

# EMSO ERIC Newsletter No. 11 - December, 2025



## A message from the Director General

*Dear EMSO Community,*

*As we approach the end of the year, I would like to reflect on what we have accomplished together. When I arrived as the new Director General in 2024, we set an ambitious course for 2025, and looking back, it has truly been a year of strategic growth and unprecedented collaboration.*

*Building on the momentum of our successful ESFRI evaluation, we have spent the last twelve months transforming our vision into tangible results. A defining moment was our Strategic Workshop in Rome this past March, through which we successfully aligned our scientific, technological, and service provision roadmaps, ensuring EMSO remains a cornerstone of European research.*

*This year also saw the successful inauguration of our Mobility of Personnel program, aimed at facilitating the exchange of staff across our Regional Facilities by fostering a deep transfer of specialized knowledge and harmonizing technical skills across our network.*

*This internal cohesion has been matched by our outward success in innovation. Our Physical Access calls reached new heights, supporting a robust portfolio of projects where*

diverse user groups utilized our platforms to test next-generation sensors and technologies. Beyond our infrastructure, EMSO has deepened its leadership within international initiatives, and our high-quality data is now more integrated and harmonized than ever within the global effort to address climate challenges. Together, we have provided the essential insights required to understand and protect our ocean, and we enter the new year stronger and more unified than ever.

Thank you for your tireless commitment to the EMSO mission. I wish you all a restful holiday season and an inspiring start to 2026.

Warm regards,

Ingrid Puillat, EMSO ERIC Director General

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## News & Events



PRESS RELEASE

# Ocean, between digitalization and sustainability: a new operational strategy for "tailored" marine monitoring

An international study, published in the journal *Ecological Informatics*, proposes a new operational strategy for the Digital Twin of the Ocean, making the

observation and management of the Blue Planet more targeted, efficient, and proactive.

[Read more](#)

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## Four years of EMSO Physical Access Service (2022-2025)

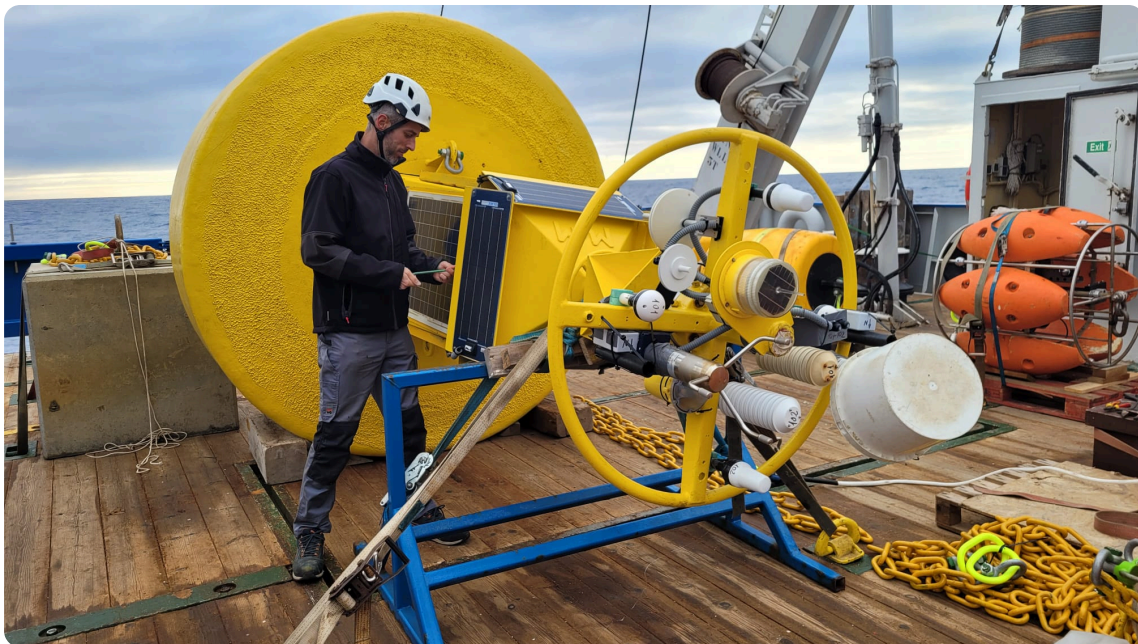
EMSO consolidates the Physical Access service, providing unmatched possibilities for testing technologies and performing experiments in real ocean conditions.

[Find out more](#)

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[Updates from the EMSO Regional Facilities](#)





CRUISE CAMPAIGN

## **Data from the ESTOC station collected by PLOCAN confirm the sustained increase in sea temperature in the Canary Islands**

A successful cruise campaign has just concluded at the EMSO Spanish marine observatory. This vital maintenance, combined with the station's extensive historical data, reinforces its strategic role in monitoring ocean warming in the North Atlantic

[Find out more](#)

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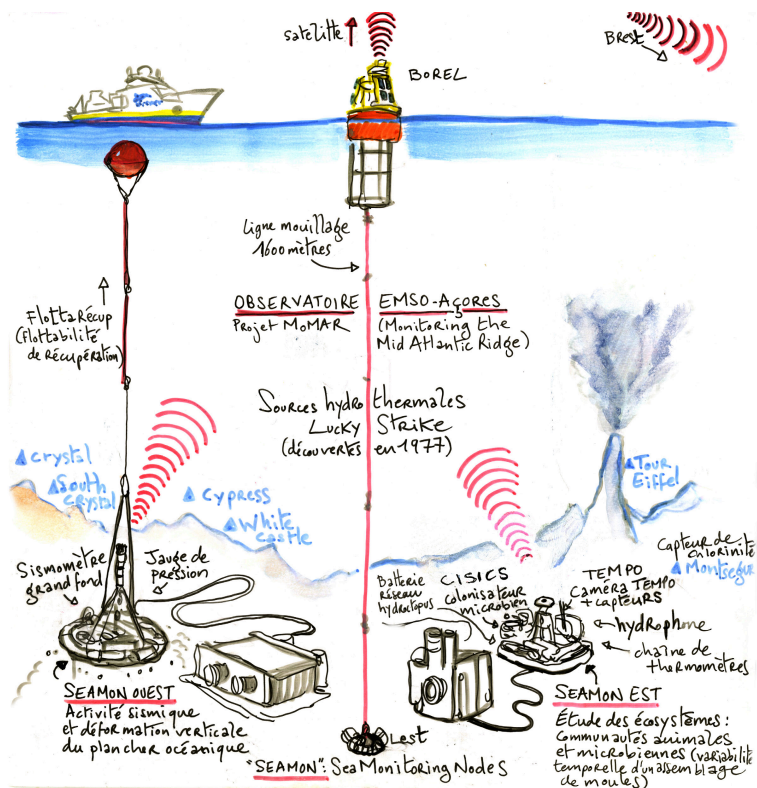


## Wave Energy Converter for Drifter Applications: Advancing Sustainable Ocean Observation Through EMSO Physical Access

The WECDA project, supported by the EMSO Physical Access Programme at the OBSEA facility, has successfully demonstrated a compact wave energy converter capable of powering oceanographic drifters using natural wave motion. The results mark an important step toward more autonomous and sustainable ocean monitoring platforms.

[Read more](#)

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SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

# The EMSO-Azores deep-sea observatory: towards an integrated and pluridisciplinary understanding of hydrothermal ecosystems

The EMSO-Azores deep-sea observatory, deployed in 2010 at the Lucky Strike vent field, has delivered 15 years of unprecedented, continuous monitoring of hydrothermal ecosystems, revealing a system governed by tidal cycles yet remarkably stable over decades. By integrating geological, chemical, and biological data, it has challenged the notion of vents as ephemeral habitats, advanced multidisciplinary research, and trained over 60 scientists and engineers, while also fostering public engagement through innovative outreach. As a cornerstone of the UN Ocean Decade, EMSO-Azores exemplifies the critical role of long-term observatories in addressing global challenges like climate change and deep-sea conservation.

[Full article](#)



INTERESTING PROJECTS

## **TASC-RestoreMed Technical Assistance and Support to Communities of actors for the Mediterranean basin**

TASC-RestoreMed is a flagship initiative under EU Mission Ocean, “Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030”. TASC-RestoreMed launched in September 2025 and will run for a duration of four years.

[Full article](#)

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## **TASC-RestoreMed: €7 Million in Funding for Communities, Organisations, and Innovators Working to Restore Mediterranean Aquatic Ecosystems**

TASC-RestoreMed announces the launch of its first Open Call for Community-Led Actions and Transition Agendas. The mechanism aims to accelerate innovative solutions that restore marine and coastal ecosystems, reduce pollution, and drive the blue transition across the Mediterranean basin.

[Read more](#)

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## ANERIS Project: EMUAS Camera Deployment Illuminates Galway Bay's Depths

On November 20, 2025, a dedicated dive team coordinated by the EMSO Smartbay/ Marine Institute team successfully deployed the Expandable Multi-imaging Underwater Acquisition System (EMUAS) camera at the EMSO SmartBay Observatory. This milestone marks a pivotal advancement in the EU-funded ANERIS project, which is revolutionizing how we monitor and protect marine biodiversity.

[Read more](#)

**Interreg**

**NEXT MED**

MedJICARP



Co-funded by  
the European Union



INTERESTING PROJECTS

## MedJICARP Project Holds Official Kick-Off Meeting in Heraklion,

# Greece

MedJICARP Interreg NEXT MED partners gather to advance operational oceanography for climate resilience in the Eastern Mediterranean

[Learn more](#)

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## Miguel Santos is the new president of EMSO Portugal

IPMA's Coordinating Researcher, Miguel Santos, will now lead EMSO Portugal (EMSO-PT), the national body guiding Portugal's contribution to the vital EMSO ERIC Research Infrastructure.

[Learn more](#)

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[EU projects](#)





## GEORGE featured as CORDIS “Project of the Month”

GEORGE has been highlighted by the European Commission’s CORDIS platform as its latest Project of the Month. This recognition places GEORGE among a select group of EU-funded initiatives showcased for their scientific relevance, innovation, and potential impact.

[Read more](#)



# GEO-INQUIRE summer school successfully concluded

Almost forty trainees, from PhD students to early-career researchers, came together in Catania, from 16 to 23 October, exploring novel observation technologies on solid earth and ocean science

[Read more](#)

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## EMSO ERIC

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