



OSCAR

Observing Systems Capability Analysis
and Review Tool

- Manual for Focal Points in OSCAR/Requirements -

Updated August 2013

INTRODUCTION3

 OBJECTIVES OF OSCAR/REQUIREMENTS3

 USER GROUPS3

Public3

Editors.....3

Administrators.....3

MAINTAINING REQUIREMENTS4

 SUBSCRIPTION AND LOGIN4

 MY DASHBOARD.....4

Changing personal data or password.....5

Adding new Requirements (as Draft).....6

Manage my Requirements.....8

Modifying existing Requirements.....8

INTRODUCTION

This manual complements the general OSCAR user manual, it focuses only on OSCAR/Requirements and targets focal points for WMO Application Areas who want to maintain requirements in OSCAR.

Objectives of OSCAR/Requirements

Firstly, OSCAR/Requirements aims to provide an accessible, convenient and user friendly repository for up-to-date requirements of WMO and co-sponsored Programmes for the measurement of environmental variables.

Secondly, it acts as a collaboration tool that helps to manage the evolution of these requirements, by giving limited editorial rights to experts working on these requirements, while maintaining a central authority.

User Groups

The application features a tiered user management, which distinguishes 3 different user groups with different rights: The Public, Editors, and Administrators. This is needed to reflect the stated goals of having a database for open consultation, but also a tool to enable collaborative evolution of the content.

The Public

The Public is simply defined as everyone who accesses the application without logging in. They can consult and download all validated information, but not any requirements in draft status.

Editors

Editors are experts identified in each application areas for which requirements are defined. These experts serve as focal points for their respective community. They are given editorial access to the database via a personal login. This enables them to add new Requirements or update old ones.

Administrators

Administrators are high-level users, who are able to

- Create and manage Editor Accounts
- Directly add/modify/delete information stored in OSCAR
- Accept or decline changes requested by Editors

In practice, there will likely be only one Administrator and an alternate, located within WMO Secretariat to keep one central authority while ensuring continuity as far as possible.

MAINTAINING REQUIREMENTS

Subscription and login

All user accounts are created and managed by an Administrator; there is no self-registration. The credentials will be passed to each user individually. After the first login, every user is able to change personal details and password.

After logging in, Editors have access to additional pages. The login bar in the header changes and displays an additional item: **(My Dashboard)**

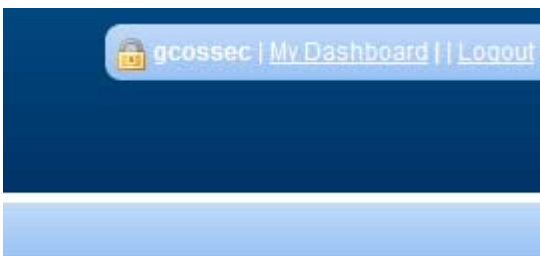


Figure 1: Additional menu item for logged-in user

Note: Forgotten password

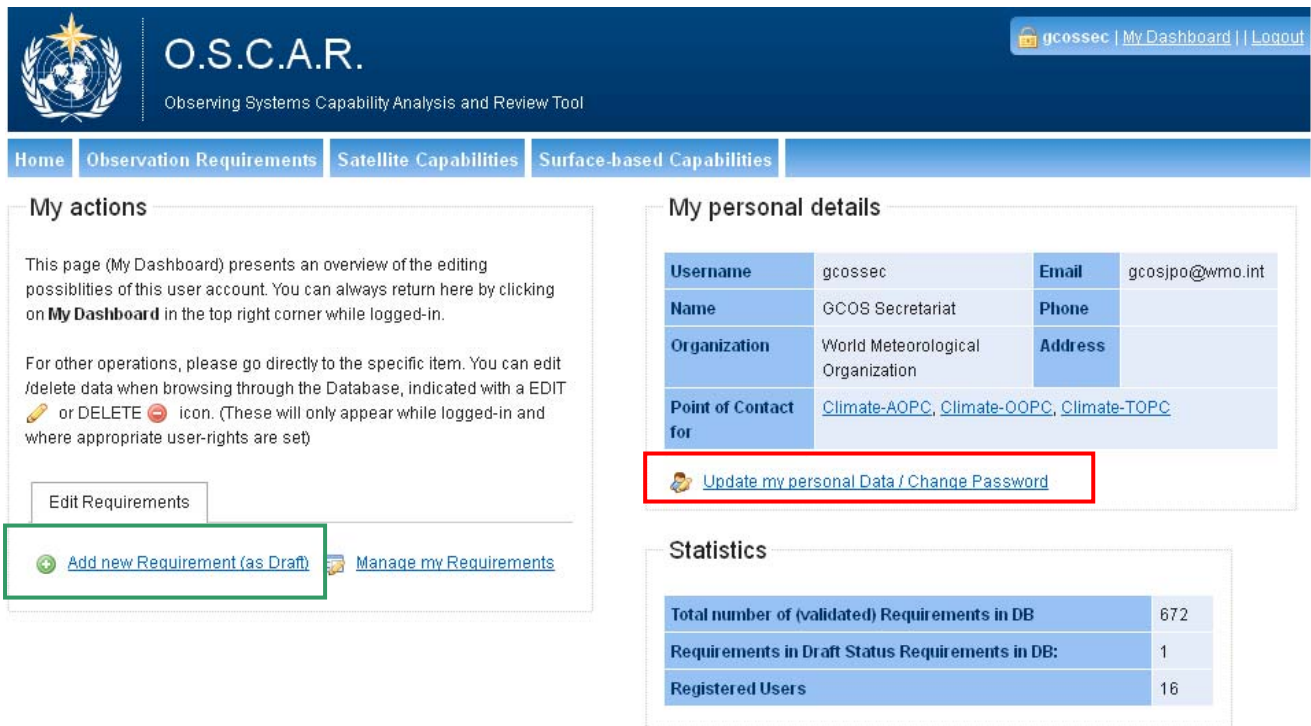
At the moment, there is no automatic password retrieval functionality. Please ask an Administrator at the WMO Space Programme Office to reset your password if needed.

My Dashboard

“My dashboard” is the personalized homepage for logged-in users and acts as the user’s individual control center (XFigure 2). The box “My actions” allows to directly add **new Requirements** or **Manage existing Requirements**.



Note: It is not possible for Editors to make changes to **Variables**. This is to keep the Database structure coherent. If you think you need to add or change new Variable, re-define a Layer, etc. please contact an administrator at WMO.

The right hand box displays the user's personal details. These can be changed when necessary, as well as the password. The information here is not made visible to any other users than administrators.





My actions

This page (My Dashboard) presents an overview of the editing possibilities of this user account. You can always return here by clicking on **My Dashboard** in the top right corner while logged-in.


For other operations, please go directly to the specific item. You can edit /delete data when browsing through the Database, indicated with a EDIT  or DELETE  icon. (These will only appear while logged-in and where appropriate user-rights are set)

Edit Requirements

 [Add new Requirement \(as Draft\)](#)  [Manage my Requirements](#)

My personal details

Username	gcossec	Email	gcosjpo@wmo.int
Name	GCOS Secretariat	Phone	
Organization	World Meteorological Organization	Address	
Point of Contact for	Climate-AOPC , Climate-OOPC , Climate-TOPC		

 [Update my personal Data / Change Password](#)

Statistics

Total number of (validated) Requirements in DB	672
Requirements in Draft Status Requirements in DB:	1
Registered Users	16

Figure 2: My Dashboard

Changing personal data or password

Password and other details, except the username, can easily be updated by the Focal Point. The form can be accessed through the dashboard (red box in Figure above)

User contact details are available to the public, visible on the Application Area pages. Providing an email address or phone is not compulsory, but is highly recommended as it will allow interested users to directly contact their relevant Focal Point for possible questions. All email addresses will be encoded in order to prevent spam.

Password should be chosen wisely, and must be at least 4 characters long. They are encrypted and cannot be retrieved by anyone. If you want to change it, simply fill out the password field and the confirmation field in the form (red box in XFigure 3), if not you can leave the password field empty.

If you lose or forget your password, please ask an Administrator to reset it.

Edit personal details Update personal details Cancel

Username *
gcossec

Address

Password
Your password is securely stored but not displayed here. Use this field if you want to change it.

Password confirmation

Firstname *
GCOS

Phone


Lastname *
Secretariat

Email
Please provide an email address, so that people can contact you as a Focal Point

Organization
Can be left blank if Organization is not mentioned
World Meteorological Organization

Figure 3 Edit personal details

Adding new Requirements (as Draft)

When logged-in, it is possible to add a new Requirement through several ways, e.g. directly on the Dashboard (green box in Figure above) or in the table of requirements, indicated by the  **Add new Requirement** Symbol.

Creating requirements follows a 2-step process. In the first step, you have to select the Variable and the Application Area for which the requirement is relevant. Please note that you can only select application areas for which you are the designated focal point. (XFigure 4 Add new requirement (Step 1)Figure 4)

Please note that the selected Variable and the Application area for the Requirement can not be changed after this initial step.

Add a new Draft Requirement (Step 1/2) Create Draftrequirement Cancel

Variable *
-Select Variable-

Applicationarea *
-Select Application Area- You can only select Application Areas for which you are the Focal Point

Figure 4 Add new requirement (Step 1)

Update Draft version of Draftrequirement Update my Draftrequirement Cancel

For: [Accumulated precipitation \(over 24 h\)](#)
 In Application: [Climate-AOPC](#)

Layers (red box)
 Surface (?)

Commence Level *
 -Select Confidence-Level- (?)

Coverage of Requirement (default=global) *
 (?)

Validation Date *
 1 January 0

Select an existing Source * (green box)
 -Select Source- (?)

Comment

Please note that the units are fixed for the following fields and vary according to the selected Variable. Please enter only numeric values, these can be natural or float numbers (use '.' as delimiter)

Uncertainty Goal 0 mm	Hr Goal 0 km	Oc Goal 0 years
Uncertainty Breakthrough 0 mm	Hr Breakthrough 0 km	Oc Breakthrough 0 years
Uncertainty Threshold 0 mm	Hr Threshold 0 km	Oc Threshold 0 years
Stability Goal 0	Vr Goal 0	Timeliness Goal 0 years
Stability Breakthrough 0	Vr Breakthrough 0	Timeliness Breakthrough 0 years
Stability Threshold 0	Vr Threshold 0	Timeliness Threshold 0 years

Figure 5: Adding new Requirements (Step 2)



After saving, you will be asked to enter the specific values for the requirement. All fields indicated with an asterisk * are compulsory. Explanations on some fields are available on clicking on the (?) icon. Please make sure that your values correspond to the units displayed after each field. These are fixed through the selected variable and cannot be changed.

Also, the choice of Layers (red box in XFigure 5) is limited by the Variable. The Source (green box) field is compulsory; if you do not find an appropriate entry in the list, please contact the Administrator to add a new source.

The form will check for sensible values, i.e. the goal value must be smaller than the breakthrough, which must be smaller than the threshold. If some values are entered by mistake or need to be changed later, this Draft can easily be modified from the “Manage my Requirements” page.


After saving, these changes do not directly appear publicly, but are stored as a draft version for confirmation by the Administrator. As soon as the Administrator approves, they will be visible to the public.

Manage my Requirements



This page is where all user requirements in draft status are listed, as well as all other currently validated requirements of the application area the user is assigned to. As XFigure 6 shows, the first part lists all the pending request the current user has made. (green box) Here it is possible to modify or delete the drafts by clicking on the icons  (edit) or  (delete)

When a requirement is a modification of an existing one, the differing values of the currently active requirement are highlighted in orange.

My Requirements in Draft Status [Make request for new Requirement](#)

This table shows all your requirements which have not yet been approved. This means they are not visible to the public yet, and you can still make changes or drop these by clicking on the respective symbols. As soon as they are approved, they disappear from this list. For comparison, the **current values** of a Requirement to be updated are highlighted in orange, if the value differs from the new draft value. New Requirements are indicated with a  symbol

Note: In reading the values, goal is marked blue, breakthrough green and threshold orange

Created	Variable	Layer	Application Area	Uncertainty	Horizontal Resolution	Vertical Resolution	Observing Cycle	Availability	Conf Level	Val Date	Source	Comment
 26/10/12	Aerosol Extinction Coefficient	HT	Global NWP	67 m ⁻¹	65 km		56 sec		tentative	2012-10-26	John Eyre	
 26/10/12	O3	LS	Climate-AOPC	5 % 8 % 20 %	50 km 80 km 100 km	1 km 1 km 3 km	3 h 10 h 3 d	30 d 60 d 188.3 d	tentative firm	2012-10-26 2007-07-19	AOPC	test

Showing 1 to 2 of 2 entries

All current Requirements corresponding to my Application Area(s) ([Climate-AOPC](#) [Climate-OOPC](#) [Climate-TOPC](#)) (103)






Id	Variable	Layer	Application Area	Uncertainty	Horizontal Resolution	Vertical Resolution	Observing Cycle	Availability	Conf Level	Val Date	Source
 100	O3	LS	Climate-AOPC	5 % 8 % 20 %	50 km 75 km 100 km	0.5 km 1 km 3 km	3 h 9 h 3 d	30 d 60 d 188.3 d	firm	2007-07-19	AOPC
 101	O3	LT	Climate-AOPC	10 % 13 % 20 %	5 km 10 km 50 km	0.5 km 1 km 2 km	3 h 9 h 3 d	30 d 60 d 188.3 d	firm	2007-07-19	AOPC
 102	O3 (Total column)	TC	Climate-AOPC	5 DU 8 DU 15 DU	5 km 10 km 50 km	0 N/A 0 N/A 0 N/A	3 h 9 h 3 d	30 d 60 d 182.5 d	firm	2007-07-19	AOPC
 103	O3 (Total column)	TrC	Climate-AOPC	5 DU 8 DU 15 DU	5 km 10 km 50 km	0 N/A 0 N/A 0 N/A	3 h 9 h 3 d	30 d 60 d 188.3 d	firm	2007-07-19	AOPC
 104	Precipitation intensity at surface (liquid or solid)	Surface	Climate-AOPC	0.1 mm/h 0.3 mm/h 2 mm/h	100 km 200 km 500 km	0 N/A 0 N/A 0 N/A	3 h 4 h 6 h	3 h 6 h 12 h	firm	2007-07-19	AOPC

Figure 6: Page: My Requirements

The second part (red box in the figure above) lists all Requirements which are defined in the Application Area(s), in which the currently logged-in user is recognized as Point of Contact. (In this example, it is “Climate-AOPC”, “Climate-OOPC” and “Climate-TOPC”). This allows directly managing and modifying their requirements from here.

Modifying existing Requirements

The forms for modifying an existing Requirement, or re-editing a Requirement in Draft status are basically the same as for adding one, expect that it is not possible to change the Variable or

Application area. If such a change should be necessary, this Requirement should be regarded as a new one rather than a modification.

Note: Requirements vs. Requirements in Draft Status

Users are currently not allowed to directly modify values stored in the Database. Every modification of a Requirement or adding of such is saved as a Draft, and not available to the general public. These drafts can be re-edited or deleted by their authors. When an administrator accepts these drafts they are automatically saved as an “approved” Requirement, thus available to the public, and removed from the Drafts List.