The main purpose of ENACT is to improve physical climate predictions on seasonal to multi-annual scales. Improved information on past and likely future climate variations, and on the accuracy of predictions is needed by European policymakers and resource managers in the areas of climate change, environment, energy, agriculture, fisheries and health. Such information is also valuable to European businesses that are sensitive to climate conditions within Europe and world-wide, or that make use of climate related financial tools. The main aims of ENACT are (A) to enhance ocean data assimilation systems and produce improved practical global ocean analyses, (B) to use the analyses to improve seasonal climate prediction and investigate ocean climate. MPI for Meteorology''s contribution will be primarily to part (A). Improved assimilation schemes are expected to have a direct impact on the quality of seasonal climate predictions, through enhancing the accuracy of the oceanic information that is fundamental to such predictions.