

A governance structure for the OASIS coupler

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Based on reflexions and discussions in the framework of the IS-ENES EU project¹, the following governance structure is proposed for the OASIS coupler. It is composed of 3 main groups, i.e. a Developer Team (DT), a User Group (UG) and Advisory Board (AB).

Developer Team

The Developer Team (DT) consists of a small number of, possibly geographically distributed, developers of the coupler.

The role of the DT is to:

- Regularly collect the UG feedbacks on current needs
- Establish a roadmap for the coupler developments with periodic updates (e.g. every two years initially but the period could be adjusted)
- Present the development roadmap to the AB and readjust it based on the AB feedback
- Implement the revised roadmap
- Seek for external funding and decide about usage of these resources, if any

Today, the institutions investing in the OASIS coupler are Cerfacs and the French CNRS, and the developers are Sophie Valcke (Cerfacs), Laure Coquart (CNRS/Cerfacs), and Anthony Craig (consultant). These developers interact by regular mail exchanges, teleconferences and in-person meetings. For the coupler developments, the DT uses standard tools such as SVN for source management, Redmine for project management, and Buildbot for automatically running test suites. The DT is not closed and could be opened to developers from other institutions that would want to actively contribute to the coupler developments.

User Group

The User Group (UG) will gather one person per institution using the OASIS coupler, on a voluntary basis; of course not all user institutions will want to participate in the UG.

The role of the UG is to provide regular feedback to the DT about the current software including, but not limited to:

- features and functionality
- performance
- ease of integration
- release management
- user support quality and responsiveness
- documentation

The UG will provide its feedbacks to the DT via the forum, mails, and surveys when set up by the DT. Of course, all OASIS users are welcome to provide feedback to the DT on the above aspects, but the UG members will be expected to do so.

¹ See for example IS-ENES2 D4.3
https://verc.enes.org/ISENES2/documents/deliverables/is-enes2_d4-3_coupler-governance-model-document/view

UG meetings or more general user meetings may be organised depending on the willingness of the OASIS users to participate in such meetings.

Advisory Board

The Advisory Board (AB) will be composed of a selected group of people representing the main institutions using the OASIS coupler but also possibly by external people chosen for their ability to provide valuable inputs and advices on the short, mid and long term OASIS developments and strategic evolution. Anyone can volunteer to be part of the AB but the final selection will be made by the current DT. The DT will also directly ask few specific people to be part of the AB.

The AB will be asked to provide advice on strategic elements such as:

- the development plan presented every two years by the DT
- working practices and quality approaches
- long term requirements (especially those that need a long lead time)
- external drivers (HPC platforms, processors, compilers, etc)
- opportunities for convergence with other software
- funding and resource issues.

The AB will meet most probably via teleconference to discuss the development roadmap presented by the DT and other strategic elements. These meetings will be organized by the AB chair with help from the DT.