-Chair) and other Chinese case study group members produced their research that related to the CMWG, some of which were included in the IMBeR annual report.
- The Chinese case study group originally scheduled the meeting in June and then due to Covid and regulations, have to postpone until November.
- The emerging ideas are to invite some groups outside of China: European, Malaysia & Indonesia (Sunda Shelf), and Australia (North Australian Shelf).
- Day 1: start in the afternoon, Shanghai time, with presentations concentrated around the Chinese case study group, and invited presentations from other groups. Please Diana attend on behalf of IMBeR SSC. FEC delegates will be invited through FEC IPO.
- Day 2: Chinese case study group internal meeting.

Action 10: Diana to set aside time to attend the half-day meeting on November 14.

7. Draft letter to invite RPs & WGs (funded)

- Gi prepared the draft letter as starting material. No such invitations have been done before, context needs to be careful so that people will accept the invitation and will prepare for the meeting.
- Letter to start with objectives
- If synthesis happened in the later stage, the respective IPO will support the activities.

Action 11: A round of edits to incorporate comments from Diana and John. Done.

8. Updates about IC4

- IC4 had a meeting with Diana and John this week. No partner organizations attended.
- IC4 is working with partner organizations to look at 8-10 case studies combining social science and natural science to address issues of the environment, both coastal lands and oceanic. Best practices will be synthesized.
- Need suggestions from other partners from Latin America. Diana is contacting people in Chile and Mexico to join this initiative.
- Not working on the database, but putting different groups together to work on how

to connect the social science and natural science data. This could be a proposal for a SCOR working group.

- The natural science data is not limited to fisheries but could include marine animal movements, behavior, density populations, etc. A common language on what exactly the data/info they try to connect is needed. The language of “Social science data” is too big to compound.

Action 12: John to circulate the IC4 meeting documents. Done.

9. Future Strategy Meeting, 26 October 2022, online

- Diana had discussed this with Marion. Both John and Gi are invited.

10. Possibility of a short SSC meeting in December 2022

- A short SSC meeting was proposed by Carol, to make some decisions (on what?) before February
- The need from Diana is to analyze the progress of GCs and ICs and to evaluate RPs and WGs. And need a mechanism to motivate people to work towards GCs, before the reporting stage.
- To be efficient, contents need to be prepared and well-learned by the participants before the meeting. To invite SSC members, their role in monitoring the progress of GCs and other programmes needs to be identified.
- The decision will be made after Future Strategy Meeting next week.

Action 13: Lisa to update the possible date and available SSC with the doodle pool result. Done.

11. Any other business

- Joint IPOs meeting with Chair on 1 November 2022.

Action 14: John to suggest options for possible meeting times (avoid dinner time in Shanghai).