Capacity Development for skill enhancement in Operational Oceanography

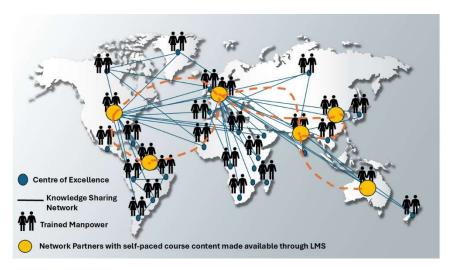
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Abstract

Operational oceanography involves generation and dissemination of systematic services related to oceans with the use of observations and modelling by providing estimates of state and properties for the past, present and future of the ocean. Operational Oceanography is gaining grounds of late owing to development in technologies. While some countries have advanced in skills related to operational oceanography, some are yet to reach to that level. This divide in terms of expertise and skills can be overcome with the effective use of Capacity Development initiatives. Capacity development activities can be used for facilitating data, information, and knowledge exchange. **Centre of Excellence (CoE)** needs to be set up within each countries and these CoE need to be **networked** for enhancing capacity. Through this network a **pool of trainers** can be built whose services can be used for enhancing the skill manpower in the field of operational oceanography.



State of the art tools like LMS can be effective used for building quality training material and these can be used for conducting trainings in Hybrid mode. Experts in the fields can be used for translating the material and make them available through these LMS. The expert systems built can be also used to offer courses at universities where there is dearth of qualified instructors. This course can be offered to students and allow them to accumulate credits in their **Academic Bank of Credits (ABC)** which can be directly included in their final grades. The courses built by experts across various countries can be **centralized** and made available for any one to opt as a part of their academic programs. Universities offering course in oceanography can be allowed to use these courses available on LMS and offer them in **Hybrid mode** for eternity through various regional training centres.