



SAON Committee on Observations and Networks (CON)

Templates (metadata descriptions) for the reporting on Networks, Projects, Programs, and Platforms

Networks

Definition: A cooperation between two or more observational institutions, infrastructures or sites. They are typically spatially distributed and are collaborating to collect information about the environment etc. They share (at least to some extent) objectives and protocols and they exchange information. Typical SAON related examples are IASOA, CircHob, INTERACT, GTN-P, and SIOS. The information (metadata) to organize in a catalogue/inventory for Networks are name, scope, members, etc.

Field/column	Description	Format
Title	The title of the network	Text
Description	Network description	Text
Geographical coverage	The geographical coverage of the network	Text
National/International	Is the network national/international	Category: National/International
Institutions involved	Institutions involved	Text
Contact information	Contact information	Text
URL	URL	Text (URL)

Projects

Definition: An activity with a well-defined (narrow) scope, duration and resource allocation. A project may be part of a program. Typical SAON related examples are the Tasks 'Polar Metadata Profile', 'Arctic Ocean Structure', 'Expanding Historical Climate Analysis', 'People-ACE', 'CBM classification', and 'International Review of Community Based Monitoring'. The information (metadata) to organize in a catalogue/inventory for Projects are name, scope, duration, geographical area, etc.

Field/column	Description	Format
Title	The title of the project	Text
Reference	A project usually have a reference code	Text
Summary/abstract	Project summary/abstract	Text
Program	If the project is affiliated with a program – provide the name of this	Text
Start year	Project start year. Only applicable if the	YYYY

	project has started	
End year	Project end year. Only applicable if the project has ended	YYYY
Status	Status	Category: Not started; In progress; Completed
Study site name	Study site name (if applicable)	Text
Study site position, latitude	Latitude position of the platform, if applicable	Latitude, decimal degrees, N is positive, S is negative
Study site position, longitude	Longitude position of the platform, if applicable	Longitude, decimal degrees, E is positive, V is negative
Contact information	Contact information	Text
URL	URL	Text (URL)

Programs

Definition: An activity with a well-defined (broader) scope. A program usually has a broad long-lasting base for support and governance. A program runs two or more projects, and the duration may be open-ended or fixed. Typical SAON examples are the observational programs of organizations like AMAP, CAFF, ICES, and WMO. The information (metadata) to organize in a catalogue/inventory for Programs are name, organization, governance structure, scope of work, plans for coming activities., etc.

Field/column	Description	Format
Name	The name of the program	Text
Scope	A brief description of the scope of the program	Text
Geographical coverage	The geographical coverage of the program	Text
Contact information	Contact information	Text
URL	URL	Text (URL)

Platforms

Definition: A facility that serves as a physical framework for observational work. Typical arctic examples are land-based stations, ships/icebreakers, buoys, satellites. The information (metadata) to organize in a catalogue/inventory for Platforms are name, position, observational facilities, funding, ownership, plans for coming activities., etc.

Field/column	Description	Format
Name	The name of the platform	Text
Platform type	Platform type	Category: Station, Vessel, Satellite
Platform position, latitude	Latitude position of the platform, if applicable	Latitude, decimal degrees, N is positive, S is negative
Platform position, longitude	Longitude position of the platform, if applicable	Longitude, decimal degrees, E is positive, V is negative
Contact information	Contact information	Text
URL	URL	Text (URL)