



ESA Sea level CCI

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## 1. Statement of overall progress of project

The project is on schedule: the 2011-2013 extension of the v1.1 sea level ECV (WP3 and WP4) will be released at the beginning of December, together with the 6<sup>th</sup> newsletter. Technical developments (WP2) for the v2.0 are in progress. The Phase II Project Management Plan has been updated following PM2 (WP6). The project has actively contributed to several symposia and workshops (Climate Symposium, OSTST, Coastal altimetry workshop, Eumetsat conference,...)

## 2. Data Gathering and Quality for Phase 2

No problem is detected concerning the required input and validation data for phase II.

## 3. Evolution in product specification

The current version v1.1 of the ECV has been released at the end of phase I (2013). The time series of the product will be extended up to 2015 with the same standards. So no change has been made on the product specification (definition, nomenclature, format...) compared with phase I of the project. In addition, specific works were carried out during phase I on the error characterization at different temporal and spatial scales. During phase II, efforts are focusing on the characterization of the uncertainty of the global and regional mean sea level (Zawadzki et al., OSTST 2014) and the error evaluation through sea level closure budget approach (WP5).

## 4. Cross-CCI cooperation

A way to enhance the cross-CCI cooperation is to organize meetings in the frame of the International Space Science Institute (ISSI). Firstly, a meeting on “ESA CCI Sea Level and associated components” (2-5 Feb. 2015) will be a good opportunity to initiate strong collaboration between the SL, SST, Sea Ice, Ice Sheets, Glaciers and also Ocean Color ECVs. The goal is to analyze the possibility of closing the sea level error budget with the use of the different CCI ECVs. Furthermore, two additional ISSI proposals have been accepted (“climatological aspects of the water vapour for the MSL” and “the altimeter MSL estimation in the Arctic regions”) which will contribute to cross-CCI cooperation in 2015-2016.

## 5. International Scientific Cooperation

The aforementioned ISSI meetings strongly contribute to the international scientific cooperation. In addition, the SL\_cci ECV has been compared with other sea level datasets produced by international teams (University of Colorado, NOAA, GSFC, CSIRO) and also with the sum of climatic contributions estimated independently (e.g., Argo-based steric and GRACE-based ocean mass components). This is part of the activity of the Climate Research Group (LEGOS). In this context, the definition of an international inter-comparison protocol dedicated to this exercise is being developed. The SL\_cci team also works in close cooperation with the EC MyOcean SL Thematic Assembly Center and the CNES/SALP project team. These co-operations contribute to the high quality of the SL\_cci project.

## 6. Project outreach / promotion of data sets

The SL\_cci ECV was promoted through the project website and international conferences such as the EGU (Apr. 2014), COSPAR meeting (Aug.2014), the EumetSat conference (Sep. 2014), the Climate symposium, the Coastal altimetry workshop and the OSTST meeting (all in Oct. 2014). Project's presentations as well as results of technical developments were presented at these meetings (see Nov. MPR). The extension of the ECV will be released for the AGU meeting, together



with the 6<sup>th</sup> newsletter. The Ablain et al. publication presenting the SL\_cci project and phase I's results is under review in the "Ocean Science" journal. User's comments as well as remarks from the CMUG and CRG are taken into account within phase II.

The following publication is now published and available online:

Legeais, J.-F., Ablain, M., and Thao, S.: Evaluation of wet troposphere path delays from atmospheric reanalyses and radiometers and their impact on the altimeter sea level, Ocean Sci., 10, 893-905, doi:10.5194/os-10-893-2014, 2014.