Summary of POGO Activities  
Coordination of ocean observations

1. International Quiet Ocean Experiment

The idea for an IQOE was first conceived during a POGO Meeting, and the concept has been maturing and evolving over the last 4-5 years. Two workshops (2010-2011) and an Open Science Conference (2011) were organized by SCOR, with support from POGO, and funding from the Sloan Foundation. The result of the OSC was the production of a Science Plan, which was sent to 5 reviewers in 2013. A set of comprehensive reviews and constructive comments was received by January 2014, and the Co-Chairs (Peter Tyack and George Frisk) worked with Ed Urban (SCOR) and Sophie Seeyave (POGO) to address the reviewers’ comments and revise the Science Plan accordingly. The latest version of the Science Plan, and an accompanying memo explaining how the comments were addressed, were sent to the SCOR and POGO review monitors (Missy Feeley and Mike Coffin) in December 2014. These can be found in the Background Documents.

2. Oceans and Society: Blue Planet

POGO led the creation of the “Oceans and Society: Blue Planet” Task within GEO in 2012, and organized the Kick-Off Symposium for this initiative in November 2012. In 2013-2014 POGO continued its efforts to further develop the programme:

- A website (www.oceansandsociety.org) and a Twitter account have been created.
- The “Oceans and Society: Blue planet” book has been published, based on the papers presented at the Kick-Off Symposium.
- Two new Components have been added to the Task, and the Task structure reorganized and refined.
- A White Paper has been written, outlining the structure and scope of the Task.
- A Steering Committee has been formed, which held its first meeting in July 2014, in Geneva.
- The 2nd Blue Planet Symposium has been announced; it will be hosted by CSIRO in Cairns, Australia, in May 2015 (see www.blueplanetsymposium.com).
- A proposal has been submitted to the European Commission, including funding for support of a Secretariat for Blue Planet coordination, and another proposal is in preparation.
Blue Planet Symposium
Cairns, Australia
May 27-29, 2015

Bringing ocean observations to users
Abstract submissions now open at:
www.blueplanetsymposium.com